S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

4030

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 28, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. GOLDFEDER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to providing grants to rebuild storefronts damaged by Hurricane Sandy

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. "Severely damaged storefront" shall mean a storefront of a property which was damaged as a result of Hurricane Sandy and the costs of repairs to rebuild such storefront total ten thousand dollars or more.

2. "Hurricane Sandy" shall mean the storms, rains, or floods which occurred during the period beginning on October 29, 2012 and ending November 3, 2012.

3. "Small business" shall mean any business which is located within this state, independently owned and operated, and employs fifty or fewer individuals.

S 2. Storefront repair program. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an owner of a small business who, as a result of Hurricane Sandy, sustained a severely damaged storefront shall be eligible for a grant of ten thousand dollars to repair, rehabilitate, or replace such storefront.

2. Application by a small business owner for a grant pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be made to the division of homeland security and emergency services in a manner and form to be determined by such division. Such application shall include, but not be limited to:

a. proof that the business operated by the owner is a small business;

b. proof that the business was operated prior to Hurricane Sandy;

c. proof that the damage sustained to the storefront was caused by Hurricane Sandy;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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d. proof that the storefront is a severely damaged storefront; and

e. any other information that such division deems relevant.

3. Application for a grant authorized by this act shall be made on or before July 1, 2016.

S 3. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-w to read as follows:

S 99-W. HURRICANE SANDY STOREFRONT REPAIR FUND. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT CUSTODY OF THE COMPTROLLER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION AND FINANCE A SPECIAL FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE "HURRICANE SANDY STOREFRONT REPAIR FUND".

2. THE SOURCE OF FUNDS SHALL CONSIST OF ALL MONEYS COLLECTED THEREFOR, OR MONEYS CREDITED, APPROPRIATED OR TRANSFERRED THERETO FROM ANY OTHER FUND OR SOURCE PURSUANT TO LAW, OR ANY OTHER MONEYS MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE FUND. ANY INTEREST RECEIVED BY THE COMPTROLLER ON MONEYS ON DEPOSIT SHALL BE RETAINED IN AND BECOME A PART OF THE FUND, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY LAW.

3. FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION BY THE LEGISLATURE, MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR GRANTS AUTHORIZED BY THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN WHICH ADDED THIS SECTION TO REPAIR, REHABILITATE, OR REPLACE ELIGIBLE STOREFRONTS DAMAGED BY HURRICANE SANDY.

4. THE MONEYS OF THE FUND SHALL BE PAID OUT ON THE AUDIT AND WARRANT OF THE COMPTROLLER ON VOUCHERS CERTIFIED OR APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.