

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY SENATOR REESE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the secretary of state to study the feasibility of creating and maintaining a central electronic repository on the secretary of state's website for permitting and licensing information, which is required to be published by state entities pursuant to R.S. 37:23.2 and R.S. 49:1308.

WHEREAS, the path to starting a business involves extensive planning and completion of certain requirements prior to legally operating; and

WHEREAS, navigating the various requirements, including obtaining necessary permits and licenses, to operate businesses can be an intimidating, overwhelming, and a costly process for entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurs, especially those in rural areas, minorities, females, and veterans with less resources face a disproportionate burden identifying and applying for the permits and licenses required to legitimately operate their businesses; and

WHEREAS, since most entrepreneurs register their businesses with the secretary of state's office, publishing the permitting and licensing requirements of state entities, including boards and commissions, on the secretary of state's website in an easily accessible format will assist entrepreneurs navigating Louisiana's regulatory requirements; and

WHEREAS, having a centralized portal or electronic repository tying together permitting and licensing information from state entities that entrepreneurs can access while registering their business will streamline the business development process, lessen the burden identifying and applying for permits and licenses, and help improve business outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana realizes the need to streamline business processes to create a vibrant small business sector and believes this study is in furtherance of the legislative findings promulgated in the Louisiana Small Business Protection Act, pursuant to R.S. 49:974.1 et seq.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the secretary of state to study the feasibility of creating and maintaining a central electronic repository of statewide permitting and licensing information, which is required to be published by state entities pursuant to R.S. 37:23.2 and R.S. 49:1308.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each state entity that issues licenses and permits provide the secretary of state with the link to its website, information pertaining to each entity within the state entity's hierarchy that oversees each permit and license, and other information necessary to study the feasibility of creating and maintaining a centralized portal or electronic repository.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE