

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 613

BY REPRESENTATIVE ECHOLS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Provides relative to permits issued by local governments

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 50 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised
3 of R.S. 33:9721, relative to local governments; to provide relative to permits issued
4 by local governments; to provide relative to expediting the process for granting
5 permits; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for an effective date; and to
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Chapter 50 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
9 comprised of R.S. 33:9721, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 CHAPTER 50. FAST-TRACK BUSINESS PERMITS ACT OF 202211 §9721. Fast Track Business Permits Act of 2022

12 A. This Chapter may be cited as the "Fast-Track Business Permits Act of
13 2022".

14 B. The purpose of this Chapter is to enhance economic growth in local
15 communities and reduce the regulatory burden on entrepreneurs, developers, and
16 homeowners by streamlining the review process for local permits.

17 C. For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms shall have the
18 meanings ascribed to them:

19 (1) "Applicant" means a person submitting a request, including a person
20 designated to act on the applicant's behalf.

1 (2) "Local government" means a parish, municipality, or other political
2 subdivision of the state.

3 (3) "Request" means an application for governmental approval of an action
4 related to the development of a residential, multifamily, commercial, or industrial
5 improvement within the jurisdiction of a local government.

6 D.(1) If an applicant submits a request to a local government, the local
7 government shall approve or deny the applicant's request within sixty days.

8 (2) If no response is received by an applicant within sixty days, the request
9 is deemed approved.

10 (3) If the local government denies the request, it shall state in writing to the
11 applicant the reasons for the denial.

12 (4) If the local government approves the request, it shall not impose on the
13 applicant additional requirements related to the request.

14 (5) The time limit provided for in this Subsection begins upon the local
15 government's receipt of a request containing all information required by law or by
16 a previously adopted rule, ordinance, or policy of the local government.

17 E.(1) For the purposes of Subsection D of this Section, an applicant has not
18 made a request if the applicant's request is incomplete.

19 (2) The request is incomplete if it fails to contain all information required by
20 law or by a previously adopted rule, ordinance, or policy of the local government.

21 (3) If the local government determines the request is incomplete, it shall state
22 in writing to the applicant the reasons for the determination.

23 (4) The time limit in Subsection D of this Section will begin again only if the
24 local government sends written notice to the applicant that it has determined the
25 request is incomplete within fifteen days of receipt of the request.

26 F. If a request requires prior approval from a state or federal government
27 before the local government acts on the request, then the time limits in Subsections
28 D and E of this Section are extended sixty days.

- 1 G. The provisions of this Section are not applicable to a request for an
2 occupational license as defined in R.S. 37:43.
3 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2023.
-

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 613 Original

2022 Regular Session

Echols

Abstract: Creates the "Fast-Track Business Permits Act of 2022" to streamline the review process for local permits.

Proposed law creates the "Fast-Track Business Permits Act of 2022" to enhance economic growth in local communities and reduce the regulatory burden on entrepreneurs, developers, and homeowners by streamlining the review process for local permits.

Proposed law defines "local government" as a parish, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state. Requires a local government to approve or deny an applicant's request for approval of a residential or commercial development within 60 days. Provides that the request is approved if the local government fails to respond. Further requires the local government to state in writing reasons for denying a request.

Proposed law provides that an applicant has not made a request if the applicant's request is incomplete. Provides that the request is incomplete if it fails to contain all information required by law or by a previously adopted rule, ordinance, or policy of the local government. Requires the local government to send written notice of an incomplete request to the applicant within 15 days of receipt to reset the time limit. Provides for an extension of the time limit if prior approval from a state or federal government is required.

Proposed law is not applicable to a request for an occupational license as defined in present law (R.S. 37:43).

Effective Jan. 1, 2023.

(Adds R.S. 33:9721)