

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 591

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON.

1345H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

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

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*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  
2 known as section 620.060, to read as follows:

**620.060 1. There is hereby established in the Missouri department of economic  
2 development the "Office of Business Advocate" that shall have the purpose and duty of  
3 advocating for the creation and expansion of small businesses throughout the state and  
4 finding solutions to problems encountered by small business owners when starting or  
5 expanding a business in Missouri. The business advocate shall report directly to the  
6 director of the department of economic development and shall provide support and  
7 coordination to any person starting or expanding a business in Missouri. The office shall  
8 be administered by the business advocate.**

9       **2. The business advocate shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and  
10 consent of the senate. The business advocate shall hold office for a term of six years and  
11 shall continue to hold the office until a successor is duly appointed.**

12       **3. The department of economic development shall provide administrative support  
13 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.