STATE OF NEW YORK

10300

IN ASSEMBLY

May 13, 2022

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. K. Brown) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the uniform city court act, the uniform district court act, and the New York city civil court act, in relation to increasing the jurisdictional limits for small claims to fifteen thousand dollars

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 1801 of the uniform city court act, as amended by chapter 65 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined.

The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part [~~137~~] **one hundred thirty-seven** of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~$5,000~~] **fifteen thousand dollars**, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment, within the county.

§ 2. Section 1801 of the uniform city court act, as amended by chapter 485 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined.

The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part [~~137~~] **one hundred thirty-seven** of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~$5,000~~] **fifteen thousand dollars**, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment within the county, or where the claimant is or was a tenant or lessee of real property owned by the defendant and the claim relates to such tenancy or lease, and such real property is situated within the county.

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

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§ 3. Section 1801 of the uniform district court act, as amended by chapter 65 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined.

The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part one hundred thirty-seven of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment, within a district of the court in the county.

§ 4. Section 1801 of the uniform district court act, as amended by chapter 485 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined.

The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part one hundred thirty-seven of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~five~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment within a district of the court in the county, or where the claimant is or was a tenant or lessee of real property owned by the defendant and the claim relates to such tenancy or lease, and such real property is situated within a district of the court in the county.

§ 5. Section 1801 of the New York city civil court act, as amended by chapter 664 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined. The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~ten~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part [~~137~~] **one hundred thirty-seven** of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~ten~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment, within the city of New York.

§ 6. Section 1801 of the New York city civil court act, as amended by chapter 485 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1801. Small claims defined. The term "small claim" or "small claims" as used in this act shall mean and include any cause of action for money only not in excess of [~~ten~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars exclusive of interest and costs, or any action commenced by a party aggrieved by an arbitration award rendered pursuant to part [~~137~~] **one hundred thirty-seven** of the rules of the chief administrator of the courts (22 NYCRR Part 137) in which the amount in dispute does not exceed [~~ten~~] **fifteen** thousand dollars, provided that the defendant either resides, or has an office for the transaction of business or a regular employment within the city of New York, or where claimant is a tenant or lessee of real property owned by the defendant and the claim relates to such tenancy or lease, and such real property is situated within the city of New York.

§ 7. This act shall take effect on the first of September next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law; provided, however, that if chapter 485 of the laws of 2021 shall not have taken effect on or before such date then sections two, four and six of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as such chapter of the laws of 2021 takes effect.