

By: Representative Rogers

To: Military Affairs;
Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 1505

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

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

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

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

35 (5) For purposes of this section, "service providers" means
36 the partners established by the state and local workforce
37 investment boards who actually provide the services to program
38 participants through the one-stop system mandated by the Workforce
39 Investment Act of 1998, United States Public Law 105-220.

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

47 (7) The State Workforce Investment Board established in
48 compliance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United
49 States Public Law 105-220, or its designee, shall:

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

53 (b) Annually publish and submit to the Chairman of the
54 Senate Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee and the Chairman
55 of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee,
56 beginning not later than July 1, 2002, a report detailing covered
57 providers' compliance with the provisions of this act.

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