



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

S.220 (Marchione) / A.2755 (McDonald)

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to expanding opportunities for veteran-owned business enterprises; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

The Capital Region Chamber, representing 2,600 businesses and organizations from throughout the Capital Region that employ more than 150,000 area residents, supports S.220/A.2755 which would expand the availability of state contracts to all veteran-owned business enterprises in New York State.

The Chamber is a strong advocate for programs that assist veterans and disabled veterans with business ownership and employment opportunities. Under current state law, 6% of state contracts are reserved for service-disabled veterans. The Chamber agrees with the bill sponsors that it is time for New York State to recognize that both service-disabled veteran-owned businesses and non-service-disabled veteran-owned businesses should be entitled to the set-a- side for the procurement of state contracts.

By expanding the Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Act to cover all our veteran-owned businesses, we can increase the sales of current businesses owned by veterans and encourage the continued growth of veteran-owned businesses.

Our veterans have sacrificed greatly to protect our state and nation. The Chamber believes that this legislation is the right thing to do for our veterans who have served our country, state and local communities.

For these stated reasons, the Capital Region Chamber recommends the passage of this legislation.

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