



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Samuel K. Benham

H.B. 144

129th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Dovilla and Baker, Carey, Henne, Grossman, Hall, Combs, Slaby, Thompson, Stebelton, Brenner, R. Adams, Derickson, Hottinger, Mecklenborg, Antonio, Sears

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Department of Development to work with the Secretary of State to create a small business resource web site.
- Requires the Department to annually gather and assess relevant information for inclusion on the web site.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Online small business resource center

The bill requires the Department of Development to work with the Secretary of State's office to create an online "small business resource center" on the Department's web site to serve as a central source for information relating to small businesses.¹

Web site content

The small business resource center web site must provide information or a link to information regarding all of the following:

- (1) Steps to starting a small business in Ohio;
- (2) Workforce availability;
- (3) Regulatory requirements;
- (4) Required licenses and permits;

¹ R.C. 122.014 and 122.015.

- (5) Loan and financing opportunities;
- (6) Tax requirements, deadlines, and forms;
- (7) Small business advocacy opportunities;
- (8) Frequently asked questions;
- (9) The Ohio Business Gateway (an electronic payment and filing system operated by the Department of Administrative Services);
- (10) State procurement opportunities;
- (11) Workers' compensation requirements.

For each item, the Department is required to indicate the date on which the item was most recently updated.²

Web site administration

The bill requires the Department, on an annual basis, to consult with or survey small business groups in the state to assess available online resources and to gather information and suggestions relating to useful information to put online.³

The Department also must post the date that each reference or item on the web site was last updated, and allow a person to register to receive regular electronic updates made to the web site. However, a person cannot be required to register to access the site.⁴

The bill states that its intent is to recognize the Department of Development's efforts to provide resources for small businesses and to strengthen the resources available to small businesses "by codifying and supplementing" those efforts.

HISTORY

| ACTION | DATE |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 03-08-11 |

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² R.C. 122.015(A).

³ R.C. 122.015(C).

⁴ R.C. 122.015(B).

