

By: Representative Scott (80th)

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 78

1 AN ACT TO CREATE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND
2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT A ONE-STOP INFORMATION CENTER TO PROVIDE A
3 ONE-STOP INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS
4 AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESSES; TO
5 REQUIRE SUCH ONE-STOP CENTER TO MAINTAIN A STATEWIDE REGISTER OF
6 CONTRACTS, PROGRAMS, LOANS AND GRANTS AVAILABLE; TO REQUIRE THE
7 COMPILATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION PACKETS; TO REQUIRE
8 THE COORDINATION OF AGENCIES; TO REQUIRE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
9 ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEM; AND
10 FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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13 SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Economic and Community
14 Development shall establish and administer a One-Stop Information
15 Center to provide for the collection, summarization and
16 dissemination of information helpful to any person in establishing
17 or operating a small or minority business, or seeking loans,
18 grants or other funds that may be available in this state.

19 (2) The One-Stop Information Center shall:

20 (a) Collect, compile, summarize and disseminate
21 information packets to any person seeking a grant, loan or other
22 incentive, and any information helpful to any person establishing
23 or operating a small or minority business;

24 (b) Maintain a statewide contracts register;

25 (c) Maintain a register of federal and state grants,
26 loans and other incentives available to assist individuals, and
27 small and minority businesses;

28 (d) Provide information and help coordinate the
29 "one-stop permitting" available under Section 25-45-3 et seq.;

30 (e) In cooperation with existing state and federal
31 assistance programs, counsel on:

32 (i) How to deal with federal, state and local
33 governmental agencies;

34 (ii) How to meet federal, state and local program
35 requirements;

36 (iii) How to utilize any incentives that are
37 available in the state.

38 (f) Coordinate between agencies to consolidate related
39 information.

40 (3) On January 2 of each year, beginning with January 2,
41 2000, the Department of Economic and Community Development shall
42 make a written report to the Governor and the Legislature on the
43 implementation of this act. The report shall contain information
44 on:

45 (a) The establishment and administration of the
46 One-Stop Information Center;

47 (b) The information available;

48 (c) How the information is disseminated;

49 (d) The number of persons who have used the One-Stop
50 Information System;

51 (e) The types of assistance that are available;

52 (f) The complaints and suggestions received by the
53 department; and

54 (g) Plans and specific objectives to be accomplished by
55 the department in the next fiscal year.

56 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
57 and after July 1, 1999.