

STATE OF NEW YORK

4101

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 31, 2025

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 the "save our small-business grant program" to aid certain small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon 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. Save our small-business grant program. 1. For the purposes
4 of this section, the "save our small-business grant program" shall mean
5 the program established pursuant to subdivision two of this section.

6 2. The division for small-business, in conjunction with the state's
7 regional economic development councils, shall develop and implement a
8 save our small-business grant program to aid small-businesses in this
9 state impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with the
10 provisions of this section.

11 3. The state's regional economic development councils shall provide
12 the funds necessary to operate the save our small-business grant program
13 in accordance with the provisions of this section.

14 4. The division for small-business, in conjunction with the state's
15 regional economic development councils, shall develop an application
16 process whereby small-businesses located in this state may submit an
17 application for a grant to the save our small-business grant program.
18 The save our small-business grant program shall process and approve such
19 applications in a manner to be determined by the division for small-bu-
20 siness in conjunction with the state's regional economic development
21 councils. Such application process shall be published conspicuously on
22 the regional economic development councils' website. For a small-busi-
23 ness to be eligible for such approval, such small-business shall demon-

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

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1 strate on its application that it has suffered a qualifying hardship as
2 a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3 5. The division for small-businesses, in conjunction with the state's
4 regional economic development councils, shall develop a list of qualify-
5 ing hardships that shall satisfy the requirement under subdivision four
6 of this section. Such list of qualifying hardships shall be published
7 conspicuously on the regional economic development councils' website.

8 6. The save our small-business grant program shall not award a grant
9 of greater than fifty thousand dollars to any single small business.

10 7. The director of the budget shall notify the division for small-bu-
11 siness and the state's regional economic development councils upon the
12 return of New York state's economic relief to pre-COVID-19-pandemic
13 levels, when upon such notification the save our small-business grant
14 program shall not accept any new applications and shall finalize the
15 fulfilment of any pending grants.

16 § 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall
17 have become a law, and shall expire upon the notification by the direc-
18 tor of the budget provided for in subdivision 7 of section 139-a of the
19 economic development law, as added by section one of this act; provided
20 that the director of the budget shall notify the legislative bill draft-
21 ing commission upon the occurrence of such notification in order that
22 the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base
23 of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance
24 of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and
25 section 70-b of the public officers law.