



Fall 2015 Update

MWBE

Minority And Women Owned Business Enterprises

Provided by Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte

Message from
Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte,
Chair, Subcommittee, Oversight of Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises

Dear Friends,

It is truly an honor to hold this position as Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs). There has been a great deal of focus on this issue as interested parties seek to support the fair and equitable distribution of resources.

As Chairperson, I plan to work with agencies throughout the state, MWBE stakeholders as well as Alphonso David, General Counsel to the Governor, to identify opportunities and explore ways to improve and build upon the MWBE procurement processes that are in place. I also plan to help expand outreach and help to find innovative ways to build the capacity and sustainability of MWBE contractors and sub-contractors that will create a robust competitive landscape.

Later this year, in November, Assemblymember Crystal Peoples-Stokes, Chair of the Government Operations Committee along with my subcommittee, will be holding a series of hearings and roundtables about MWBEs.

And, shortly, I myself will be embarking upon a tour both upstate and downstate so that I can learn first-hand what is happening all around the state.

My office is a resource. Please feel free to contact us at 718-940-0428 or go to my website at assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

Sincerely,

Rodneyse Bichotte
Member of the NYS Assembly

UPCOMING EVENT
NEW YORK STATE MWBE FORUM
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, NY
October 1-2, 2015
REGISTER NOW
nysmbeforum.org



2015 LEGISLATIVE CORNER

PASSED BOTH HOUSES

A7580 (Bichotte)/S4856 (Crocì)

This bill authorizes state agencies to use discretionary purchasing authority to purchase up to \$200,000 of commodities and services from service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprises (SDVOBs) without a formal competitive bidding process. This bill also permits the use of a quantitative factor related to participation by SDVOBs when state agencies engage in best value procurement evaluations.

A6902B (Blake)/S5283A (Martins)

This bill ensures that small businesses are paid promptly by state agencies within 15 days of receipt of an invoice for contracts, other than highway construction contracts, unless certain conditions exist to justify a delay in payment. Interest would start accruing on such payments when agencies do not provide payment to small businesses within 15 days.

A7593 (Richardson)/S2656 (Parker)

This bill creates a computerized registry of state, federal, private and non-profit technical and financial programs available to MWBEs and small businesses.

A7507 (Thiele)/S5444 (LaValle)

This bill establishes a state small business commercial fishing industry advocate and creates a commercial fishing economic development program to promote small businesses in the state's small business commercial fishing industry.



The Assembly passed several pieces of legislation during the 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION intended to promote minority and women-owned businesses, as well as other small businesses, and assist these businesses to grow and thrive. Several of these bills will be sent to the Governor for action.

PASSED ASSEMBLY

A1259 (Titus)/S2095 (Hassell-Thompson)

This bill creates minority and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) regional advocates and provides that the advocates would help ensure that municipal agencies comply with the provisions of law relating to MWBEs.

A2126A (Buchwald)/S3894A (Funke)

This bill creates the New York State Innovation Vouchers Program to provide small businesses access to research and development by colleges and universities, government laboratories, and public research institutions in order to assist small businesses in the creation of innovative products or services that retain jobs and provide opportunities for expansion.

A2302 (Solages)

This bill creates a small business crime prevention services program to provide small businesses with access to information on programs offering training and assistance in prevention of crimes, opportunities for financial assistance, information about protection of assets, and information on responses to reporting of crimes.

A5932A (Pichardo)

This bill establishes the New York State Innovative Energy and Environmental Technology Program to award small businesses with grants of up to \$100,000 on a competitive basis, in order to encourage and support innovative energy and environmental technology development in New York State.

A8044A (Bichotte)/S5924A (Sanders)

This bill would authorize New York City to make discretionary purchases of up to \$200,000 from locally certified minority or women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) as well as create a capacity building program to increase the number of locally certified MWBEs.

A2063A (Quart)

This bill establishes a microenterprise technical assistance and capacity building grant program to provide training and technical assistance to low income entrepreneurs operating microenterprises.



