

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1657

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

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE THE AWARD OF WORKFORCE  
10 DEVELOPMENT FUNDING TO NEW BUSINESSES AND BUSINESSES  
11 THAT HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION FOR LESS THAN FIVE YEARS;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
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## Subtitle

16 TO ENCOURAGE THE AWARD OF WORKFORCE  
17 DEVELOPMENT FUNDING TO NEW BUSINESSES AND  
18 BUSINESSES THAT HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION  
19 FOR LESS THAN FIVE YEARS.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, Subchapter 3, is  
25 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 25-43-306. Encouragement of award of workforce development funding to  
27 individuals starting new businesses and businesses established within the  
28 previous five (5) years.

29 The Department of Commerce shall encourage that at least five percent  
30 (5%) of workforce development funding, including without limitation funding  
31 allocated by workforce development boards across the state, go towards  
32 supporting organizations or programs:

33 (1) For individuals starting new businesses in the state; or  
34 (2) That provide services to businesses established within the  
35 previous five (5) years whose principal place of business is in this state.  
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1 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. This act is effective  
2 on and after January 1, 2025.

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