

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1115

By: Greenwood

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Section 5003.7, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 330, O.S.L. 1992 (74 O.S. Supp. 1992, Section 5003.7), which relates to certain plan of the Department of Commerce; requiring the Department of Commerce to publish and disseminate information concerning the starting of a business; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 5003.7, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 330, O.S.L. 1992 (74 O.S. Supp. 1992, Section 5003.7), is amended to read as follows:

Section 5003.7 A. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall prepare, with the cooperation of the Oklahoma business community, agricultural community, financial community, universities, labor and the state executive and legislative branches, a five-year economic development plan and annual updates for the State of Oklahoma. The recurring five-year economic development plan and annual updates shall be subject to the approval of Oklahoma Futures.

1. The purpose of the plan shall be to identify significant economic, social, and demographic trends which may have both short-term and long-term impacts on the state and local economy and to present strategies and recommendations that the state and local political subdivisions might adopt to improve or stabilize the economy.

2. The goals of the plan shall include the development of a diversified state economy, increasing employment, the maximum use of federal, state and local funds to achieve the goals or recommendations included in the plan, the maximum investment of capital in the economy of the state, and the improvement of the quality of life in the state.

3. The plan wherever possible shall make recommendations to encourage intergovernmental cooperation and public and private cooperation.

4. Copies of the plan and the annual updates shall be submitted to the Oklahoma Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the chairmen of the standing committees on economic development of the Senate and of the House of Representatives in the annual report of Oklahoma Futures.

5. The Department shall develop and manage a complete economic information system which will support the five-year planning process, and which will make available complete and timely information on the state economy. The economic information system shall be operated by public or private Oklahoma universities or an Oklahoma enterprise capable of providing such services in a cost-effective manner.

B. The Department, in conjunction with the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority, is authorized to develop an infrastructure program which will enable political subdivisions of this state to finance public works projects in order to modify or improve existing

public facilities for purposes of bringing said facilities, and the operation thereof, into compliance with and maintaining compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to the protection of the public health and the environment.

C. The Director shall develop an annual business plan for the Department. The business plan shall be submitted to Oklahoma Futures for its review and comment and shall be included in the annual report of Oklahoma Futures. The business plan shall include the need and mission of each division of the Department created by law or the Director and an analysis of past costs and benefits and future projected costs and benefits to the state of the programs of each division of the Department. The business plan shall be consistent with the goals of the recurring five-year plan specified in this section. Oklahoma Futures shall review and comment upon such plan before it is implemented. The Director shall distribute copies of the business plan by such means that will make it widely available to communities, firms and local economic development managers throughout this state.

D. The Department of Commerce shall collect available information concerning the starting of a business, including but not limited to information on incorporation, taxes, employment provisions and licensing. The Department shall publish a booklet on such information for the purpose of making it easier for a person who plans to start a business by having the necessary information in a booklet form. The booklet shall be provided to any person on request and payment of a fee determined by the Department as the cost of publishing such booklet plus any mailing fee necessary to fulfill the request. The Department shall also print a one-page information sheet to be disseminated to all state agencies which may receive inquiries on starting a business, including but not limited to the Department of Labor, the Oklahoma Tax Commission, and all licensing boards of the state.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 1993.

44-1-5921

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