

HOUSE BILL NO. 138

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PIETZMAN.

1020H.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 of natural resources for a permit.

2. It shall be the policy of the department of natural resources to assist applicants for department permits throughout the application and permitting process. The assistance provided shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Assisting small business applicants in identifying the permits needed to comply with all laws and regulations of the department, based on the information provided by the applicant;

(2) Providing resources to assist permit applicants in identifying activities that may require a permit from the department;

(3) Providing permit applicants a completeness determination for the respective permit application in a timely manner, as required by the applicable statute or regulation, that identifies any missing or necessary information required to process the permit application and make a determination on issuance of the permit. The department shall provide an applicant with potential sources for missing information, if requested; and

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) Providing the permit applicant with the name and contact information of the**
19 **permit writer assigned to the permit application as a part of the completeness**
20 **determination.**

21 **3. The department shall maintain a permit assistance portal on its website and**
22 **provide a link to the portal to all permit applicants. The portal shall list the telephone**
23 **numbers for the department's permitting divisions and shall allow a permit applicant to**
24 **submit questions regarding the application and permitting process or request additional**
25 **assistance with obtaining a permit issued by the department. The department shall track**
26 **the number of requests for assistance submitted through the portal and the timeliness of**
27 **responses provided to permit applicants. The department shall respond to all requests for**
28 **assistance within two business days after receiving the request.**

29 **4. No later than January 1, 2022, the department shall post exemplars on its website**
30 **of complete permit applications for the most common permits issued by the department.**

31 **5. The department shall regularly track the number of days for permit applications**
32 **to be determined to be complete. The number of days shall be tracked from the date a**
33 **permit application is received to the date the application has been determined by the**
34 **department to be complete.**

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