
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 265

AN ACT CONCERNING EXPEDITED PERMITTING PROCEDURES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR BUSINESS INITIATION, EXPANSION OR NEW PRODUCTION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) permit application and renewal forms to include a prominently-displayed check box for applicants to indicate whether the application is required for a specified business purpose (i.e., starting a new business, physically expanding a business location, or producing a new product). The bill requires the DEEP commissioner, by October 1, 2018, to modify all such forms, both hard copy and electronic, to implement these changes.

Within 30 days after receiving an application indicating that the permit or permit renewal is required for a specified business purpose, the DEEP commissioner must (1) make all reasonable efforts to schedule a meeting with the applicant, (2) identify any additional information he needs to process the application, and (3) provide the applicant with an estimated final application decision date. The commissioner must take such actions regardless of any other statutory provision.

Beginning by February 15, 2019, the DEEP commissioner must annually report the following information to the Commerce and Environment committees:

1. the number of applications DEEP received in the previous year that were designated by applicants as being for a specified business purpose,
2. the average estimated time to reach a final decision that was

provided to applicants by the DEEP commissioner, and

3. the average actual time for final application decisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018, except the provision requiring DEEP to modify its forms is effective upon passage.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/22/2018)