

From: Mijatovic, Emily (ESD) <Emily.Mijatovic@esd.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 1:19 PM
To: 'Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)'
Cc: esd.sm.esdpressoffice

Subject: RE: Follow-up -- "Newspaper & Broadcast Media Jobs Program" -- Economic Development Law Article 27

See below

The proposed change is here. [Link to original](#).

REV Part J

18 Section 1. Subdivision 13 of section 492 of the economic
development
19 law, as added by section 2 of part AAA of
chapter 56 of the laws of
20 2024, is amended to read as follows:
21 13. "Independently owned" shall mean a business entity that is
not[+
22 ~~(a)~~] a publicly traded entity or no more than five percent of
the bene-
23 ficial ownership of which is owned, directly or indirectly by a
publicly
24 traded entity[; ~~(b) a subsidiary; and (c) any other criteria that~~
~~the~~
25 ~~department shall determine via regulations to ensure the business is~~
~~not~~
26 ~~controlled by another business entity~~].
27 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to taxable
years
28 beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

From Justification Memo ([LINK](#))

Part J – Make a Technical Change to the Newspaper and Broadcast Media Jobs

Program Purpose: This bill would correct an error in the Economic Development Law (COM) relating to the newspaper and broadcast media jobs program.

Summary of Provisions and Statement in Support: The newspaper and broadcast media jobs program was enacted in 2024 to provide economic incentives to qualifying broadcast media businesses. One aspect of the eligibility criteria to qualify for the tax credits under that program is that the business must be “independently owned.”

In defining “independently owned,” last year’s bill erroneously restricted the credit so that parent, subsidiary, and affiliate companies were all subject to one credit limitation. For example, if a parent corporation had 3 subsidiaries, the \$300,000 credit cap under COM § 495(3) would apply to the parent and all subsidiaries as a whole; each subsidiary would not be eligible for its own \$300,000 credit cap.

This bill would correct that drafting error and allow a credit of up to \$300,000 to each subsidiary or affiliate that meets the eligibility criteria for the credit.

Budget Implications: Enactment of this bill is necessary to implement the FY 2026 Executive Budget because it corrects a technical error that allows for the tax credit to be allocated as originally intended.

Effective Date: This bill would take effect immediately and apply to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

Emily Mijatovic
Downstate Communications Director

Empire State Development
655 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017
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www.esd.ny.gov

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:59 AM
To: esd.sm.esdpressoffice <pressoffice@esd.ny.gov>

Subject: Follow-up -- "Newspaper & Broadcast Media Jobs Program" -- Economic Development Law Article 27

Dear Emily,

Following up our phone conversation, just concluded, below is your e-mail to me about which I am requesting clarification, *to wit*, the specific "Article VII" budget bill (& part) in which the proposed modification appears.

Thank you.

Elena
914-421-1200

From: Mijatovic, Emily (ESD) <Emily.Mijatovic@esd.ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 3:54 PM
To: 'Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)' <elena@judgewatch.org>
Cc: esd.sm.esdpressoffice <pressoffice@esd.ny.gov>

Subject: RE: "Newspaper & Broadcast Media Jobs Program" -- Economic Development Law Article 27

Elena: The Executive Budget proposes a modification to the statutory language, and pending that potential change, regulations will be issued once the legal language is finalized. A period of public comment will follow once regulations are issued. All recipients will be listed in the Database of Economic Incentives. Those who did not receive the credit would not be listed.

Emily Mijatovic

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 3:09 PM

To: esd.sm.esdpressoffice <pressoffice@esd.ny.gov>; esd.sm.foil <FOIL@esd.ny.gov>

Subject: "Newspaper & Broadcast Media Jobs Program" -- Economic Development Law Article 27

TO: [Empire State Development Commissioner Hope Knight](#)

Following up voice messages I left yesterday and today with the press office, 800-260-7313, after calling [your listed Albany number](#), 518-292-5100, and being routed to 212-803-3281, which was for the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development and VP & Deputy Director for Agency Services and Business Development Dawn Sanders, on which I left a voice message yesterday and which was full today, I seek publicly-available records pertaining to the "Newspaper & Broadcast Media Jobs Program" ([Economic Development Law Article 27](#)), which was enacted last year, *via* the budget, as [Part AAA of Education, Labor and Family Assistance Budget Bill #S.8306-C/A.8806-C \(at pp. 201-205\)](#), and, specifically:

1. "regulations establishing an application process and eligibility criteria", pursuant to [§496](#), including the "certificate of tax credit" and, pursuant to [§494](#), the application forms;
2. records as to the process by which the regulations and forms were developed, most importantly the opportunity for public comment;
3. list of approved applicants and the amounts of moneys already disbursed to them;
4. list of disapproved applicants – and the reasons for the disapproval.

Please advise where I can find this information on your website – and, if not posted, why it is not posted – or, alternatively, for such records pursuant to FOIL.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

www.judgewatch.org

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elena@judgewatch.org