

[First Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 5243**

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# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JANUARY 11, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

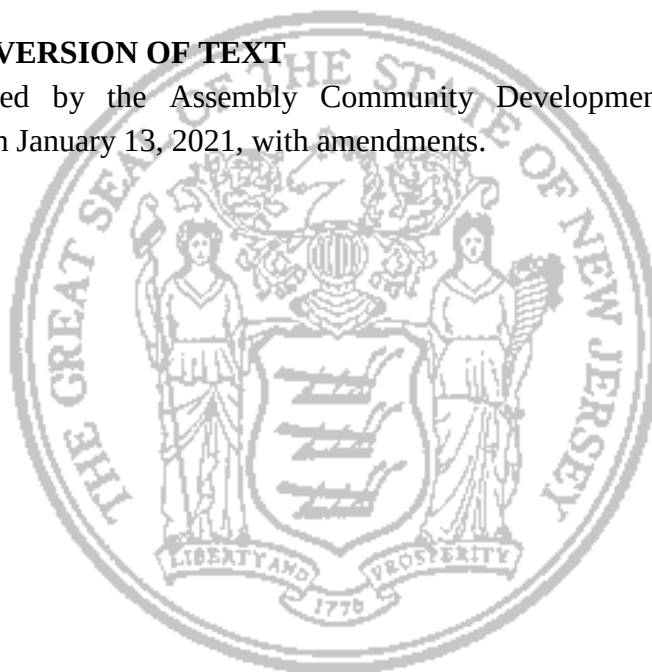
**Assemblyman Holley**

### **SYNOPSIS**

Establishes “Biannual Small Business Matchmaker Initiative” in Department of State.

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Community Development and Affairs Committee on January 13, 2021, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/25/2021)**

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 “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).

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 “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 “Matchmaking event” means a biannual small business  
 22 matchmaking event established pursuant to section 2 of  
 23 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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

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

43  
 44 2. a. The Business Action Center, in consultation with the  
 45 authority and the Chief Diversity Officer, shall establish and maintain

**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:**

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ACD committee amendments adopted January 13, 2021.

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

20 b. The center is authorized to seek and accept gifts, grants, or  
21 donations from private or public sources for the costs of hosting a  
22 matchmaking event, except that the center may not accept a gift, grant,  
23 or donation that is subject to conditions that are inconsistent with any  
24 other law of this State. The center may enter into an agreement with a  
25 nonprofit corporation to allow the nonprofit corporation to host a  
26 matchmaking event. The center shall coordinate the scheduling and  
27 promotion of each matchmaking event in conjunction with the African  
28 American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, the Statewide  
29 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, the New Jersey  
30 Association of Women Business Owners, the New Jersey State  
31 Veterans Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey Chamber of  
32 Commerce, <sup>1</sup>the New Jersey Business and Industry Association,<sup>1</sup> and  
33 the National Federation of Independent Business in New Jersey.

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

42

43 3. This act shall take effect immediately.