The enacted budget for state fiscal year 2015-2016 included \$1 million in the state financial plan for the Minority and Women-Owned Business Development and Lending Program. This program will provide financial assistance to MWBEs, as well as to projects and programs that assist the development of entrepreneurship among minorities and women in New York. In addition, the enacted budget included funding for the hiring of up to seven new full-time employees to support the MWBE program.

RESOURCES

STATE

Office of the State Comptroller

osc.state.ny.us/procurement/mwbe.htm

This website provides information on the NYS MWBE Certification Process; state contracting, subcontracting and purchasing opportunities for MWBEs; and resources MWBEs need to pursue state business opportunities.

New York State Procurement

nyspro.ogs.ny.gov

NYS' central procurement office, this website provides information on establishing and managing contracts for goods and services.

Empire State Development

esd.ny.gov/MWBE.html

The Empire State Development webpage includes information on the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development

ogs.ny.gov/Core/SDVOBA.asp

This website includes information for veteran business owners to become certified as a New York State Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) and guidelines to assist and promote the compliance of SDVOB participation in the state's procurement activities.

New York State Contract System

www.ny.newnycontracts.com

This website is the gateway to attract and grow minority-owned and women-owned businesses, and provides a directory for all MWBE's in the state.

New York State Contract Reporter

www.nyscr.ny.gov

NYS' official source of contracting opportunities, this website has information on contracts to bid on, advertising opportunities, the New York State Business Registry and tips on doing business with New York State.

LOCAL

NYC Department of Small Business Services

nyc.gov/html/sbs/nycbiz

This website provides information on MWBE Certification in NYC, as well as new and existing contracting opportunities.

County of Westchester

mwbe.westchestergov.com/

This website provides information on the county of Westchester's Minority and Women Business Enterprises Program.

Erie County Equal Employment Opportunity

2.erie.gov/eoo/index.php?q=mbewbe-resources

This website provides information on the MWBE Certification process in Erie County.

City of Syracuse

syrgov.net/supplier_diversity.aspx

This website provides information on the City of Syracuse's MWBE Participation Program.

City of Rochester

<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/mwbe/>

This website provides information the City of Rochester's MWBE Utilization Plan.

City of Albany

albanyny.gov/Government/Departments/HumanResources/MinorityWomenOwnedBusinessEnterprises.aspx

This website provides information on the City of Albany's MWBE Participation Program.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

SMALL BUSINESS BOOT CAMP SEMINAR SERIES

Learn to write a business plan, detailing your goals and how you will achieve them.

New American Chamber of Commerce (NAAC)
Conference Room, Brooklyn, NY
September 2-30, 2015
chambercoalition.org

ON DIVERSITY FORUM

City & State hosts its 4th annual Diversity forum featuring leaders in government, business and advocacy to discuss the social and economic advantages of promoting diversity in both public and private sectors.

BNY Mellon, New York, NY
September 24, 2015
[cityandstateny.com/articles/
diversify-your-way-to-business](http://cityandstateny.com/articles/diversify-your-way-to-business)

WOMANCON 2015

The professional business women's conference: where women entrepreneurs can gain the tools, advice and education necessary for starting their own small business.

Digital Sandbox, New York, NY
September 29, 2015
womancon.com

OCTOBER

NEW YORK STATE MWBE FORUM

The largest statewide forum on Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) government contracts, learn where the contract opportunities are and how to win them.

Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, NY
October 1-2, 2015
nysmwbeforum.org

STRATEGIC STEPS FOR GROWTH

Nine-month executive business management education program designed to give entrepreneurs an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience through classes, using their own businesses as real-life business case studies and advice from business leaders and other entrepreneurs.

NYU Stern Berkley Center for Entrepreneurship
& Innovation, New York, NY
October 2015
[nyc.gov/html/sbs/html/invitations/
strategicsteps_invite.html](http://nyc.gov/html/sbs/html/invitations/strategicsteps_invite.html)

NYXPO: New York Business Expo and Conference

The Northeast's largest business-to-business trade show, conference and networking event for business owners & executives

Jacob Javits Convention Center, New York, NY
October 27, 2015
newyorkbusinessexpo.com



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