

Tyrae Woodson-Samuels
Legislator, 13th District
Chair, Committee on Budget & Appropriations



Committee Assignments:
Infrastructure & Housing
Public Safety & Veterans
Intergovernmental Affairs
Small Business

MEMORANDUM OF LEGISLATION

DATE: March 31, 2026

TITLE: Small Business & MWBE Micro-Grant Pilot Program (\$1M)

SPONSOR: Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL: To stimulate local economic activity, support entrepreneurship, and provide targeted financial assistance to small businesses, with a dedicated focus on Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs).

JUSTIFICATION: Small businesses are the backbone of the County's economy, yet many lack access to capital. This program:

- Directly injects funds into local businesses
- Supports MWBE equity goals
- Strengthens commercial corridors and downtown districts

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Establishes a **one-year pilot program** administered by the County Department of Economic Development Appropriates **\$1,000,000 total funding**, allocated as follows:

- **\$500,000 reserved exclusively for MWBEs**
- **\$500,000 for general small business applicants**

Provides grants ranging from:

- **\$5,000 to \$25,000 per business**

Eligible uses include:

- Equipment purchases

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- Leasehold improvements
- Working capital
- Technology upgrades

Requires:

- Simple application process
- Demonstration of business activity within Westchester County

Requires reporting on:

- Jobs retained/created
- Business growth outcomes

FISCAL IMPACT:

- **\$1,000,000 appropriation (pilot)**
- **Expected economic return through:**
 - Job creation
 - Increased sales tax revenue
 - Business retention