

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 549

BY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SMALL BUSINESS INCUBATORS; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; AMENDING
2 SECTION 67-4703, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DUTIES TO THE
3 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; AND DECLARING AN
4 EMERGENCY.
5

6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
8 "Small Business Incubator and Jobs Act."

9 SECTION 2. That Section 67-4703, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
10 amended to read as follows:

11 67-4703. POWERS AND DUTIES. The department of commerce shall have
12 the power and it shall be its duty to engage in advertising the state of
13 Idaho, its resources, both developed and undeveloped, its tourist resources
14 and attractions, its agricultural, mining, lumbering and manufacturing
15 resources, its health conditions and advantages, its scenic beauty and
16 its other attractions and advantages; and in general either directly,
17 indirectly or by contract do anything and take any action which will promote
18 and advertise the resources and products of the state of Idaho, develop its
19 resources and industries, promote tourist travel to and within the state of
20 Idaho, and further the welfare and prosperity of its citizens.

21 The department shall also have the following duties when it deals with
22 promoting economic development and tourism within the state:

23 (1) Survey and investigate the social, economic and physical resources
24 of the state, including land, water, minerals, facilities for power,
25 transportation, communications, recreation, health, education and other
26 resources and facilities; endeavor to aid the legislature and the citizens
27 of the state of Idaho in formulating a program for the development and
28 utilization of these resources and facilities, and for balancing our
29 agricultural, timber and mining economy with industrial capacity. It shall
30 cooperate with local and regional agencies within the state. It shall
31 cooperate with like agencies of other states, with agencies maintained by
32 private persons or corporations, and with agencies established or employed
33 by the United States to promote the development of the country and the
34 welfare of its people.

35 (2) To develop and promote a comprehensive international marketing
36 plan for Idaho's products.

37 (3) To collect and compile reliable data for general dissemination
38 which will tend to the development of the state of Idaho by inducing people
39 and capital to come within our borders.

40 (4) Keep accurate records and preserve all data collected by it, and
41 from time to time prepare and submit to the governor and the legislature,

1 reports, programs, recommendations and plans for the comprehensive,
2 long-range development, conservation and use of all the resources of the
3 state of Idaho. It shall make such special investigations as to resources,
4 facilities, and other matters as may be required by the governor or the
5 legislature.

6 (5) Coordinate those activities of local, state, federal and private
7 agencies and departments when they deal with the promotion of Idaho's
8 economic resources.

9 (6) To require and receive from the various executive departments and
10 public officials of the state of Idaho such information as may be required by
11 the division to enable it to fulfill its functions and carry out the purposes
12 of this act.

13 (7) Administer and perform any other related functions or activities
14 assigned by the governor or the legislature.

15 (8) Enter into interagency agreements with other state agencies in
16 developing economic and community plans and programs.

17 (9) Provide technical assistance to other state agencies upon request.

18 (10) Contract with universities, consultants and other public and
19 private agencies to develop plans and programs.

20 (11) Serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and other
21 materials which may be used in developing Idaho's economy.

22 (12) Prepare a comprehensive economic development strategy.

23 (13) Collect and compile reliable economic data for general
24 dissemination.

25 (14) Petition for and receive moneys such as grants or gifts, to be used
26 for state or local planning and economic development activities.

27 (15) In concert with the department of labor by July 1, 2010, utilize
28 existing office space to provide physical office space and a full array of
29 business services to start-up companies hereby known as an incubator. Each
30 incubator client or company housed in the incubator, shall have its own
31 office space, generally with a low-cost flexible lease arrangement. All the
32 incubator clients shall share office resources including conference rooms
33 and administrative staff. The department of commerce and the department
34 of labor shall offer a team of specialized staff who will help run the
35 incubator and offer business planning, management and financial services to
36 the clients. The department of commerce and the department of labor shall
37 enter a joint exercise of powers agreement to implement the provisions of
38 this subsection and may promulgate administrative rules to implement the
39 provisions of this subsection.

40 SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
41 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
42 passage and approval.