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ASSEMBLY, No. 3424

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 2022

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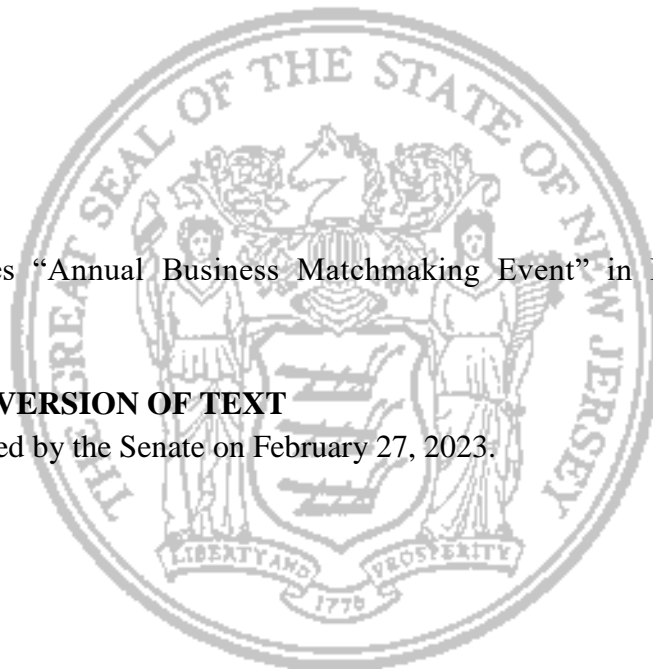
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SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Annual Business Matchmaking Event” in Department of Treasury.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on February 27, 2023.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning certain business matchmaking events and
2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill):

9 ¹["Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development
10 Authority established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1974, c.80
11 (C.34:1B-4).]¹

12 "Business Action Center" or "center" means the Business Action
13 Center established in the New Jersey Department of State pursuant
14 to Reorganization Plan No. 003-2011.

15 "Chief Diversity Officer" means the position established in the
16 Division of Purchase and Property in the New Jersey Department of
17 the Treasury pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2017, c.95 (C.52:32-18.1).

18 ¹["Matchmaker initiative" means the "Biannual Business
19 Matchmaker Initiative" established pursuant to section 2 of
20 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).]

21 "Department" means the New Jersey Department of the
22 Treasury.¹

23 "Matchmaking event" means ¹[a biannual] an annual¹ small
24 business matchmaking event ¹[established] hosted¹ pursuant to
25 section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
26 as this bill).

27 "Nonprofit corporation" means a private, not-for-profit
28 corporation, determined by the federal Internal Revenue Service to
29 be a tax exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the
30 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s.501(c)(3), whose
31 mission is to stimulate job creation within and attract capital
32 investment to New Jersey.

33 "Small business" means a business engaged in the conduct of a
34 trade or business in this State that qualifies as a "small business
35 concern" within the meaning of the federal "Small Business Act,"
36 Pub.L.85-536 (15 U.S.C. s.631 et seq.) for the purpose of the small
37 business's eligibility for receiving assistance from the United States
38 Small Business Administration. "Small business" shall include, but
39 not be limited to, a small business established and operating in this
40 State that is certified, pursuant to federal law, under the United
41 States Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development
42 program or the HUBZone program, or as a small disadvantaged
43 business, or as a business concern by the United States Department
44 of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to section 3 of the
45 Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. s.1701u).

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted February 27, 2023.

