

STATE OF NEW YORK

7587

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 25, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. ZINERMAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to establishing the relocated worker grant program

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 article 27 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 27

RELOCATED WORKER GRANT PROGRAM

Section 490. Definitions.

491. Relocated worker grant program.

7 § 490. Definitions. As used in this article, the following terms shall
8 have the following meanings:

9 1. "Relocated worker" means an individual who:

10 (a) is a full-time employee of a business;

11 (b) becomes a full-time resident of this state on or after January
12 first, two thousand twenty-five; and

13 (c) relocates to an eligible location designated under this article.

14 2. "Qualifying expenses" means actual costs a relocated worker incurs
15 for one or more of the following that are necessary to perform their
16 employment duties:

17 (a) relocation to this State;

18 (b) computer software and hardware;

19 (c) broadband access or upgrade; and

20 (d) membership in a co-working or similar space.

21 3. "Eligible location" means every city with a population of more than
22 ninety thousand but less than three hundred thousand, as of the effec-
23 tive date of this subdivision.

24 § 491. Relocated worker grant program. 1. The empire state development
25 corporation shall design and implement the relocated worker grant

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

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1 program, which shall include a certification process to certify relo-
2 cated workers and certify qualifying expenses for a reimbursement grant
3 under this section including but not limited to requiring:

- 4 (a) Proof of residence;
- 5 (b) Proof of employment; and
- 6 (c) Proof of purchases for qualifying expenses.

7 2. A relocated worker may be eligible for a reimbursement grant under
8 the program for qualifying expenses in the amount of not more than five
9 thousand dollars.

10 3. The department shall award grants under the program on a first-
11 come, first-served basis, subject to available funding as may be appro-
12 priated for this purpose.

13 4. The department shall:

- 14 (a) adopt procedures for implementing the program;
- 15 (b) promulgate a list of qualifying expenses including but not limited

16 to:

- 17 (i) hiring a moving company or renting moving equipment;
- 18 (ii) a down payment or security deposit for a residence;
- 19 (iii) software necessary to their employment;
- 20 (iv) computer and other technological equipment necessary to their
- 21 employment;
- 22 (v) fees or subscription costs related to internet access; and
- 23 (vi) fees related to securing a co-working space;

24 (c) promote awareness of the program, including through coordination
25 with relevant trade groups and by integration into the department's
26 economic development marketing campaigns; and

27 (d) adopt measurable goals, performance measures, and an audit strate-
28 gy to assess the utilization and performance of the program.

29 5. No later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of
30 this section, the department shall submit a report to the governor, the
31 temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly
32 concerning the implementation of this section, including but not limited
33 to:

- 34 (a) a description of the procedures adopted pursuant to this section;
- 35 (b) the promotion and marketing of the program; and
- 36 (c) any additional recommendations for qualifying expenses or qualify-
- 37 ing workers that should be eligible under the program, and any recommen-
- 38 dations for the maximum amount of the grant.

39 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.