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I N   S E N A T E

March 10, 2016

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Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to creating a comprehensive website of small business and minority and women-owned business enterprise assistance

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

1     Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new  
2     section 103-a to read as follows:  
3     S 103-A. COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE OF SMALL BUSINESS AND MINORITY AND  
4     WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE. 1. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
5     REVIEW ALL EXISTING MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE  
6     WEBSITES, REGISTRIES AND/OR DIRECTORIES THAT ARE MANAGED BY THE DEPART-  
7     MENT CURRENTLY OFFERING INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES  
8     AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND SHALL CONSOLIDATE  
9     SUCH WEBSITES, REGISTRIES AND DIRECTORIES INTO ONE COMPREHENSIVE  
10    WEBSITE. SUCH COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE SHALL BE A ONE-STOP SOURCE OF INFOR-  
11    MATION AND ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED  
12    BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAINTAIN THE FORMAT AND  
13    CONTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE AND SHALL UPDATE SUCH COMPREHENSIVE  
14    WEBSITE AT LEAST MONTHLY.  
15    2. THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:  
16    (A) INFORMATION ON ALL STATE, FEDERAL, PRIVATE AND NON-PROFIT TECHNICAL  
17    AND FINANCIAL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSI-  
18    NESS ENTERPRISES AND SMALL BUSINESSES. SUCH INFORMATION SHALL BE  
19    SEARCHABLE BY: (I) PROGRAM NAME; (II) TYPE OF FINANCIAL OR TECHNICAL  
20    ASSISTANCE; AND (III) WHETHER ASSISTANCE IS OFFERED TO SMALL BUSINESSES  
21    OR MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. EACH PROGRAM LISTED  
22    SHALL CONTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION INCLUDING A PROGRAM DESCRIPTION,  
23    THE TYPE OF ASSISTANCE OFFERED, INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION TO SUCH  
24    PROGRAM, THE DEADLINE FOR SUCH APPLICATION, THE NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE  
25    NUMBER OF A CONTACT PERSON AT SUCH STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY OR PRIVATE  
26    FOUNDATION OFFERING SUCH ASSISTANCE, AND IN THE CASE OF FINANCIAL

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

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1 ASSISTANCE THE AMOUNT OF SUCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE AND THE SOURCE OF  
2 FUNDS;

3 (B) INFORMATION ON ALL STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES OFFERING ASSISTANCE  
4 TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES  
5 INCLUDING THE NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER OF A CONTACT PERSON AT SUCH  
6 AGENCY;

7 (C) A SEARCHABLE, CENTRALIZED STATE DATABASE OF SAMPLES OF ELECTRONIC  
8 COPIES OF APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS AND FORMS SUBMITTED BY SMALL BUSI-  
9 NESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES AND ACCEPTED AND APPROVED  
10 BY THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REDACT  
11 ANY INFORMATION IN SUCH APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS AND FORMS AND ANY OTHER  
12 NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND MAY, IN ITS DISCRETION,  
13 REDACT ANY OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN SUCH APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS,  
14 AND FORMS AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO PREVENT AN  
15 UNWARRANTED INVASION OF PRIVACY;

16 (D) A METHOD FOR THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION (I) OF INFORMATION BY  
17 PROGRAMS OFFERING ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND  
18 WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND (II) OF ANY APPLICATIONS,  
19 PROPOSALS, FORMS OR OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT  
20 BY SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES;  
21 AND

22 (E) A LINK TO CENSUS DATA FROM THE MOST RECENT UNITED STATES CENSUS.

23 3. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT  
24 THIS SECTION.

25 4. THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE CREATED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE PUBLICLY  
26 ACCESSIBLE WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

27 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.