

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 direct
6 certain state agencies to jointly conduct a review of the
7 state's requirements for starting, licensing, and
8 operating a business and examine the feasibility of
9 establishing a single online portal for accessing such
10 requirements; providing review requirements; requiring the
11 Governor to submit a report and recommendations to the
12 Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective
13 date.

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

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

19 (2) The Legislature finds that:

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

26 (b) State government requirements for starting and
27 operating a business in the state are often cumbersome and place
28 avoidable burdens on business owners. For several years, the

29 Legislature has recognized that these requirements do not serve
30 to promote the state as a business-friendly state that actively
31 supports the growth of jobs, businesses, and economic
32 opportunities.

33 (c) A phased, deliberative, and collaborative approach
34 should be considered to streamline and automate the state's
35 business processes; to simplify business requirements and
36 eliminate unnecessary business requirements; and to provide a
37 single point of entry for businesses to complete business
38 transactions with the state.

39 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the state
40 review all state requirements for starting, licensing, and
41 operating a business and examine the feasibility of
42 establishing an online connection that is easily accessible
43 through one of the state's official portals and that provides an
44 efficient and effective online, self-service method for an
45 individual to access state requirements for starting, licensing,
46 and operating a business.

47 (4) (a) The Governor shall direct the secretary or agency
48 head, or the designee of the secretary or agency head, of the
49 following state agencies to work jointly to review all state
50 requirements for starting, licensing, and operating a business
51 and examine the feasibility of establishing an online connection
52 that provides a single point of entry for businesses to complete
53 business transactions with the state:

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

57 4. The Department of Health.
 58 5. The Department of State.
 59 6. The Department of Revenue.
 60 7. The Agency for Enterprise Information Technology.
 61 (b) Other agencies that interact with businesses are
 62 encouraged to participate, including, but not limited to, the
 63 Department of Financial Services and the Department of
 64 Agriculture and Consumer Services.
 65 (c) To the extent that funds are available within the
 66 participating agencies' budgets, the agencies shall:
 67 1. Compile a complete, categorical inventory of all
 68 business licenses, certifications, and registrations required by
 69 each participating agency, including information regarding
 70 relevant laws and rules.
 71 2. Analyze the business licensing, certification, and
 72 registration processes for each agency and identify processes
 73 that disrupt workflow and result in duplication, waste,
 74 unnecessary complexity, and errors and the root causes of those
 75 errors.
 76 3. Recommend the standardization and automation of
 77 business licensing, certification, and registration processes
 78 where appropriate.
 79 (d) By December 15, 2011, the Governor shall submit to the
 80 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 81 Representatives a report and recommendations for establishing a
 82 single online portal for accessing state requirements for
 83 starting, licensing, and operating a business.
 84 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.