

By: Campos

H.B. No. 3102

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the duties of the Texas Economic Development and
3 Tourism Office's business permit office.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 481.123, Government Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 481.123. DUTIES. The permit office shall:

8 (1) provide comprehensive information on permits
9 required for business enterprises in the state and make that
10 information available to applicants and other persons;

11 (2) assist applicants in obtaining timely and
12 efficient permit review and in resolving issues arising from the
13 review;

14 (3) facilitate contacts between applicants and state
15 agencies responsible for processing and reviewing permit
16 applications;

17 (4) assist applicants in the resolution of outstanding
18 issues identified by state agencies, including delays experienced
19 in permit review;

20 (5) develop comprehensive application procedures to
21 expedite the permit process;

22 (6) compile a comprehensive list of all permits
23 required of a person desiring to establish, operate, or expand a
24 business enterprise in the state;

1 (7) encourage and facilitate the participation of
2 federal and local government agencies in permit coordination;

3 (8) make recommendations for eliminating,
4 consolidating, simplifying, expediting, or otherwise improving
5 permit procedures affecting business enterprises by requesting
6 that the state auditor, with the advice and support of the permit
7 office, initiate a business permit reengineering review process
8 involving all state agencies;

9 (9) develop and implement an outreach program to
10 publicize and make small business entrepreneurs and others aware of
11 services provided by the permit office;

12 (10) adopt rules, procedures, instructions, and forms
13 required to carry out the functions, powers, and duties of the
14 permit office under this subchapter; ~~and~~

15 (11) except as provided in Section 481.129, complete
16 the implementation of the business permit review process on or
17 before September 1, 1994, and provide all recommended statutory
18 changes as needed to the legislature on or before January 1, 1995;
19 and

20 (12) conduct the biennial review required under
21 Section 481.130.

22 SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 481, Government Code, is
23 amended by adding Section 481.130 to read as follows:

24 Sec. 481.130. BIENNIAL REVIEW OF PERMIT APPLICATION
25 PROCESS. At least once every two years, the permit office shall:

26 (1) conduct a formal review to evaluate the permit
27 application process, including:

1 (A) creating a flowchart of the process to assist
2 in identifying deficiencies in the process; and

3 (B) identifying ways in which the process can be
4 simplified or expedited; and

5 (2) based on the findings of the review:

6 (A) make recommendations for state agencies to
7 improve the permit application process; and

8 (B) revise the comprehensive application
9 procedure under 481.124 and any information prepared by the permit
10 office, including the handbook under Section 481.125, as necessary
11 to make the procedure and information more user-friendly.

12 SECTION 3. Not later than December 1, 2022, the Texas
13 Economic Development and Tourism Office's business permit office
14 shall complete the first review required by Section 481.130,
15 Government Code, as added by this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.