

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 1804**  
**100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

4546H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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**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.

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*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  
2 known as section 640.019, to read as follows:

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

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

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

**9 (2) Identifying all information missing or omitted from any permit application and  
10 immediately notifying the applicant of the information that is necessary for review and  
11 issuance of the permit by the department of natural resources; and**

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

**14 3. The department shall designate one or more of its staff to assist small businesses  
15 seeking permits. The designated staff shall be trained in the permit application process  
16 and qualified to assist permit applicants but shall not be involved in the review or approval  
17 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.**

32           **6. Any permit issued by the department of natural resources that does not provide**  
33 **for a public comment period and that is properly completed by the applicant, including the**  
34 **payment of all necessary fees, shall be approved or denied in writing within thirty days of**  
35 **receipt by the department. Any permit not approved or denied in writing within such**  
36 **thirty-day period shall be deemed approved and issued. A written denial of any permit**  
37 **shall include the citation of the specific statute or regulation under which the permit was**  
38 **denied.**

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