1 ¹[2. a. The Business Action Center, in consultation with the
2 authority and the Chief Diversity Officer, shall establish and
3 maintain a program, to be known as the “Biannual Business
4 Matchmaker Initiative,” where the center shall host a biannual
5 business matchmaking event with the purpose of connecting small
6 businesses with representatives of federal, State, and local
7 government agencies and their government contractors seeking
8 small businesses that would provide the government contractor with
9 subcontracting services. Each matchmaking event shall be
10 organized or structured with the goal and in a manner that ensures
11 small businesses participating in the matchmaker initiative are
12 informed of the government subcontracting service opportunities
13 available to small businesses at matchmaking events and that
14 government contractors realize the potential of partnering with
15 small businesses for subcontracting services. The center shall
16 establish the terms and conditions by which a small business and
17 government contractor may apply for participation in the
18 matchmaker initiative. Prior to planning or scheduling a
19 matchmaking event, the center shall contact State and federal
20 agencies to request those agencies to send to the center any small
21 business contact information list which shall be used by the center
22 to solicit small businesses for participation in the matchmaker
23 initiative.

24 b. The center is authorized to seek and accept gifts, grants, or
25 donations from private or public sources for the costs of hosting a
26 matchmaking event, except that the center may not accept a gift,
27 grant, or donation that is subject to conditions that are inconsistent
28 with any other law of this State. The center may enter into an
29 agreement with a nonprofit corporation to allow the nonprofit
30 corporation to host a matchmaking event. The center shall
31 coordinate the scheduling and promotion of each matchmaking
32 event in conjunction with the African American Chamber of
33 Commerce of New Jersey, the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of
34 Commerce of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Women
35 Business Owners, the New Jersey State Veterans Chamber of
36 Commerce, the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey
37 Business and Industry Association, and the National Federation of
38 Independent Business in New Jersey.

39 c. The center, in partnership with the Chief Diversity Officer,
40 shall report annually to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
41 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on the number of
42 subcontracts awarded to and the types of government contracting
43 services provided by participating small businesses as a result of the
44 implementation of the matchmaker initiative and the percentage of
45 the total number of subcontracts awarded to those participating
46 small businesses.]¹

1 ¹2. a. The Chief Diversity Officer and the department, in
2 partnership with the Business Action Center, shall host an annual
3 program, to be known as the “Annual Business Matchmaking
4 Event,” with the purpose of connecting small businesses with
5 representatives of federal, State, and local government agencies and
6 their government contractors seeking small businesses to provide
7 the government contractor with subcontracting services. The
8 matchmaking event shall be organized or structured to ensure that
9 small businesses participating in the matchmaking event are
10 informed of the government subcontracting service opportunities
11 available to small businesses and that government contractors
12 realize the potential of partnering with small businesses for
13 subcontracting services. The Chief Diversity Officer and the
14 department shall establish the terms and conditions by which a
15 small business and government contractor may apply for
16 participation in the matchmaking event. Prior to planning or
17 scheduling the matchmaking event, the Chief Diversity Officer and
18 the center shall coordinate to contact State and federal agencies to
19 request that those agencies send any small business contact
20 information, which shall be used by the Chief Diversity Officer and
21 the center to solicit small businesses for participation in the
22 matchmaking event.

23 b. The Chief Diversity Officer and the center are authorized to
24 seek and accept gifts, grants, or donations from private or public
25 sources for the costs of hosting the matchmaking event, except that
26 the Chief Diversity Officer and the center may not accept a gift,
27 grant, or donation that is subject to conditions that are inconsistent
28 with any other law of this State. The Chief Diversity Officer and the
29 center may enter into an agreement with a nonprofit corporation to
30 allow the nonprofit corporation to host the matchmaking event. The
31 Chief Diversity Officer and the center shall coordinate the
32 scheduling and promotion of the matchmaking event in conjunction
33 with the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey,
34 the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, the
35 New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners, the New
36 Jersey State Veterans Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey
37 Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey Business and Industry
38 Association, and the National Federation of Independent Business
39 in New Jersey.

40 c. The Chief Diversity Officer, in partnership with the center,
41 shall report no later than one year following each annual
42 matchmaking event to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
43 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on the number
44 and percentage of subcontracts awarded to small businesses and the
45 types of government contracting services provided to small
46 businesses as a result of their participation in the annual
47 matchmaking event.¹

48

49 3. This act shall take effect immediately.