



Rep. Lance Yednock

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10300HB3017ham001

LRB103 06043 HLH 59149 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3017

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3017 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Business Assistance and Regulatory Reform
5 Act is amended by changing Sections 5, 10, and 15 and by adding
6 Section 7 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 608/5)

8 Sec. 5. Goal. The goal of this Act is to improve the
9 State's business climate by making it easier for ~~small and~~
10 ~~mid-size~~ businesses to deal with State requirements for doing
11 business. This goal will be achieved through providing quick,
12 accurate information on existing requirements, ~~and~~ avoiding
13 unnecessary requirements, and expediting permit issuance.

14 (Source: P.A. 88-404.)

15 (20 ILCS 608/7 new)

1 Sec. 7. Covered project. As used in this Act, "covered
2 project" means any activity in Illinois that: (1) involves the
3 construction of infrastructure for renewable or conventional
4 energy production, electricity transmission, surface
5 transportation, aviation, ports and waterways, water resource
6 projects, broadband, pipelines, or manufacturing; (2) requires
7 authorization or environmental review by a State agency; and
8 (3) is likely to require a total investment of more than
9 \$20,000,000.

10 (20 ILCS 608/10)

11 Sec. 10. Executive Office. There is created an Office of
12 Business Permits and Regulatory Assistance (hereinafter
13 referred to as "office") within the Department of Commerce and
14 Community Affairs (now Department of Commerce and Economic
15 Opportunity) which shall ~~consolidate existing programs~~
16 ~~throughout State government,~~ provide assistance to businesses
17 ~~with fewer than 500 employees~~ in meeting State requirements
18 for doing business and perform other functions specified in
19 this Act. The office shall implement reforms to improve
20 interagency coordination that allow for expeditious permit
21 issuance for covered projects. The office shall use
22 information technology tools to track schedules for covered
23 projects and metrics in order to improve transparency and
24 accountability in the permitting process, reduce uncertainty
25 and delays, and reduce costs and risks to taxpayers. The By

1 ~~March 1, 1994, the office shall complete and file with the~~
2 ~~Governor and the General Assembly a plan for the~~
3 ~~implementation of this Act. Thereafter, the office shall carry~~
4 out the provisions of this Act, subject to funding through
5 appropriation.

6 (Source: P.A. 98-463, eff. 8-16-13.)

7 (20 ILCS 608/15)

8 Sec. 15. Providing Information and Expediting Permit
9 Reviews.

10 (a) The office shall provide an online information system
11 using a website ~~toll-free business assistance number. The~~
12 ~~number shall be~~ advertised throughout the State. Interested
13 businesses shall ~~If requested, the caller will~~ be sent a basic
14 business kit, describing the basic requirements and procedures
15 for doing business in Illinois. ~~If requested, the caller shall~~
16 ~~be directed to one or more of the additional services provided~~
17 ~~by the office. All persons providing advice to callers on~~
18 ~~behalf of the office and all persons responsible for directly~~
19 ~~providing services to persons visiting the office or one of~~
20 ~~its branches shall be persons with small business experience~~
21 ~~in an administrative or managerial capacity.~~

22 (b) (Blank).

23 (c) Any applicant for permits required for a business
24 activity may confer with the office to obtain assistance in
25 the prompt and efficient processing and review of

1 applications. The office shall ~~may~~ designate an employee of
2 the office to act as a permit assistance manager to:

3 (1) facilitate contacts for the applicant with
4 responsible agencies;

5 (2) arrange conferences to clarify the requirements of
6 interested agencies;

7 (3) consider with State agencies the feasibility of
8 consolidating hearings and data required of the applicant;

9 (4) assist the applicant in resolution of outstanding
10 issues identified by State agencies; and

11 (5) coordinate federal, State and local regulatory
12 procedures and permit review actions to the extent
13 possible.

14 (d) The office shall publish an online ~~a~~ directory of
15 State business permits and State programs to assist ~~small~~
16 businesses.

17 (e) The office shall attempt to establish agreements with
18 local governments to allow the office to provide assistance to
19 applicants for permits required by these local governments.

20 (f) (Blank). ~~Interested State agencies shall, to the~~
21 ~~maximum extent feasible, establish procedures to expedite~~
22 ~~applications for infrastructure projects. Applications for~~
23 ~~permits for infrastructure projects shall be approved or~~
24 ~~disapproved within 45 days of submission, unless law or~~
25 ~~regulations specify a different period. If the interested~~
26 ~~agency is unable to act within that period, the agency shall~~

1 ~~provide a written notification to the office specifying~~
2 ~~reasons for its inability to act and the date by which approval~~
3 ~~or disapproval shall be determined. The office may require any~~
4 ~~interested State agency to designate an employee who will~~
5 ~~coordinate the handling of permits in that area.~~

6 (g) In addition to its responsibilities in connection with
7 permit assistance, the office shall provide general regulatory
8 information by directing businesses to appropriate officers in
9 State agencies to supply the information requested.

