

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3509

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 27, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. ROSENTHAL, LUPARDO, MAGNARELLI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to establishing regional technology development centers

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 361 to read as follows:

3 § 361. Regional technology development centers. 1. As used in this  
4 section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

5 (a) "Regional technology development centers" or "centers" shall mean  
6 any regional, not-for-profit corporation or other nonprofit organiza-  
7 tion, association, or agency which is organized for the purpose of the  
8 promotion, attraction, stimulation, development and expansion of science  
9 and technology-oriented economic activity in a particular region of the  
10 state or in one or more counties or cities, and which does not engage in  
11 lobbying activities as a significant part of their overall functions.

12 (b) "In-kind services" shall mean the donation of quantifiable goods  
13 and services including but not limited to professional services and  
14 time, equipment, material and office space for use by a regional tech-  
15 nology development center in furtherance of its stated purposes or  
16 provided on behalf of the center to others for such purposes and for  
17 which there is no monetary remuneration. Any such in-kind services must  
18 have prior approval by the department to satisfy the matching require-  
19 ment pursuant to this section.

20 2. (a) The department shall designate regional technology development  
21 centers in each of the ten economic development regions throughout the  
22 state. Centers shall be designated for a period not greater than ten  
23 years through a competitive selection process.

24 (b) Competitive selection criteria shall include:

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

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1 (i) the degree and completeness of information contained in the  
2 proposal;

3 (ii) the nature, relevance and importance of the proposed activities  
4 to the region;

5 (iii) the anticipated economic benefits to the state and the region to  
6 be derived from the proposed activities described in the proposal;

7 (iv) the degree to which the membership of the applicant organization  
8 is representative of the region's business, industry, labor, academic  
9 and government sectors, including strong representation of the high  
10 technology private sector;

11 (v) the commitment of time and energy of the principals of the appli-  
12 cant organization;

13 (vi) the operational readiness of the applicant organization to carry  
14 out the activities described in the proposal; and

15 (vii) the applicant organization's prior experience and demonstrated  
16 results in performing activities identical or similar to those identi-  
17 fied in the proposal.

18 (c) There shall be no limit on the number of times centers may be  
19 redesignated and if the department does not issue a timely, new request  
20 for proposals before the end of any ten-year period, or is not able to  
21 evaluate new proposals and make new selections by the end of the ten-  
22 year designation, all contracts for the existing centers shall be in  
23 effect until the end of the state fiscal year that follows the last year  
24 of the center's designation during which time the department shall  
25 complete its evaluation and redesignation process pursuant to this  
26 section.

27 3. The department is hereby authorized to award grants on a compet-  
28 itive basis, from such funds as may be appropriated for this purpose by  
29 the legislature, to match funds expended by regional technology develop-  
30 ment centers for the purposes set forth in this section and in accord-  
31 ance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department.

32 4. Matching funds shall be provided only for purposes which are  
33 related to the realization of the technological development potential of  
34 a particular region of the state as determined by the department. Among  
35 the activities for which matching funds may be provided are the follow-  
36 ing:

37 (a) Sponsoring and conducting regional conferences and studies,  
38 collecting and disseminating information and issuing periodic reports  
39 relating to scientific and technological research, development and  
40 education in the region;

41 (b) Preparing and periodically issuing a register of scientific and  
42 technological research facilities in the region;

43 (c) Assisting small and emerging science and technology-oriented busi-  
44 nesses within the region including providing assistance in applying for  
45 federal or state research grants or procurement contracts and dissem-  
46 inating information on the availability of such grants and contracts;

47 (d) Collecting and disseminating information on financial, technical,  
48 marketing, management and other services available to small and emerging  
49 science and technology-oriented businesses within the region and arrang-  
50 ing access to such services on a free or for-hire basis from universi-  
51 ties, private for-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations;

52 (e) Providing technical assistance including management, marketing and  
53 financial packaging assistance to, and collecting and disseminating  
54 information regarding innovations for the benefit of, inventors inter-  
55 ested in having their ideas developed and commercialized and entrepre-  
56 neurs interested in the commercialization of new products and processes;

1 (f) Supporting university-industry collaboration in applied research  
2 and technology based economic development, the promotion of incubator  
3 facilities and the generation or brokering of investment capital to  
4 support regional new enterprise development;

