

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to streamlining the issuance of licenses,
 3 certifications, and registrations issued by state
 4 agencies; providing a short title; providing legislative
 5 findings and intent; requiring the Governor to establish
 6 the One-Stop Business Workgroup; providing for the
 7 membership of the workgroup; authorizing the workgroup to
 8 consult with other agencies and use consultants; providing
 9 duties of the workgroup; requiring that the workgroup
 10 submit a plan for establishing a licensing portal to the
 11 Governor and Legislature by a specified date; providing
 12 requirements for the plan to implement a technology
 13 solution that provides businesses and individuals with
 14 easy access to state requirements for business licenses,
 15 certifications, and registrations; providing an effective
 16 date.

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

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 20 Section 1. (1) This act may be cited as "Florida's One-
 21 Stop Business Connect Act."

22 (2) The Legislature finds that:

23 (a) Individuals who start and operate businesses in this
 24 state must interact with multiple state agencies to obtain
 25 licenses, registrations, and tax certificates needed to legally
 26 operate in this state. This process can be time-consuming and
 27 frustrating for businesses and often requires business owners to
 28 provide similar information to multiple agencies.

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29 (b) State government requirements for starting and
30 operating a business in this state are often cumbersome and
31 place avoidable burdens on business owners. For several years,
32 the Legislature has recognized that these requirements do not
33 serve to promote this state as a business-friendly state that
34 actively supports the growth of jobs, businesses, and economic
35 opportunities.

36 (c) A phased, deliberative, and collaborative approach is
37 necessary to streamline and automate the state's business
38 processes; to simplify business requirements and eliminate
39 unnecessary business requirements; and to provide a single point
40 of entry for businesses to complete business transactions with
41 the state.

42 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that by July 1,
43 2014, the state establish an online connection that is easily
44 accessible through the state's official portal, "MyFlorida.com,"
45 and that provides an efficient and effective online, self-
46 service method for an individual to access state requirements
47 for starting and operating a business.

48 (4) (a) The Governor shall establish a One-Stop Business
49 Connect Workgroup composed of, at a minimum, the secretary or
50 agency head, or his or her designee, of the following state
51 agencies:

- 52 1. The Agency for Health Care Administration.
- 53 2. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation.
- 54 3. The Department of Children and Family Services.
- 55 4. The Department of Health.
- 56 5. The Department of State.

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57 6. The Department of Revenue.

58 (b) The Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation
59 shall serve as the chair of the workgroup. The workgroup shall
60 be supported by staff from the participating agencies.

61 (c) The workgroup may consult with other agencies
62 throughout the state, including the Agency for Enterprise
63 Information Technology, and those agencies must provide
64 requested assistance to the workgroup.

65 (d) To the extent that funds are available within the
66 participating agencies' budgets, the workgroup may use the
67 services of consultants.

68 (5) (a) The workgroup shall:

69 1. Compile a complete, categorical inventory of all
70 business licenses, certifications, and registrations required by
71 each participating agency, including information regarding
72 relevant laws and rules.

73 2. Analyze the business licensing, certification, and
74 registration processes for each agency and identify processes
75 that disrupt workflow and result in duplication, waste,
76 unnecessary complexity, and errors and the root causes of those
77 errors.

78 3. Recommend the standardization and automation of
79 business licensing, certification, and registration processes
80 where appropriate.

81 (b) By February 15, 2011, the workgroup shall submit a
82 plan for establishing the licensing portal to the Governor, the
83 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
84 Representatives that identifies:

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85 1. Business requirements and the costs associated with
86 implementation of a technology solution for businesses and
87 individuals that provides easy access to state business
88 licensing, certification, and registration requirements through
89 MyFlorida.com.

90 2. Clear systemwide objectives, a governance structure,
91 accountability measures, and an opportunity for stakeholders to
92 make suggestions regarding the use of the licensing portal.

93 3. Issues that need to be addressed before a technology
94 solution is implemented.

95 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.