



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Lea Webb

Senator Lea Webb Hosts Roundtable for Minority Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) from Across the Southern Tier

LEA WEBB April 12, 2024

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(Binghamton, NY)- Today, Senator Lea Webb (SD-52) hosted a roundtable event, bringing together minority women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) from across the Southern Tier. As a member of the New York State Senate's Select Majority Task Force on Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises, Senator Webb is committed to supporting our local small business community by listening to the needs of business owners and advancing meaningful policy.

The roundtable convened business owners, economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, and non-profit organizations, to provide information about New York's MWBE program and legislation that has been passed to support these businesses. Presentations were made by Empire State Development, the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Arrows Committee, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) from SUNY Broome, and the New York Small Business Development Center. The event also offered an opportunity for attendees to share their experiences and express their needs.

"Today's roundtable helped to provide minority women-owned businesses in our community with information about the opportunities available to them through the NYS MWBE program, while also addressing the unique challenges they face," **said Senator Lea Webb.** "By emphasizing the critical role of diversity and inclusion within our business community and beyond, we lay the groundwork for a future that celebrates and promotes the success of every entrepreneur. New York's MWBE program has been instrumental in the advancement of companies across the state and I am committed to increasing that success rate with businesses in the Southern Tier."

Said Yohance Bailey, Co-Chair of the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Arrows Committee, "We are thrilled to participate in the round table organized by Senator Webb, a pivotal initiative for fostering growth and inclusivity among small businesses. Senator Webb's focus on leveraging the NYS MWBE program underscores a vital commitment to enhancing the landscape for minority and women-owned businesses. This event symbolizes a significant step towards building a more inclusive and prosperous business community in New York State."

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