

1 HB582
2 199753-3
3 By Representatives Drake, Carns, Standridge, Hill, Mooney,
4 Wingo, Fincher, Alexander, Grimsley and Boyd
5 RFD: County and Municipal Government
6 First Read: 07-MAY-19

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ENROLLED, An Act,

Relating to business filing requirements; to authorize a municipality to create an electronic process for the processing and recordation of business license renewals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) A municipality may develop and implement an electronic process for the processing and recordation of business license renewals by business and nonprofit entities.

(b) (1) A municipality may contract with a vendor to provide electronic processing services which may include, but are not limited to, the online filing of forms, online recording, payment of fees through credit or debit cards, and any other service related to the administration of the electronic process, as determined by the municipality.

(2) The municipality may also develop a certification process to allow a third party to provide these electronic processing services.

(c) All recording fees, whether established by general or local law, shall be collected by the vendor and the fees applicable to the municipality, including all data associated with the local recording fees, shall be remitted by the vendor to the municipality no less than twice per month.

1 (d) A municipality may continue to provide filing
2 services pursuant to current procedures and is in no way bound
3 or obligated to participate in the electronic process for the
4 recordation of filing activities as provided for by this
5 section.

6 Section 2. A municipality shall ensure that the
7 electronic process created under this act does all of the
8 following:

9 (1) Determines if any additional forms, including
10 those not specific to the municipality, are required during
11 submission, and informs a user about those forms and how to
12 obtain them.

13 (2) Utilizes an electronic application process that
14 will remove the physical mailing process for business licenses
15 within municipalities participating in the program, and allows
16 business license renewals and the accompanying appropriate
17 fees to be submitted electronically.

18 (3) Allows business license registration and
19 renewals to be completed and submitted electronically.

20 (4) Once a business license has been approved,
21 allows the municipality to deliver the official business
22 license to the business license applicant either
23 electronically or through standard postal mail, at the
24 preference of the applicant.

1 (5) Includes an Internet webpage that generally
2 informs users about business licensure requirements in the
3 municipality and in the State of Alabama and guides them
4 through the specific steps of the electronic business
5 licensure process.

6 Section 3. A licensure process administered by a
7 municipality as provided in this act shall satisfy any and all
8 business and nonprofit license renewal requirements applicable
9 to the participating municipality, whether prescribed by
10 general or local law , and, furthermore, shall fulfill any and
11 all statutory requirements of a municipality as it relates to
12 renewal of licensure of business entities, including
13 nonprofits.

14 Section 4. Any business that pays business license
15 fees in one hundred (100) or more municipalities in the State
16 of Alabama may elect to obtain, renew, and submit such payment
17 of fees for a municipal business license pursuant to the
18 current municipal procedures, including the submission of
19 license forms and the payment of fees through the mail or by
20 hand-delivery.

21 Section 5. This act shall become effective
22 immediately following its passage and approval by the
23 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

