

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2593

As Reported by House Committee On:
State Government & Tribal Relations

Title: An act relating to promoting economic development through enhancing state agency permitting.

Brief Description: Promoting economic development through enhancing state agency permitting.

Sponsors: Representatives Boehnke, DeBolt, Goehner, Steele, Gildon and Tharinger.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government & Tribal Relations: 1/31/20, 2/7/20 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Extends the requirement that certain state agencies must submit reports with data regarding timelines for permit application completion and decision making through 2028.
- Extends the requirement that the Office of Regulatory Innovation and Assistance must publish comprehensive reports of agency permit timelines in each even-numbered year through 2028.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & TRIBAL RELATIONS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Gregerson, Chair; Pellicciotti, Vice Chair; Walsh, Ranking Minority Member; Goehner, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appleton, Dolan, Hudgins, Mosbrucker and Smith.

Staff: Carrington Skinner (786-7192).

Background:

Certain state agencies that issue permits, including the Department of Transportation and the Department of Labor and Industries, are required to track and record the time it takes to make

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permitting decisions. At a minimum, the following performance data must be tracked and recorded:

- the time between initial submission of an application by an entity seeking a permit and when the agency determines it is complete; and
- the time from the receipt of the completed application to the agency's decision to approve or deny the permit.

Beginning March 1, 2016, and in each even-numbered year thereafter through the year 2020, each agency must provide a report to the Office of Regulatory Assistance (known as the Office of Regulatory Innovation and Assistance or ORIA) with information on its performance data, including times tracked and calculated for application completion and decision issuance. An updated inventory of permits must be provided by the agency in each report.

Beginning September 30, 2016, and in each even-numbered year thereafter through the year 2020, the ORIA must publish a comprehensive progress report on the performance of agencies in tracking permit timelines and other efforts to improve regulatory permitting. The report must:

- disclose the performance data reported by agencies;
- provide an updated list of each agency's inventory of permits; and
- identify permits with most-improved and most-in-need-of improvement processing and decision times, based on the performance data.

Summary of Bill:

The following requirements are extended through the year 2028:

- agencies must provide reports on performance data regarding permit applications and processing times in March of each even-numbered year; and
- the ORIA must publish a comprehensive agency progress report in September of each even-numbered year.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) It is important to extend this program because it is just in its infancy. Agencies are learning from this process about how to create efficiencies in permitting. The practical outcome of this program is the time and cost savings to individuals who submit applications for permits.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Boehnke, prime sponsor.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.