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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to expedited permitting process for economic development projects; providing a short title; creating s. 380.0657, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection and water management districts to adopt programs to expedite the processing of permits for certain economic development projects; providing an exception; requiring municipalities and counties to identify certain businesses by commission resolution; requiring a preapplication review; providing a timeframe for permit application approval or denial; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Mike McHugh Act."

Section 2. Section 380.0657, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

380.0657 Expedited permitting process for economic development projects.--

(1) The Department of Environmental Protection and, as appropriate, the water management districts created under chapter 373 shall adopt programs to expedite the processing of wetland resource and environmental resource permits for economic development projects that have been identified by a municipality or county as meeting the definition of target industry businesses under s. 288.106, with the exception of those

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projects requiring approval by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

- (2) A municipality or county shall provide an identified business with a city or county commission resolution identifying the business as a targeted industry business.
- (3) A mandatory preapplication review process shall be required to reduce permitting conflicts by providing guidance to applicants regarding the permits needed from each agency and governmental entity, site planning and development, site suitability and limitations, facility design, and steps the applicant can take to ensure expeditious permit application review.
- (4) A permit application shall be approved or denied within 45 days after receipt of the original application, the last item of timely requested additional material, or the applicant's written request to begin processing the permit application.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.