5 (g) Assisting in the development of a globally competitive technology  
6 development strategy for the region;

7 (h) Contributing information to any statewide database, which identi-  
8 fies resources available from colleges, universities and technical  
9 service providers and which provides information, including venture  
10 capital sources and labor market statistics, of interest to and for use  
11 by entrepreneurs and technology-oriented businesses;

12 (i) Projecting the need for the technical and professional workforce  
13 within the region and assisting others in planning for projected dislo-  
14 cations and retraining;

15 (j) Assisting the department in identifying and contacting eligible  
16 applicants, as defined in paragraph (a) of subdivision one of section  
17 two hundred twenty-four of this chapter, and sponsoring, in conjunction  
18 with the conferences, seminars, counseling sessions and other outreach  
19 efforts aimed at improving the competitive position of applicants in  
20 international markets by promoting exporting;

21 (k) Conducting such other appropriate activities as may be established  
22 by the department for the purpose of realizing the technological devel-  
23 opment potential of the region served by the applicant; and

24 (l) Performing activities and delivering services pursuant to subpara-  
25 graph (v) of paragraph (a) of subdivision five of this section.

26 5. (a) Regional technology development centers shall administer the  
27 New York manufacturing extension partnership program, also referred to  
28 as the industrial technology extension service program, which shall  
29 provide technical and management assistance to manufacturing companies  
30 within the state for the following purposes:

31 (i) to improve the global competitiveness and increase the market  
32 share of viable New York state industries and firms through increased  
33 knowledge of new technologies and other innovations;

34 (ii) to assist industrial firms through consulting and training activ-  
35 ities with the introduction of improved management and production proc-  
36 esses in order to enhance their productivity and competitiveness;

37 (iii) to provide industrial effectiveness field services pursuant to  
38 article seven of this chapter;

39 (iv) to assist in the retention and expansion of industrial firms and  
40 employment in New York state;

41 (v) to administer activities and services with all federal manufactur-  
42 ing extension partnership program funds received by the state pursuant  
43 to Public Law 110-69 which shall qualify as matching funds pursuant to  
44 subdivision three of this section; and

45 (vi) to communicate industrial needs to universities and others,  
46 brokering joint university-industry investigations to aid industry, and  
47 assisting in the provision of productivity and growth improvements to  
48 mature industries.

49 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, grants made by the department  
50 pursuant to this section shall be matched on a fifty percent basis by  
51 the regional technology development center and up to fifty percent of  
52 such match may be of in-kind services as approved by the department.

53 (c) The department may establish such requirements as it deems appro-  
54 priate for the format and content of applications for matching grants  
55 pursuant to this subdivision and shall set reasonable deadlines for the  
56 submission of applications for such support.

1 (d) The department may select from competing applications those which  
2 it judges to be of greatest benefit to the welfare of the people of the  
3 state and may approve or reject any or all of the competing applica-  
4 tions. The department shall notify all applicants of the approval or  
5 rejection of their applications in a timely fashion.

6 (e) The department shall require periodic reports and other such docu-  
7 ments and information as it deems necessary to monitor and review the  
8 performance of each regional technology development center awarded a  
9 grant.

10 6. The department shall submit a report pursuant to subdivision thir-  
11 ty-seven-b of section one hundred of this chapter to the governor, the  
12 temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly,  
13 detailing the activities that each regional technology development  
14 center has undertaken during the reporting year. Such reports shall  
15 include but not be limited to, the composition of the center, the amount  
16 of the grant awarded and the match provided, the duties and obligations  
17 required by the department, a description of the center's activities and  
18 accomplishments, the number of jobs created or retained, the number and  
19 types of companies assisted, the increase in the number of new-to-market  
20 and new-to-export businesses by employment size, the increase in the  
21 value of export sales by business employment size, and any other perti-  
22 nent information as determined by the department.

23 7. To the fullest extent permitted under subdivision two of section  
24 eighty-seven of the public officers law, all information regarding the  
25 financial condition, marketing plans, manufacturing processes,  
26 production costs, productivity rates, customer lists, or other trade  
27 secrets and proprietary information of a person or entity requesting  
28 assistance from the department pursuant to this section which is submit-  
29 ted by such person or entity to the department in connection with an  
30 application for assistance or with a productivity assessment or feasi-  
31 bility study, shall be confidential and exempt from public disclosure.

32 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.