

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1373

5 By: Representatives Pilkington, J. Richardson  
6 By: Senator K. Hammer  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
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

## Subtitle

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16 TO ENCOURAGE THE AWARD OF WORKFORCE  
17 DEVELOPMENT FUNDING TO NEW BUSINESSES  
18 AND BUSINESSES THAT HAVE BEEN IN  
19 OPERATION FOR LESS THAN FIVE YEARS.  
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, Subchapter 3, is  
24 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

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

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

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



1 on and after January 1, 2027.

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