

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 2772**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED AUGUST 3, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Scutari and Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

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

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on September 17, 2020, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/24/2020)**

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

**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>Senate SEG committee amendments adopted September 17, 2020.

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

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

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

44

45 3. This act shall take effect immediately.