

By: Furniss

To: Veterans and Military
Affairs

SENATE BILL NO. 3142
(As Passed the Senate)

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.