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I N   S E N A T E

May 6, 2016

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Introduced by Sen. HASSELL-THOMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed,  
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the labor law, in relation to the  
publication of information regarding waivers of compliance with state  
contract provisions concerning minority and women-owned business  
enterprise participation requirements

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 6 of section 313 of the executive law, as  
2     amended by chapter 175 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as  
3     follows:  
4     6. (A) Where it appears that a contractor cannot, after a good faith  
5     effort, comply with the minority and women-owned business enterprise  
6     participation requirements set forth in a particular state contract, a  
7     contractor may file a written application with the contracting agency  
8     requesting a partial or total waiver of such requirements setting forth  
9     the reasons for such contractor's inability to meet any or all of the  
10    participation requirements together with an explanation of the efforts  
11    undertaken by the contractor to obtain the required minority and women-  
12    owned business enterprise participation. In implementing the provisions  
13    of this section, the contracting agency shall consider the number and  
14    types of minority and women-owned business enterprises located in the  
15    region in which the state contract is to be performed, the total dollar  
16    value of the state contract, the scope of work to be performed and the  
17    project size and term. If, based on such considerations, the contracting  
18    agency determines there is not a reasonable availability of contractors  
19    on the list of certified business to furnish services for the project,  
20    it shall issue a waiver of compliance to the contractor. In making such  
21    determination, the contracting agency shall first consider the avail-  
22    ability of other business enterprises located in the region and shall  
23    thereafter consider the financial ability of minority and women-owned  
24    businesses located outside the region in which the contract is to be  
25    performed to perform the state contract.  
26    (B) WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THE ISSUANCE OF A PARTIAL OR TOTAL WAIVER OF  
27    COMPLIANCE AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE  
28    CONTRACTING AGENCY SHALL:

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

LBD14601-02-6

(I) REPORT THE ISSUANCE OF THE WAIVER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF MINORITY AND WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND

(II) PUBLISH ON THE CONTRACTING AGENCY'S WEBSITE IN A LOCATION EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC: (A) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE CONTRACT, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT; (B) THE NAME OF THE CONTRACTOR RECEIVING THE WAIVER; (C) THE DATE OF THE WAIVER; (D) WHETHER THE WAIVER WAS A TOTAL OR PARTIAL WAIVER; AND (E) THE SPECIFIC CONTRACT PROVISIONS TO WHICH THE WAIVER APPLIES.

S 2. Paragraphs (h) and (i) of subdivision 3 of section 311 of the executive law, paragraph (h) as amended and paragraph (i) as added by section 1 of part BB of chapter 59 of the laws of 2006, are amended and a new paragraph (j) is added to read as follows:

(h) notwithstanding the provisions of section two hundred ninety-six of this chapter, to file a complaint pursuant to the provisions of section two hundred ninety-seven of this chapter where the director has knowledge that a contractor may have violated the provisions of paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subdivision one of section two hundred ninety-six of this chapter where such violation is unrelated, separate or distinct from the state contract as expressed by its terms; [and]

(i) to streamline the state certification process to accept federal and municipal corporation certifications; AND

(J) TO KEEP A RECORD OF PARTIAL AND TOTAL WAIVERS OF COMPLIANCE ISSUED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED THIRTEEN OF THIS ARTICLE AND TO MAKE SUCH RECORD PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE DIVISION'S WEBSITE IN A LOCATION EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE RECORD SHALL PROVIDE, AT A MINIMUM: (A) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE CONTRACT, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT; (B) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE CONTRACTING AGENCY; (C) THE NAME OF THE CONTRACTOR RECEIVING THE WAIVER; AND (D) THE DATE OF THE WAIVER.

S 3. Section 21 of the labor law is amended by adding a new subdivision 15 to read as follows:

15. SHALL COMPILE AND PUBLISH, ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, A LIST OF WAIVERS OF COMPLIANCE WITH STATE CONTRACT PROVISIONS CONCERNING MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS, ISSUED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED THIRTEEN OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW. THE COMMISSIONER OR HIS OR HER DELEGATE SHALL MAKE SUCH LIST PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE IN A LOCATION EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE LIST SHALL PROVIDE, AT A MINIMUM: (A) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE CONTRACT, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT; (B) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE CONTRACTING AGENCY; (C) THE NAME OF THE CONTRACTOR RECEIVING THE WAIVER; AND (D) THE DATE OF THE WAIVER.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that:

a. the amendments made to subdivision 6 of section 313 of the executive law by section one of this act shall not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed expired therewith;

b. the amendments made to subdivision 3 of section 311 of the executive law by section two of this act shall not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed expired therewith; and

c. the director of the division of minority and women's business development and the commissioner of labor shall immediately promulgate rules and regulations and take all other necessary actions to implement the provisions of this act on or before such effective date.