

1007-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Morris, Linville, Conway, Sullivan and Upthegrove)

Brief Description: Establishing a permitting bill of rights.

HB 1007-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that permits and licensing programs have been legislatively established to protect the health, welfare, economy, and environment of Washington's citizens and to provide a fair, competitive opportunity for business innovation and consumer confidence.

Finds that uncertainty in government processes to permit or license an activity by a citizen of Washington state is undesirable and erodes confidence in government.

Finds that information about the permitting and licensing process is critical for an applicant's planning and financial assessment of the proposed project.

Declares that applicants have a responsibility to provide complete and accurate information.

Declares that citizens of the state of Washington have the right to know the following information when applying for a permit, license, or authorization to engage in a lawful activity: (1) Right to know the minimum and maximum time required by an agency for a decision on a permit or license, including public comment requirements;

(2) Right to know the minimum and maximum amount of information required for an agency to make a decision on a permit or license;

(3) Right to know when an agency considers an application complete for processing;

(4) Right to know the minimum and maximum costs in agency fees that will be incurred by the permit or license applicant; and

(5) Right to know the reasons for a denial of a permit or license in writing.

Requires state permitting and licensing agencies to track the progress in meeting the information requirements established under this act. Beginning on or before December 31, 2004, each state permitting and licensing agency shall prepare an annual report of its performance for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall be posted on its web site and provided to the appropriate standing committees of the senate and house of representatives.