STATE OF NEW YORK

5942

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 4, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to creating an electric school bus infrastructure investment pilot program; and making an appropriation relating thereto

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

Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new article 6-B to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6-B
ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS INFRASTRUCTURE
INVESTMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Section 189-aa. Electric school bus infrastructure investment pilot program.
189-bb. Rules and regulations.

§ 189-aa. Electric school bus infrastructure investment pilot program. (a) The department is authorized and directed to administer an electric school bus infrastructure investment pilot program. Awards for such program shall be decided through the existing regional economic development council process, with two school districts within each economic development region being awarded grants on a competitive basis each year. Such grant money may be used to offset the cost of planning and building the clean energy micro-grids needed to effectuate the conversion to electric buses, including, but not limited to, expenses such as engineering, land use, and other studies as may be necessary, as well as for other purposes deemed feasible and advisable by the department. Such micro-grid systems shall allow for the clean energy production of charging infrastructure, by producing reduced long term operating expenses, and reliable power generation to meet the state's goals and mandates in this area.

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

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(b) The New York energy research and development authority shall contribute twenty million dollars' worth of its own resources, from funds collected from ratepayers for the purpose of supporting clean energy programs, reducing emissions and fighting climate change, for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this article.

§ 189-bb. Rules and regulations. The authority, in consultation and cooperation with the New York energy research and development authority, is hereby authorized and directed to promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to fulfill the purposes of this article. Such rules and regulations shall be promulgated on or before June fifteenth, two thousand twenty-five.

§ 2. The sum of twenty million dollars ($20,000,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the department of economic development out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund, not otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act. Such moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the commissioner of economic development in the manner prescribed by law.

§ 3. This act shall take effect April 1, 2025 and shall expire and be deemed repealed April 1, 2030. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.