

By: Furniss

To: Veterans and Military  
AffairsCOMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 3142

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE PRIORITY IN EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR  
2 UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES VETERANS; TO REQUIRE THE STATE  
3 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD TO DEVELOP MEASURES OF SERVICE FOR  
4 VETERANS THAT WILL SERVE AS INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
5 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; TO REQUIRE THE STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT  
6 BOARD TO ANNUALLY SUBMIT A REPORT DETAILING COVERED PROVIDERS'  
7 COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED  
8 PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. (1) **Purpose.** The Legislature finds and declares  
11 that veterans in Mississippi represent a strong, productive part  
12 of the workforce of this state and are disadvantaged in their  
13 pursuit of civilian employment through their delayed entry into  
14 the civilian labor market and that it is only proper and in the  
15 public interest and public welfare, that such veterans receive a  
16 priority in service in the provision of employment and training  
17 opportunities by and through the one-stop delivery system of the  
18 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law  
19 105-220.

20 (2) **Veterans defined.** For the purpose of this act, the term  
21 "veteran" shall have the same definition as that provided by 38  
22 USCS Section 4211(4).

23 (3) **Priority defined.** For the purposes of this act,  
24 "priority for veterans" means that eligible veterans who register  
25 or otherwise apply for services provided by or through the  
26 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law  
27 105-220, will be extended the opportunity to participate or  
28 otherwise receive the services of the covered providers before the  
29 providers extend the opportunity and services to other registered

30 applicants.

31           (4) **Services defined.** For the purposes of this act,  
32 "services" means employment, training and other services provided  
33 by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law  
34 105-220, by service providers. Services include, but not limited  
35 to, assessment, registration, case management, referral to  
36 supportive services, which are directed to help customers.

37           (5) **Service providers.** For purposes of this section,  
38 "service providers" means the partners established by the State  
39 and Local Workforce Investment Boards who actually provide the  
40 services to program participants through the one-stop system  
41 mandated by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States  
42 Public Law 105-220.

43           (6) **Priority employment directed.** The State Workforce  
44 Investment Board, local workforce investment boards and all  
45 service providers shall establish procedures to provide veterans  
46 with priority of services set forth in the provision of the  
47 programs and services which are within their jurisdiction and  
48 delivered through the one-stop system mandated by the Workforce  
49 Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law 105-220.

50           (7) **Implementation and performance measures.** The State  
51 Workforce Investment Board established in compliance with the  
52 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law  
53 105-220, or its designee, shall:

54                   (a) Develop measures of service for veterans that will  
55 serve as indicators of compliance with the provisions of this act  
56 by all service providers.

57                   (b) Annually publish and submit to the Chairman of the  
58 Senate Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee and the Chairman  
59 of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee,  
60 beginning not later than July 1, 2001, a report detailing covered  
61 providers' compliance with the provisions of this act.

62           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
63 and after its passage.