

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 860

BY REPRESENTATIVE PUGH

ENERGY/DRILLING PERMITS: Provides for expedited permitting in the office of conservation

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 30:4(Q), relative to the office of conservation's expedited  
3 permitting program; to provide for minimum administrative fees; to provide for  
4 notice of an expedited permit review; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 30:4(Q) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §4. Jurisdiction, duties, and powers of the assistant secretary; rules and regulations

8 \* \* \*

9 Q. The commissioner is authorized to develop and implement a program to  
10 expedite the processing or review of permits, modifications, licenses, registrations,  
11 plans, proposals, exceptions, or variances and related correspondence for permit  
12 applicants who may request such services. In addition to ~~the~~ any applicable fees  
13 charged pursuant to this Subtitle, a fee for an expedited permit review shall be  
14 charged to each applicant equal to the cost of every overtime hour, or portion thereof,  
15 an employee or contractor works processing the expedited permit review and an  
16 amount not exceeding twenty percent for administrative costs. However, the  
17 administrative fee shall not be less than five hundred dollars. The overtime rate shall  
18 not exceed the maximum per hour overtime salary, calculated at one and ~~one-half~~  
19 one-half times the hourly wage and including associated related benefits, of a civil  
20 service employee of the office of conservation. The commissioner shall adopt rules

1 and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement  
 2 the provisions of this Subsection. ~~Such~~ The rules shall require a the applicant to  
 3 provide public notice ~~be given~~ when an expedited permit review is ~~requested~~  
 4 granted.

5 \* \* \*

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 860 Reengrossed

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**Abstract:** Requires an expedited review, a minimum administrative fee, and public notice by an applicant when an expedited review is granted.

Present law authorizes the commissioner of conservation to develop and implement a program to expedite the processing of permits, modifications, licenses, registrations, and variances. Proposed law retains present law except adds the review of plans, proposals, and exceptions of related correspondence.

Present law establishes the fee for expediting the permit as the cost of the overtime hours that employees of the office of conservation or a contractor spends processing the application and an amount not to exceed 20% for administrative costs. Prohibits the overtime rate from exceeding the maximum per hour salary, including benefits, of a civil service employee of the office of conservation.

Proposed law retains present law except changes the fee on expedited reviews and requires a minimum fee of \$500 for administrative costs.

Present law requires the commissioner to adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement present law. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides the rules require a public notice be given when an expedited permit is requested.

Proposed law provides the rules require the applicant provide public notice when an expedited permit review is granted.

(Amends R.S. 30:4(Q))