NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Anna M. Kaplan

Senator Kaplan & NYS Senate Majority Boost New York Small Business with Small Business Support and Regulatory Relief Agenda

SENATOR ANNA M. KAPLAN March 10, 2020

| ISSUE: **SMALL BUSINESS**, **REGULATORY RELIEF**, **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS**

| COMMITTEE: **COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS**

(Albany, NY) -- Senator Anna M. Kaplan (D-Great Neck) and the Senate Democratic Majority this week will advance legislation to boost small businesses across the state and help grow New York's economy. Small businesses are often unable to get the necessary funds to grow and remain unaware of state assistance that is available to them. The legislation being advanced by Senator Kaplan and the Senate Majority will help small businesses by closing the information gap and improving small businesses' access to state capital assistance.

Additionally, these bills will create crime prevention services for small businesses and increase reporting on potentially negative effects new rules and regulations may have on small businesses across New York.

Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business, Senator Anna M. Kaplan, said, "Small businesses are the lifeblood of our communities, supporting thousands of local jobs, and helping New York to have a more robust and diversified economy. As Chair of the Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business, I have a solemn duty to ensure that New York State is focused on supporting our small businesses, and ensuring that they aren't overburdened by red tape and confusing regulations. The Small Business Support and Regulatory Relief Agenda that we are advancing will help small businesses to get the assistance they need to grow and thrive, and ensure that lawmakers have the necessary tools to craft smart regulations that are mindful of the impact they have on small businesses."

"Small businesses are essential job creators and economic drivers," **Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins** said. "The bills advanced by the Senate Majority will provide small businesses with support and opportunities to grow, expand, and unleash their full potential. I applaud Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee Chair Senator Anna Kaplan, and all the bill sponsors, for their hard work to help New York small businesses."

The legislation being advanced by Senator Kaplan and the Senate Majority includes:

- **Small Business Assistance Programs List:** This bill, S.7350, sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan**, directs Empire State Development to compile and maintain a list of small business assistance programs and have it available on their website.
- **Department of State Confirmation Receipts**: This bill, S.7355A, sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan**, requires the Department of State to send confirmation receipts by mail and email, as well as include contact information of relevant regional offices and resources available to support and assist new businesses.
- **Small Business Liaison:** This bill, S.7357, sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan**, directs five state agencies, (Departments of Agriculture & Markets, Environmental Conservation,

Transportation, Labor and Taxation & Finance) to appoint an existing employee as the small business liaison to serve as the primary contact for business looking to interact with the agency.

- **Additional Reporting on Impact of New Rules:** This bill, S.2839A, sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan**, would require additional reporting on the potential negative effects that new rules or regulations could have on jobs and employment opportunities in New York.
- **Small Business Regional Revolving Fund:** This bill, S.844A, sponsored by Senator Brian Benjamin, renames the "Regional Revolving Loan Program" to the "Small Business Regional Revolving Fund" and allows the fund to be used for new loans for microenterprises and refinancing of existing loans.
- **Small Business Compliance Guide:** This bill, S.6800A, sponsored by Senator Jen Metzger, will require Empire State Development (ESD) to provide an annual small business compliance guide outlining various rules, regulations, and laws enacted in the previous year that affect small businesses, as well as be required to conduct a public awareness campaign of those changes.
- **Small Business Crime Prevention Services:** This bill, S.7123, sponsored by Senator Roxanne Persaud, establishes the small business crime prevention services program to provide small businesses with resources to prevent crimes affecting small businesses. Additionally, the bill authorizes Empire State Development to provide loans to small business municipalities, not-for-profit corporations or other organizations for preventing crimes against small businesses.
- **Increase the Excelsior Linked Deposit Program Cap:** This bill, S.6165, sponsored by Senator James Sanders Jr., increases the lifetime cap on the total amount a borrower can borrow under the Excelsior Linked Deposit Program (ELDP) from $2 million to $5 million.

Greg Biryla, NFIB's New York State Director, said, "Small businesses in New York continue to face significant challenges that impede growth and success on Main Streets across the Empire State. Many of these obstacles come in the form of never ending and always changing rules, regulations, and mandates originating from state government and agencies, As Chair of the Senate Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee, **Senator Anna Kaplan** has made commonsense reform to the state's regulatory and rulemaking structure a priority. These proposals will make sure the regulatory process is more inclusive and responsive to small businesses and as important, will also significantly improve accessibility and communication between state regulatory agencies and the small businesses they regulate. NFIB has long supported reform measures like those being acted upon by the Senate today and will work tirelessly to see them enacted in 2020."

Bill Sponsor, Senator Brian Benjamin said, "Local businesses hold our communities together. They keep us employed in our communities, keep us shopping in our communities, and, in many cases, they help us remain living in our communities. But all too often, they face unfair hurdles when it comes to finances. I'm so proud to sponsor this bill which will provide more financing opportunities to the businesses that mean the most to communities like the one I represent."

Bill Sponsor, Senator Jen Metzger said, "Local Chambers of Commerce and business owners around the Senate District I represent routinely express concerns about a lack of communication from state government when it comes to new laws and regulations that affect them. Small businesses are the lifeblood of the local economy, and my bill requiring the Secretary of State to publish a small business compliance guide, in readable plain English, will give our businesses access to information they need and help them avoid unnecessary penalties."

Bill Sponsor, Senator Roxanne Persaud said, "Small businesses are the economic engine of New York State. When our local business are subjected to crimes on their premises or in their vicinity, whether it be robbery, vandalism, arson or check/credit card fraud, many small business owners are unable to compete with the crime-prevention strategies already implemented by larger 'big-box' companies. As a Member of the Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee, I have heard testimony and concerns from New Yorkers where various crimes against their businesses not only jeopardize their livelihood and quality of life, but in many cases lead to bankruptcy and neighborhood decay. This legislation will help strengthen New York State's overall business climate by providing for a cost-effective small business crime prevention services program to provide small businesses with the training, assistance, information and best practices to the benefit of the wider community."

Bill Sponsor, Senator James Sanders said, "The fact the State Legislature needs to increase the borrowing limit of the Excelsior Linked Deposit program is a testament to the effectiveness of this program. This program through Empire State Development has helped a number of small businesses and MWBEs grow and help the State's economy thrive. In order to continue expand the State's economy, we need to increase the borrowing limit of the program to help more small businesses and MWBEs prosper."

Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris said, "Small businesses are the lifeblood of New York's economy and I'm proud to support efforts to make it easier for these vital businesses to thrive."

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RELATED LEGISLATION

2019-S7350

Small Business, Economic Development, Job Creation, regulatory reform, ESDC (Empire State Development Corporation)

- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

Directs empire state development to publish and maintain a list of available programs to assist small businesses

January 21, 2020

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by Anna M. Kaplan

Do you support this bill?

2019-S7355A

Small Business, Economic Development, Job Creation, Job Development, Job Support

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

Directs the secretary of state to provide information to certain new businesses

January 21, 2020

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by Anna M. Kaplan

Do you support this bill?

2019-S7357

Economic Development, Small Business, regulatory reform, Commerce, Business Navigation

- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

Relates to designating a small business liaison

January 21, 2020

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by Anna M. Kaplan

Do you support this bill?

NAY

2019-S2839A

Economic Development, Job Creation, regulatory reform, Small Business, Business Climate

- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Vetoed By Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

Relates to improving evaluations of the potential impact of rules on jobs and employment opportunities

January 29, 2019

Vetoed

Sponsored by Anna M. Kaplan

Do you support this bill?