Introduced by Sen. ROBACH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the New York state urban development corporation act, in relation to providing science, technology, engineering and mathematics grants for the encouragement of women and minorities to pursue careers in technology

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 16-m of section 1 of chapter 174 of the laws of 1968, constituting the New York state urban development corporation act, is amended by adding a new paragraph (o) to read as follows:

(O) ASSISTANCE TO ENCOURAGE WOMEN AND MINORITIES TO PURSUE TECHNOLOGY CAREERS BY PROVIDING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) GRANTS, ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS, TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, OR BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR USE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, TO DEVELOP NEW AND ENHANCE CURRENT STEM PROGRAMS IN GRADES SIX THROUGH TWELVE, INCLUDING CAREER EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.

(I) DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS OF SUCH STEM GRANTS SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

(II) GRANTS SHALL BE MADE FOR A RECURRENT PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS AT WHICH TIME THE CHAIRPERSON SHALL EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STEM GRANTS BASED ON CRITERIA DEVELOPED IN COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

(1) SUCH CRITERIA SHALL PROVIDE DISADVANTAGED SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PRIORITY WHEN ALLOCATING THE GRANTS AUTHORIZED BY THIS PARAGRAPH;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.
(2) SUCH CRITERIA SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE NUMBER OF WOMEN AND MINORITY STUDENTS IN STEM PROGRAMS BEFORE AND AFTER THE GRANT PERIOD; AND

(3) THE PERCENTAGE OF THE NEW STEM STUDENTS WHO HAVE GONE ON TO TWO- AND FOUR-YEAR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND THE PERCENTAGE WHO HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED FOR A PERIOD NOT LESS THAN TWO YEARS IN MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, HEALTH RELATED FIELDS AND THE LICENSED PROFESSIONS.

(III) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES SHALL MEAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, OR BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amendments to subdivision 1 of section 16-m of section 1 of chapter 174 of the laws of 1968, constituting the New York state urban development corporation act, made by section one of this act, shall not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed to expire therewith.