

# STATE OF NEW YORK

9594

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 21, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. CUNNINGHAM -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Small Business

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to establishing a small business content creator matching pilot program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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 139-a to read as follows:

3 § 139-a. Small business content creator matching pilot program. 1.  
4 For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the  
5 following meanings:

6 (a) "content creator" means a person who creates material to be shared  
7 publicly on a social media platform; and

8 (b) "small business" means a retail establishment that has annual  
9 gross revenues of less than five million dollars and employs twenty-five  
10 or fewer employees. For purposes of determining whether an entity quali-  
11 fies as a small business, the revenues of any parent entity, any subsidi-  
12 ary entities, and any entities owned or controlled by a common parent  
13 entity shall be aggregated.

14 2. (a) The division shall establish a pilot program to match small  
15 businesses that are looking for support with marketing and advertisement  
16 with content creators who can use their social media platforms to bring  
17 attention to the small businesses they are matched with.

18 (b) The division shall engage in public outreach to assess the amount  
19 of interest content creators and small businesses have in participating  
20 in the program and shall post explanatory information about the program  
21 on the division's website.

22 3. (a) The division shall develop an application for small business  
23 enrollment in the pilot program established pursuant to subdivision two  
24 of this section. Such application shall require small businesses wishing  
25 to enroll in such program to submit the following information to the  
26 division:

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

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1 (i) the name of the small business;  
2 (ii) the address of the small business;  
3 (iii) the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of an individual  
4 associated with the small business who will serve as a point of contact  
5 for purposes of such program;  
6 (iv) the preferred method of communication;  
7 (v) the hours of operation of the small business;  
8 (vi) a general description of the small business, including type of  
9 goods and products sold or services provided;  
10 (vii) consent to share relevant business revenue and other information  
11 to assist the division in determining program eligibility and assessing  
12 the impact of the program; and  
13 (viii) any other information deemed relevant by the division.  
14 (b) The division shall develop an application for content creator  
15 enrollment in the pilot program established pursuant to subdivision two  
16 of this section. Such application shall require content creators wishing  
17 to enroll in such program to submit the following information to the  
18 division:  
19 (i) name;  
20 (ii) address, telephone number, and e-mail address;  
21 (iii) social media platforms that the content creator posts publicly  
22 on;  
23 (iv) links to social media platforms that the content creator intends  
24 to use as part of the program and the content creator's handle or user-  
25 name on each such platform; and  
26 (v) any other information deemed relevant by the division.  
27 4. The division shall determine the duration of the enrollment period  
28 for such program.  
29 5. The division shall match content creators with small businesses  
30 from the applicant pool based on the division's determination that such  
31 content creator might be able to provide the marketing support the small  
32 business is seeking.  
33 6. Within thirty days after the end of such enrollment period, the  
34 division shall notify each small business and each content creator that  
35 submitted an application pursuant to this subdivision whether they have  
36 been selected for participation in the program. The division shall noti-  
37 fy each participant of their match and shall facilitate the connection  
38 between matched content creators and small businesses. If the division  
39 has rejected any applicants, the division shall notify such applicant  
40 and provide an explanation for the rejection.  
41 7. The pilot program established pursuant to subdivision two of this  
42 section shall commence no later than one hundred eighty days after the  
43 effective date of this section. The duration of such program shall be  
44 one year.  
45 8. No later than one year after the end of the pilot program estab-  
46 lished pursuant to subdivision two of this section, the division shall  
47 submit to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the  
48 speaker of the assembly a report on such program. Such report shall  
49 include, but need not be limited to, the following information:  
50 (a) the cost of such program;  
51 (b) the number of small businesses that participated in such program;  
52 (c) the number of content creators who participated in such program;  
53 (d) an analysis of the effect the program had on revenue of small  
54 business participants;  
55 (e) an analysis of the traits of content creators that led to  
56 increased revenue for small business participants; and

1 (f) any challenges experienced by the division and any known chal-  
2 lenges experienced by the participants during the course of such  
3 program.

4 9. The division may promulgate rules necessary for the implementation  
5 of this section.

6 10. This section shall not be construed as a warranty of the complete-  
7 ness, accuracy, content, or fitness for any particular purpose of any  
8 information generated by a content creator for a small business, nor are  
9 any such warranties to be implied or inferred with respect to such  
10 information. The state shall not be held liable for any deficiencies in  
11 the completeness, accuracy, content, or fitness for any particular  
12 purpose or use of information provided by any third party through the  
13 pilot program established pursuant to this section. The state does not  
14 guarantee any particular result to participants in such program.

15 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
16 it shall have become a law and shall expire and be deemed repealed 3  
17 years after such effective date.