

By: Blackmon

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2329

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 REGISTRY 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.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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

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

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

23 (b) Maintain a statewide contracts register;

24 (c) Maintain a register of federal and state grants,
 25 loans and other incentives available to assist individuals, and

26 small and minority businesses;

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

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

31 (i) How to deal with federal, state or local
32 governmental agencies;

33 (ii) How to meet federal, state or local program
34 requirements;

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

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

39 (3) On January 2 of each year, beginning with January 2,
40 2001, the Department of Economic and Community Development shall
41 make a written report to the Governor and the Legislature on the
42 implementation of this act. The report shall contain information
43 on:

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

46 (b) The information available;

47 (c) How the information is disseminated.

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

50 (e) The types of assistance that are available.

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

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

55 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after July 1, 2000.