

House File 2031 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2031

BY LUKAN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of a state business
2 information center.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 15.111 **Business information center**
2 **— purpose — economic development authority responsibilities.**

3 1. Facilities and programs are needed by which businesses
4 seeking to locate or expand in the state and entrepreneurs
5 creating a business in the state can obtain the necessary
6 information. The economic development authority shall
7 establish a state business information center to assist persons
8 seeking to locate a business, expand an existing business, or
9 create a business in the state.

10 2. The state business information center shall provide
11 businesses and entrepreneurs with the following:

12 a. Information regarding grants or loans available to assist
13 businesses in the state.

14 b. Information regarding state and local tax incentives
15 available to businesses.

16 c. Information regarding employer contribution rates
17 and other information related to the state unemployment
18 compensation program.

19 d. Information regarding the state workers' compensation
20 program.

21 e. Information regarding health insurance available to
22 employees and employers.

23 f. Information regarding applicable state and local
24 regulations, including permit and license requirements.

25 g. Other information deemed relevant by the authority.

26 3. In operating the center, the economic development
27 authority shall:

28 a. Consolidate state agency information to provide this
29 information to businesses and entrepreneurs from a single
30 source.

31 b. Consolidate state, regional, and local information to
32 provide this information to businesses and entrepreneurs from a
33 single source.

34 c. Serve as an intermediary between businesses and
35 entrepreneurs and state and local entities for the distribution

1 of information required to be provided pursuant to subsection
2 2.

3 4. The authority shall establish and maintain an internet
4 site to provide businesses and entrepreneurs with information
5 relating to locating a business, expanding a business, or
6 creating a business in Iowa. The internet site shall contain
7 contact information for the business information center and
8 shall also include, at a minimum, the information or a link
9 by which to access the information required to be provided in
10 subsection 2.

11 5. The authority shall maintain a telephone line, which
12 shall be available during regular business hours and which
13 businesses and entrepreneurs may use to contact the business
14 information center.

15 6. State agencies shall assist the economic development
16 authority in compiling the information required in subsections
17 2 and 3, and in providing access to the information on the
18 business information center's internet site.

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EXPLANATION

20 This bill establishes a business information center
21 under the control of the economic development authority.
22 The business information center shall provide businesses
23 and entrepreneurs seeking to locate, create, or expand a
24 business in Iowa with information on relevant state and local
25 regulations, state and local government financial assistance
26 and incentives, the state unemployment compensation program,
27 the state workers' compensation program, health insurance, and
28 other information deemed relevant by the authority.

29 The bill requires the economic development authority to
30 consolidate state agency information and state, regional, and
31 local information into a single source for businesses and
32 entrepreneurs and to serve as an intermediary for the provision
33 of such information. The authority must maintain a telephone
34 line during regular business hours to provide the information,
35 and the authority must establish and maintain an internet

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1 site to provide the information, as well as the business
2 information's center's contact information. State agencies
3 shall assist the authority in compiling and allowing access to
4 the information required to be provided to entrepreneurs and
5 businesses pursuant to the bill.