

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2535

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON.

6460H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 620, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the office of business advocate.

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 620.060, to read as follows:

- 620.060 1. There is hereby established in the Missouri department of economic development the "Office of Business Advocate" that shall have the purpose and duty of advocating for the creation and expansion of small businesses throughout the state and finding solutions to problems encountered by small business owners when starting or expanding a business in Missouri. The business advocate shall report directly to the director of the department of economic development and shall provide support and coordination to any person starting or expanding a business in Missouri. The office shall be administered by the business advocate.**
- 2. The business advocate shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The business advocate shall hold office for a term of six years and shall continue to hold the office until a successor is duly appointed.**
- 3. The department of economic development shall provide administrative support and staff as deemed necessary to assist the business advocate.**

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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.