

154.12-223 Department for Business Development.

- (1) There is created within the Cabinet for Economic Development the Department for Business Development, which shall be headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor. The department shall work with each Kentucky county in:
 - (a) Assisting community-based economic development agencies in creating and implementing their respective work plans;
 - (b) Developing cooperative interaction with existing industries and small and minority businesses and assisting export development;
 - (c) Providing sufficient technical resources to create and maintain a database to facilitate sales transactions between Kentucky businesses;
 - (d) Assisting minority businesses with federal, state, and local government agencies, regulations, and procurement programs; and
 - (e) Introducing entrepreneurs to individual investors and to investment capital firms interested in start-up and early-state financing.
- (2) The Department for Business Development shall include the following divisions, each of which shall be headed by an executive director appointed by the secretary pursuant to KRS 12.050:
 - (a) The Office of Entrepreneurship shall be responsible for various forms of small business assistance, including without being limited to:
 1. Providing comprehensive information on all state business licenses and requirements;
 2. Assisting businesses in the identification of government procurement opportunities;
 3. Administering the innovation assistance set forth in KRS 154.12-278; and
 4. Collecting, summarizing, and disseminating information helpful to small businesses, including information on:
 - (a) Market research;
 - (b) Federal, state, and local minority business programs; and
 - (c) The availability of managerial assistance.

The Commission on Small Business Advocacy established in KRS 11.200 shall advise the office on small business needs; and
 - (b) The Office of Research and Public Affairs, which shall administer the following:
 1. Research activities related to strategic planning, business site selection, and existing industry;
 2. Program analysis;
 3. Competitive analysis;
 4. Communications and marketing services; and
 5. Event planning.

The office shall include the Division of Database and Systems Development, which shall be headed by a director appointed by the

secretary pursuant to KRS 12.050.

- (3) The following programs shall be attached to the Department for Business Development:
- (a) The Kentucky port and river development program created by KRS 65.510 to 65.530, KRS 139.483, and KRS 154.80-100 to 154.80-130;
 - (b) The Waterway Marina Development Program established by KRS 154.80-310; and
 - (c) The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation established by KRS 154.12-205.

Effective: July 15, 2014

History: Amended 2014 Ky. Acts ch. 89, sec. 4, effective July 15, 2014. -- Amended 2005 Ky. Acts ch. 181, sec. 6, effective June 20, 2005; and ch. 158, sec. 4, effective June 20, 2005. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 133, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1996 Ky. Acts ch. 113, sec. 4, effective July 15, 1996; ch. 209, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1996; and ch. 262, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1996. -- Created 1994 Ky. Acts ch. 499, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1994.

Legislative Research Commission Note (6/20/2005). The Reviser of Statutes has renumbered the subparagraphs of subsection (2)(a) of this statute under the authority of KRS 7.136(1)(a).