STATE OF NEW YORK

6589

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 18, 2025

Introduced by Sen. CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and 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:

Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new section 139-a to read as follows:

§ 139-a. Save our small-business grant program. 1. For the purposes of this section, the "save our small-business grant program" shall mean the program established pursuant to subdivision two of this section.

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

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

4. The division for small-business, in conjunction with the state's regional economic development councils, shall develop an application process whereby small-businesses located in this state may submit an application for a grant to the save our small-business grant program. The save our small-business grant program shall process and approve such applications in a manner to be determined by the division for small-business in conjunction with the state's regional economic development councils. Such application process shall be published conspicuously on the regional economic development councils' website. For a small-busi-

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

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ness to be eligible for such approval, such small-business shall demonstrate on its application that it has suffered a qualifying hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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

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

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