

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS
FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE

1. Effect of rule: Small businesses, within the meaning of the State Administrative Procedure Act, that are currently subject to the New York State and City of Yonkers withholding requirements will continue to be subject to these requirements. This rule should, therefore, have little or no effect on small businesses other than the requirement of conforming to the new withholding tables and other methods. All small businesses that are employers or are otherwise subject to the withholding requirements must comply with the provisions of this rule.

2. Compliance requirements: This rule requires small businesses and local governments that are already subject to the New York State and City of Yonkers withholding requirements to continue to deduct and withhold amounts from employees using the revised New York State and City of Yonkers withholding tables and other methods. The promulgation of this rule will not require small businesses or local governments to submit any new information, forms, or paperwork.

3. Professional services: Many small businesses currently utilize bookkeepers, accountants and professional payroll services in order to comply with existing withholding requirements. This rule will not encourage or discourage the use of such services.

4. Compliance costs: Small businesses and local governments are already subject to the New York State and City of Yonkers withholding requirements. Therefore, small businesses and local governments are accustomed to withholding revisions, including minor programming changes for federal, state, City of New York, and City of Yonkers purposes. As such, these changes should place no additional burdens on small businesses and local governments. See, also section 4(a) of the Regulatory Impact Statement for this rule.

5. Economic and Technological Feasibility: This rule does not impose any economic or technological compliance burdens on small businesses or local governments.

6. Minimizing adverse impact: Section 671(a)(1) of the Tax Law requires that New York State withholding tables and other methods be promulgated. Section 1329(a) of the Tax Law requires that the City of Yonkers withholding of tax on wages shall be administered and collected by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance in the same manner as the tax imposed by Article 22 of the Tax Law. There are no provisions in the Tax Law that exclude small businesses and local governments from the withholding requirements. The regulation provides some relief to small businesses and local governments with respect to the methods allowed to comply with the withholding requirements by continuing to provide employers with more than one method of computing the amount to withhold from their employees. Look-up tables are provided for employers who prepare their payrolls manually, and an exact calculation method is provided for employers with computer-based systems.

7. Small business and local government participation: The following organizations are being given an opportunity to participate in the rule's development: the Association of Towns of New York State; the Office of Coastal, Local Government, and Community Sustainability of New York State Department of State; the Division of Small Business of Empire State Development; the National Federation of Independent Businesses; the New York State Association of Counties; the New York Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials; the Small Business Council of the New York State Business Council; the Retail Council of New York State; and the New York Association of Convenience Stores; the Tax section of the New York State Bar Association; the Association of the Bar of the City of New York; the National Tax Committee for the National Conference of CPA Practitioners; the New York State Society of CPAs; and the Business Council of New York State. In addition, the City of Yonkers was consulted.