

HOUSE BILL NO. 1804

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PIETZMAN.

4546H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 640, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to assistance for applicants for permits issued by the department of natural resources.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 640, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 640.019, to read as follows:

640.019. 1. As used in this section, the term "small business" means any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other business entity with twenty-five or fewer full-time employees that is applying to the department for a permit.

2. The department of natural resources shall assist small business permit applicants throughout the permit process. The assistance provided shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Identifying the permits an applicant will need to comply with all laws and regulations of the department of natural resources;

(2) Identifying any information missing or omitted from any permit application that is necessary for review and issuance of the permit by the department of natural resources; and

(3) Providing technical assistance to permit applicants in the completion of permit applications.

3. The department shall designate one or more of its staff to assist small businesses seeking permits. The designated staff shall be trained in the permit application process and qualified to assist permit applicants but shall not be involved in the review or approval of permits.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **4. No later than January 1, 2021, the department shall post exemplars on its website**
19 **of completed and approved permit applications for each type of permit issued by the**
20 **department.**

21 **5. If the department of natural resources fails to provide the assistance required**
22 **under this section to any permit applicant due to a lack of trained and qualified staff or**
23 **any other reason, the department shall reduce the fees associated with each permit it issues**
24 **to the applicant by an amount equal to the costs the applicant incurred to seek assistance**
25 **from outside sources. The applicant shall submit documentation to the department of the**
26 **costs the applicant incurred in seeking assistance from outside sources on any permit**
27 **application, and the department shall reduce the fees associated with the permit by an**
28 **amount equal to the incurred costs. If the costs incurred exceed the fees associated with**
29 **the permit, the permit applicant shall not owe any fees associated with the permit, but the**
30 **applicant shall not receive any reimbursement payment from the department of natural**
31 **resources for the costs not recovered.**

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