



**ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR
ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
ASSEMBLY SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS
ENTERPRISES**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: The Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Program

PURPOSE: To examine the MWBE program, the 2016 MWBE Disparity Study, including its Workforce Study and the potential implementation of recommendations, through the input of program participants.

ALBANY

Tuesday, December 5th, 2017
11:00 A.M.
Hamilton Hearing Room B
Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor
Albany, New York

Article 15-A of the Executive Law, "participation by minority group members and women with respect to state contracts", expires on December 31, 2018. This statute provides the framework for the MWBE certification and procurement program, and establishes targeted goals for sourcing of services and commodities by certified MWBE businesses. The Division of Minority and Women's Business Development within the Department of Economic Development is responsible for, among other things, establishing a statewide certification program, encouraging and assisting state agencies to increase MWBE participation, and commissioning a statewide disparity study regarding the participation of MWBEs on state contracts. In addition, the State administers several programs through its various agencies to provide MWBEs with technical, legal, and financial assistance.

The Committees would like to obtain input from various stakeholders on the 2016 MWBE Disparity Study, the design, implementation, and utilization of the MWBE program, specifically, including its level of State funding, and how the MWBE program operates when project labor agreements are utilized. The State retained a firm to conduct a disparity study to determine if MWBEs have had equal access to contracting opportunities with the State. The results of this study have now been published. A new component of the 2016 Disparity Study was the gathering and analysis of demographic workforce utilization data to help determine the effectiveness of the various equal employment opportunity provisions and whether statutory and programmatic changes could be made to establish a more diverse workforce.

Oral testimony will be limited to **TEN (10)** minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committees will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Twenty (20) copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

CRYSTAL D. PEOPLES-STOKES

**Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee Governmental
Operations**

FRED W. THIELE, JR.

**Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Small Business**

MICHELE R. TITUS

**Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Labor**

RODNEYSE BICHOTTE

Member of Assembly
Chair

Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY

Persons wishing to present testimony at the public hearing on the MWBE program are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Brian Williams
Analyst
Assembly Committee on Governmental Operations
Room 513, NYS Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: williamsb@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4355
Fax: (518) 455-7250

- I plan to attend the public hearing on the MWBE program to be conducted by the Assembly Committees on Governmental Operations, Labor, and Small Business, and the Assembly Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises December 5, 2017.
- I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to ten (10) minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 20 copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____