

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1214

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES TORPEY (Sponsor), SCHARNHORST, MOLENDORP,
LARGENT, BERRY AND MCGHEE (Co-sponsors).

4863L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 620, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to resources for the development of businesses.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 620, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 620.2400, to read as follows:

620.2400. 1. There is hereby established the "Missouri Entrepreneur Resource Virtual Network (MERVN)" to be managed by the department of economic development. The department shall seek sufficient private sector funding to develop, maintain, and market a virtual network to provide seamless access to statewide resources and expertise for entrepreneurs and existing businesses using private sector funding. Private sector funding shall be for general support of the virtual network and shall not be used to sponsor specific portions of the network. The network shall disclose the value of the donations and names of private sector organizations providing funding for the network. The network shall provide resources for small businesses regarding requirements for starting a business. The network shall connect Missouri entrepreneurs to available state and nonstate supported services and technical assistance. In developing and maintaining the network, the department shall ensure that all listed resources meet established standards. The goal of the network is to assist in the creation of new Missouri ventures, the growth of existing businesses, and the ability of Missouri entrepreneurs to compete globally. To the greatest extent possible, the network shall be built on and linked to existing resources designed to make business assistance resources more accessible to Missouri businesses.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **2. Any portion of the network that involves state information systems or state**
18 **websites is subject to the authority of the department, including, but not limited to:**

19 **(1) Evaluation and approval;**

20 **(2) Review to ensure compliance with security policies, guidelines, and standards;**

21 **and**

22 **(3) Assurance of compliance with accessibility standards.**

23 **3. By September 30, 2012, the department shall report to the chairs and ranking**
24 **minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction**
25 **over economic development and state government finances on the department's plans and**
26 **progress toward the development of the network under this section.**

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