ASSEMBLY, No. 4749

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 3, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CRAIG J. COUGHLIN

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Senator ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Karabinchak, Tully, Assemblywomen Mosquera, Lampitt, Assemblymen Benson, Atkins, Freiman, Assemblywomen McKnight, Park, Senators Diegnan, Gill, Greenstein, Pou and Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJ Business Action Center to collect and produce certain information to assist small businesses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/2/2023)

A4749 COUGHLIN, SWAIN

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Business Action Center and 2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. a. The executive director of the New Jersey Business Action Center in the Department of State shall establish and maintain, in collaboration with the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, and regional chambers of commerce across the State, a publicly available small business manual that provides information and guidance on establishing, maintaining, and expanding a small business.

b. The manual shall be succinct, with a focus on brevity, and shall contain, after discussion with all collaborators in subsection a. of this section, the most important priorities when establishing, maintaining, and expanding a small business. The contents of the manual shall also include, but not be limited to, information concerning:

- 20 concerning:
 - (1) State and local permits and inspections;
 - (2) financial assistance programs;
 - (3) lease contracts;
- (4) commercial real estate transactions, including methods on
 how to acquire commercial real estate; and
 - (5) any other information that the executive director deems necessary.
 - c. The executive director shall additionally solicit information from the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Economic Development Authority, and other relevant departments and agencies on frequently asked questions that a small business owner may have when establishing, maintaining, or expanding a small business. Responses collected by the executive director shall be included in the manual.
 - d. The manual shall be made available to the public one year next following the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The executive director shall update the information contained in the manual periodically.
 - e. As used in this section, "publicly available" means to post in a conspicuous manner on the Internet website of the New Jersey Business Action Center and in a hard copy made available for a nominal fee.

2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following enactment, except that the executive director of the New Jersey Business Action Center may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.

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1	STATEMENT
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3	This bill requires the New Jersey Business Action Center (BAC)
4	to establish and maintain a publicly available small business
5	manual.
6	Under the bill, the BAC will be required to establish and
7	maintain, in collaboration with the EDA, New Jersey Business and
8	Industry Association, the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, and
9	regional chambers of commerce across the State, a publicly
10	available small business manual that provides information and
11	guidance on establishing, maintaining, and expanding a small
12	business.
13	The bill also provides that the contents of the manual will
14	include, but not be limited to, information concerning:
15	(1) State and local permits and inspections;
16	(2) financial assistance programs;
17	(3) lease contracts;
18	(4) commercial real estate transactions, including methods on
19	how to acquire commercial real estate; and
20	(5) any other information that the executive director deems
21	necessary.
22	The bill provides that the manual will be made available to the
23	public one year following the bill's effective date, and that the
24	executive director will be required to update the information
25	contained in the manual periodically.