10 (h) The office shall help businesses to locate and apply
11 to training programs available to train current employees in
12 particular skills, techniques or areas of knowledge relevant
13 to the employees' present or anticipated job duties. In
14 pursuit of this objective, the office shall provide businesses
15 with pertinent information about training programs offered by
16 State agencies, units of local government, public universities
17 and colleges, community colleges, and school districts in
18 Illinois.

19 (i) The office shall help businesses to locate and apply
20 to State programs offering to businesses grants, loans, loan
21 or bond guarantees, investment partnerships, technology or
22 productivity consultation, or other forms of business
23 assistance.

24 (j) To the extent authorized by federal law, the office
25 shall assist businesses in ascertaining and complying with the
26 requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

1 (k) The office shall provide confidential on-site
2 assistance in identifying problems and solutions in compliance
3 with requirements of State and federal environmental
4 regulations. The office shall work through and contract with
5 the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center to provide
6 confidential on-site consultation audits that (i) assist
7 regulatory compliance and (ii) identify pollution prevention
8 opportunities.

9 (k-5) Until July 1, 2012, the office shall provide
10 confidential on-site assistance, including, but not limited
11 to, consultation audits, to identify problems and solutions
12 regarding compliance with the requirements of the federal
13 Occupational Safety and Health Administration. On and after
14 July 1, 2012, the Department of Labor shall provide
15 confidential on-site assistance, including, but not limited
16 to, consultation audits, to identify problems and solutions
17 regarding compliance with the requirements of the federal
18 Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

19 (l) The office shall provide information on existing loan
20 and business assistance programs provided by the State.

21 (m) Each State agency having jurisdiction to approve or
22 deny a permit shall have the continuing power heretofore or
23 hereafter vested in it to make such determinations. The
24 provisions of this Act shall not lessen or reduce such powers
25 and shall modify the procedures followed in carrying out such
26 powers only to the extent provided in this Act.

1 (n) ~~(1)~~ Each State agency shall fully cooperate with the
2 office in providing information, documentation, personnel or
3 facilities requested by the office.

4 ~~(2) Each State agency having jurisdiction of any permit to
5 which the master application procedure is applicable shall
6 designate an employee to act as permit liaison office with the
7 office in carrying out the provisions of this Act.~~

8 (o) (1) The office shall identify, develop, and track
9 metrics for the timeline of permit reviews, permit decisions,
10 and project outcomes for covered projects ~~has authority, but~~
11 ~~is not required, to keep and analyze appropriate statistical~~
12 ~~data regarding the number of permits issued by State agencies,~~
13 ~~the amount of time necessary for the permits to be issued, the~~
14 ~~cost of obtaining such permits, the types of projects for~~
15 ~~which specific permits are issued, a geographic distribution~~
16 ~~of permits, and other pertinent data the office deems~~
17 ~~appropriate.~~

18 The office shall administer and expand the use of online
19 transparency tools providing:

20 (i) tracking and reporting metrics;

21 (ii) development and posting of schedules for permit
22 reviews and permit decisions;

23 (iii) the sharing of best practices relating to
24 efficient project permitting and reviews; and

25 (iv) the visual display of relevant geospatial data to
26 support the permitting process. ~~make such data and any~~

1 ~~analysis of the data available to the public.~~

2 (2) The office shall ~~has authority, but is not required,~~
3 ~~to~~ conduct or cause to be conducted a thorough review of any
4 agency's permit requirements and the need by the State to
5 require such permits. The office shall draw on the review, on
6 its direct experience, and on its statistical analyses to
7 prepare recommendations regarding how to:

8 (i) eliminate unnecessary or antiquated permit
9 requirements;

10 (ii) consolidate duplicative or overlapping permit
11 requirements;

12 (iii) simplify overly complex or lengthy application
13 procedures;

14 (iv) expedite time-consuming agency review and
15 approval procedures; or

16 (v) otherwise improve the permitting processes in the
17 State.

18 The office shall submit copies of all recommendations
19 within 5 days of issuance to the affected agency, the
20 Governor, the General Assembly, and the Joint Committee on
21 Administrative Rules.

22 (p) The office shall ~~has authority to~~ review State forms
23 ~~on its own initiative or upon the request of another State~~
24 ~~agency~~ to ascertain the burden, if any, of complying with
25 those forms. If the office determines that a form is unduly
26 burdensome to business, it may recommend to the agency issuing

1 the form either that the form be eliminated or that specific
2 changes be made in the form.

3 (q) Not later than March 1 of each year, beginning March 1,
4 1995, the office shall submit an annual report of its
5 activities during the preceding year to the Governor and
6 General Assembly. The report shall describe the activities of
7 the office during the preceding year and shall contain
8 statistical information on the permit assistance activities of
9 the office.

10 (Source: P.A. 97-787, eff. 7-13-12; 98-346, eff. 8-14-13.)".