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Robertson, Rotenberry, Simpson, Smith (39th),  
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To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1292

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND  
2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE A "MISSISSIPPI  
3 DIRECTORY AND GUIDE TO CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES" TO PROVIDE  
4 A GUIDE TO ALL STATE WORK FORCE TRAINING SERVICES,  
5 APPRENTICESHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES; TO PROVIDE  
6 FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION DIRECTORY VIA THE  
7 INTERNET AND AS A PRINTED GUIDE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT  
8 ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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10 SECTION 1. (1) Subject to the availability of funds, the  
11 Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development shall  
12 develop and publish a "Mississippi Directory and Guide to Career  
13 and Educational Services" to provide a comprehensive guide  
14 regarding the state's system of work force related training  
15 services, student apprenticeships, student scholarships, labor  
16 needs and career opportunities. This directory shall be made  
17 available as an interactive website on the internet and in an  
18 abbreviated printed form. The Mississippi Directory and Guide to  
19 Career and Educational Services shall include, but not be limited  
20 to, the following sections:

21 (a) Section One: "Guide to Work force Training  
22 Services." This section shall include descriptions, physical  
23 locations, phone and facsimile numbers, e-mail addresses, a  
24 contact person and guidelines concerning all available work force  
25 related training services and programs, including training  
26 programs administered or funded by the State Department of  
27 Education, the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, the  
28 Department of Economic and Community Development, the State  
29 Department of Rehabilitation Services, the Department of Human

30 Services, the Mississippi Employment Security Commission, the  
31 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the  
32 Planning and Development Districts and other programs administered  
33 through public or private entities.

34 (b) Section Two: "Guide to Apprenticeships." This  
35 section shall include available information on state and federal  
36 laws concerning apprenticeships, including student work-study, job  
37 shadowing and any other paid or nonpaid apprenticeships. This  
38 section also shall include a summary of employment laws that  
39 mandate a minimum age of eighteen (18) and applicable exemptions  
40 to these laws, according to O.S.H.A. guidelines, child labor laws  
41 and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

42 (c) Section Three: "Career Opportunities in  
43 Mississippi." This section shall include a multi-year analysis of  
44 labor trends in Mississippi, showing career opportunities in major  
45 career areas, with information such as wage range, growth and  
46 replacement rates and licensure and educational and training  
47 levels required.

48 (d) Section Four: "Scholarships and Funding." This  
49 section shall include a compilation of available educational  
50 scholarships and funding support for vocational programs,  
51 community colleges, institutions of higher learning,  
52 apprenticeships and all adult work force related training  
53 programs.

54 (2) The Department of Economic and Community Development  
55 shall develop a marketing plan to promote awareness of the  
56 availability of the directory. The target audiences shall include  
57 all public school students, private school students,  
58 post-secondary school students, parents of these students,  
59 business and industry entities, agencies involved in work force  
60 placement and training, public libraries, chambers of commerce and  
61 economic development agencies. The department may enter into  
62 contracts or cooperative agreements with any public or private  
63 agency for the development, marketing and distribution of the  
64 Mississippi Directory and Guide to Career and Educational  
65 Services.

66 (3) The Department of Economic and Community Development may

67 apply for public or private funding for the development, marketing  
68 and distribution of this directory and may expend any funds  
69 specifically appropriated therefor by the Legislature.

70       SECTION 2. (1) There is created in the State Treasury a  
71 special fund to be designated the "Mississippi Career and  
72 Educational Directory Fund." Any monies collected or appropriated  
73 for the design, development and maintenance of the Mississippi  
74 Directory and Guide to Career and Educational Services shall be  
75 deposited into the fund and shall not lapse to the State General  
76 Fund at the end of each fiscal year.

77       (2) All disbursements from the fund shall be made pursuant  
78 to appropriation by the Legislature.

79       (3) Expenditures from the fund may be paid by the State  
80 Treasurer, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer, and  
81 the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon  
82 requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers.

83       SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
84 and after July 1, 1999.