

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1660

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

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING A REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
10 ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CONCERNING  
11 CONTRACTS AWARDED TO BUSINESSES IN OPERATION LESS  
12 THAN FIVE YEARS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

14  
15 CONCERNING A REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF  
16 THE ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
17 COMMISSION CONCERNING CONTRACTS AWARDED  
18 TO BUSINESSES IN OPERATION LESS THAN FIVE  
19 YEARS.  
20  
21  
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 4, Subchapter 2, is amended  
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 15-4-221. Report concerning contracts awarded to businesses in  
28 operation less than five (5) years.

29 (a) By January 1 of each year, the Director of the Arkansas Economic  
30 Development Commission shall file an annual report that includes without  
31 limitation:

32 (1) The number and total dollar amount of state contracts  
33 awarded to businesses that have been in operation for less than five (5)  
34 years, including a breakdown by demographic segments and geographic areas  
35 throughout the state;

36 (2) The percentage of the total number of state contracts



1 awarded to businesses that have been in operation for less than five (5)  
2 years compared to the total number of state contracts awarded;

3 (3) The percentage of the total dollar amount of state contracts  
4 awarded to businesses that have been in operation for less than five (5)  
5 years compared to the total dollar amount of state contracts awarded; and

6 (4) Recommendations on improving access to state contracts for  
7 Arkansas businesses that have been in operation for less than five (5) years,  
8 including without limitation businesses in statistically underrepresented  
9 demographic segments and geographic areas of Arkansas.

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

12 (1) Governor;

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

14 (3) Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

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