STATE OF NEW YORK

7603

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

December 15, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the cannabis law, in relation to ensure the inclusion of lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals in the award of adult-use cannabis licenses

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 87 of the cannabis law is amended to read as follows:

2. The board's social and economic equity plan shall also promote diversity in commerce, ownership and employment, and opportunities for social and economic equity in the adult-use cannabis industry. A goal shall be established to award fifty percent of adult-use cannabis licenses to social and economic equity applicants and ensure inclusion of:

(a) individuals from communities disproportionately impacted by the enforcement of cannabis prohibition;

(b) minority-owned businesses;

(c) women-owned businesses;

(d) minority and women-owned businesses, as defined in paragraph (d) of subdivision five of this section;

(e) distressed farmers, as defined in subdivision five of this section; [~~and~~]

(f) service-disabled veterans**; and**

(g) lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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