

7796

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

May 27, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Small Business

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to creating  
the micro business outreach center assistance program

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

1     Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new  
2     article 9-B to read as follows:

3     ARTICLE 9-B

4     MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

5     SECTION 216. DEFINITIONS.

6                     217. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

7                     218. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK.

8                     219. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

9     S 216. DEFINITIONS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE THE FOLLOWING  
10    TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

11    1. "MICRO BUSINESS" SHALL MEAN A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, PARTNERSHIP OR  
12    FAMILY BUSINESS THAT HAS FEWER THAN FIVE EMPLOYEES.

13    2. "MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS" SHALL MEAN A BUSINESS OUTREACH  
14    CENTER THAT SERVES THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF SPECIFIC COMMUNI-  
15    TIES.

16    3. "MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK" SHALL MEAN A NETWORK OF  
17    BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS THAT PROVIDES SERVICES THROUGHOUT A REGION AND  
18    HELPS DEVELOP AND ASSIST INDIVIDUAL MICRO-ENTERPRISE/SMALL BUSINESS  
19    DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DELIVERY OF CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS  
20    SERVICES TO ENTREPRENEURS, AS WELL AS CAPACITY-BUILDING SERVICES TO  
21    ORGANIZATIONS ESTABLISHING AND OPERATING COMMUNITY AND MICRO-ENTERPRISE  
22    DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

23    S 217. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED  
24    WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT A MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER ASSISTANCE  
25    PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED, WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED, TO

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

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1 PROVIDE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MICRO BUSINESS  
2 OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR THE FOLLOWING  
3 ACTIVITIES:

4 (A) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER IN SETTING UP, OR TO  
5 ASSIST THE CENTER IN HELPING LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR NEW  
6 ORGANIZATIONS TO SET UP ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS, IN  
7 GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE THAT ARE WIDELY-SEPARATED FROM EACH OTHER  
8 BUT ARE IN NEED OF, AND WOULD LIKELY BENEFIT FROM, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
9 SUCH CENTER;

10 (B) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER IN PROVIDING AID FOR  
11 THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
12 CENTERS SO CREATED AS WELL AS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ITS  
13 PRESENTLY EXISTING AFFILIATED MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS; AND

14 (C) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER TO EXPAND THE  
15 CENTER'S COORDINATION OF NETWORKING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES  
16 AMONG ALL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

17 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE MONIES, WITHIN AVAILABLE APPROPRI-  
18 ATIONS, IN RESPONSE TO A COMMUNITY NEED FOR THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
19 CENTERS NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR SELECTION  
20 AND DESIGNATION OF SUCH MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS WHICH SHALL  
21 INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

22 (A) COMMUNITIES THAT ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND/OR SOCIALLY ISOLATED FROM  
23 THE MAINSTREAM ECONOMY;

24 (B) A COORDINATED NETWORK OF CLIENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, REGIONAL  
25 LINKAGES, AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES;

26 (C) A MODEL THAT MAXIMIZES THE EFFICIENT USE OF SCARCE EXISTING  
27 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES, ADDRESSES THE RECOGNIZED NEED FOR  
28 PRE-LOAN AND POST LOAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GROWING SMALL BUSINESS;

29 (D) FACILITATING ACCESS TO THE COMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC  
30 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES, CONNECTING SMALL BUSI-  
31 NESS TO NEEDED INFORMATION AND CAPITAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

32 3. ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO  
33 PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
34 SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME, THE  
35 COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER AGENCIES AND PUBLIC  
36 CORPORATIONS AND DISTRICTS.

37 S 218. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK. 1. THERE IS HEREBY  
38 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT A MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER  
39 NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED TO  
40 PROVIDE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MICRO BUSINESS  
41 OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR THE FOLLOWING  
42 ACTIVITIES:

43 (A) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK IN SETTING  
44 UP, OR TO ASSIST THE CENTER IN HELPING LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS  
45 AND/OR NEW ORGANIZATIONS TO SET UP ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
46 CENTERS, IN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE THAT ARE WIDELY-SEPARATED FROM  
47 EACH OTHER BUT ARE IN NEED OF, AND WOULD LIKELY BENEFIT FROM, THE ESTAB-  
48 LISHMENT OF SUCH CENTER;

49 (B) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK IN PROVIDING  
50 AID FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS  
51 OUTREACH CENTERS SO CREATED AS WELL AS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
52 OF ITS PRESENTLY EXISTING AFFILIATED MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS;  
53 AND

54 (C) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK TO EXPAND THE  
55 CENTER'S COORDINATION OF NETWORKING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES  
56 AMONG ALL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

1 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE MONIES, WITHIN AVAILABLE APPROPRI-  
2 ATIONS, IN RESPONSE TO A COMMUNITY NEED FOR THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
3 CENTERS NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR SELECTION  
4 AND DESTINATION OF SUCH MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS WHICH SHALL  
5 INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

6 (A) COMMUNITIES THAT ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND/OR SOCIALLY ISOLATED FROM  
7 THE MAINSTREAM ECONOMY;

8 (B) A COORDINATED NETWORK OF CLIENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, REGIONAL  
9 LINKAGES, AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES;

10 (C) A MODEL THAT MAXIMIZES THE EFFICIENT USE OF SCARCE EXISTING  
11 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES, ADDRESSES THE RECOGNIZED NEED FOR  
12 PRE-LOAN AND POST LOAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GROWING SMALL BUSINESS;

13 (D) FACILITATING ACCESS TO THE COMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC  
14 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES, CONNECTING SMALL BUSI-  
15 NESS TO NEEDED INFORMATION AND CAPITAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

16 3. ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO  
17 PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
18 SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME, THE  
19 COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER AGENCIES AND PUBLIC  
20 CORPORATIONS AND DISTRICTS.

21 S 219. REPORTING REQUIREMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MONITOR THE EFFEC-  
22 TIVENESS OF THE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IT PROVIDES TO  
23 THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, INCORPORATED, IN ORDER TO  
24 DETERMINE AND REPORT TO WHAT EXTENT THE GOALS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION  
25 HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAKE AND FILE AN ANNUAL  
26 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND SPEAKER OF  
27 THE ASSEMBLY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THE STATE'S  
28 FISCAL YEAR CONTAINING THE RESULTS OF SUCH MONITORING PURSUANT TO THIS  
29 SECTION. SUCH ANNUAL REPORT SHALL CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER  
30 LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE IF IN THE JUDGMENT  
31 OF THE COMMISSIONER NEW LEGISLATION TO FURTHER EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES  
32 OF THIS ARTICLE IS WARRANTED.

33 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
34 it shall have become a law.