

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1656

5 By: Representatives Pilkington, J. Richardson  
6 By: Senator C. Penzo  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE A REPORT CONCERNING FUNDS  
10 SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS OR PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS  
11 STARTING NEW BUSINESSES OR BUSINESSES ESTABLISHED  
12 WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS; AND FOR OTHER  
13 PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

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16 TO REQUIRE A REPORT CONCERNING FUNDS  
17 SUPPORTING PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS  
18 STARTING NEW BUSINESSES OR BUSINESSES  
19 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE  
20 YEARS.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, Subchapter 3, is  
27 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

28 25-43-306. Report concerning funds supporting organizations or  
29 programs for individuals starting new businesses or businesses established  
30 within the previous five (5) years.

31 (a) By January 1 of each year the Secretary of the Department of  
32 Commerce shall file an annual report that includes without limitation:

33 (1) The percentage of workforce development funding, including  
34 without limitation funding allocated by workforce development boards across  
35 the state, supporting organizations or programs:

36 (A) For individuals starting new businesses in this state;



1 or

2 (B) That provide services to businesses established within  
3 the previous five (5) years whose principal place of business is in this  
4 state; and

5 (2) The total dollar amount of workforce development funding,  
6 including without limitation funding allocated by workforce development  
7 boards across the state, supporting organizations or programs:

8 (A) For individuals starting new businesses in this state;

9 or

10 (B) That provide services to businesses established within  
11 the previous five (5) years whose principal place of business is in this  
12 state.

13 (b) The annual report under subsection (a) of this section shall be  
14 filed with the:

15 (1) Governor;

16 (2) House Committee on Insurance and Commerce; and

17 (3) Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

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19 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. The first annual  
20 report under § 15-4-221 is due by January 1, 2025.

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