

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5023

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a website that provides information relating to the business environment of each State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 13, 2021

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia (for herself and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a website that provides information relating to the business environment of each State, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Website for Economies
5 of Business-friendly States Act of 2021” or the “WEBS
6 Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WEBSITE ON STATE**
2 **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Com-
5 merce (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall
6 establish a publicly available website that provides infor-
7 mation relating to the business environment of each State
8 that may be relevant to a person considering establishing
9 a business in the State or relocating a business to the
10 State.

11 (b) INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED.—The website
12 established under subsection (a) shall include the following
13 information with respect to each State:

14 (1) A description of State business income and
15 payroll taxes.

16 (2) A description of incentives for establishing
17 a business in the State or relocating a business to
18 the State.

19 (3) Additional incentives offered by metropoli-
20 tan areas of the State.

21 (4) Average cost of living in the State.

22 (5) A description of the minimum wage require-
23 ments of the State.

24 (6) A description of job training programs
25 available in the State.

1 (7) A description of colleges, universities, and
2 research institutions located in the State.

3 (8) Contact information for the business devel-
4 opment office (or other equivalent office) of the
5 State.

6 (9) Information about opportunity zones in the
7 State.

8 (10) Such other information described in sub-
9 section (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate
10 described in a rule issued under section 553 of title
11 5, United States Code.

12 (c) INFORMATION FROM THE BUREAU OF THE CEN-
13 SUS.—The Secretary shall consult with the Director of the
14 Bureau of the Census to obtain information relevant to
15 the implementation of the website established under sub-
16 section (a).

17 (d) APPEALS PROCESS.—Not later than the date on
18 which the website is established under subsection (a), the
19 Secretary shall establish a process by which—

20 (1) a State may file with the Secretary an ap-
21 peal challenging particular information on such
22 website as being inaccurate; and

23 (2) if the State demonstrates in such appeal
24 that such information is inaccurate, the Secretary
25 shall correct such information.

1 (e) ANNUAL UPDATES.—The Secretary shall, at least
2 annually, verify that the website established under sub-
3 section (a) is up-to-date.

4 (f) INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION.—The Secretary, in
5 consultation with the Secretary of State and the United
6 States Trade Representative, shall promote the website es-
7 tablished under subsection (a) among foreign persons who
8 may be considering relocating a business to the United
9 States or otherwise investing in the United States.

10 (g) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term
11 “State” means each State of the United States, the Dis-
12 trict of Columbia, and each commonwealth, territory, or
13 possession of the United States.

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