

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to applications for building permits;
 3 amending ss. 125.56 and 553.79, F.S.; requiring
 4 counties and local enforcement agencies, respectively,
 5 to post all types of building permit applications on
 6 their websites; specifying the format in which
 7 completed applications must be submitted and the
 8 format in which payments, attachments, and drawings
 9 may be submitted; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 125.56, Florida
 14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 125.56 Enforcement and amendment of the Florida Building
 16 Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code; inspection fees;
 17 inspectors; etc.—

18 (4) (a) After adoption of the Florida Building Code by the
 19 Florida Building Commission or the Florida Fire Prevention Code
 20 by the State Fire Marshal, or amendment of the building code or
 21 the fire code as herein provided, it shall be unlawful for any
 22 person, firm, or corporation to construct, erect, alter, repair,
 23 secure, or demolish any building within the territory embraced
 24 by the terms of this act without first obtaining a permit
 25 therefor from the appropriate board of county commissioners, or
 26 from such persons as may by resolution be directed to issue such

27 | permits, upon the payment of such reasonable fees as shall be
28 | set forth in the schedule of fees adopted by the board; the
29 | board is hereby empowered to revoke any such permit upon a
30 | determination by the board that the construction, erection,
31 | alteration, repair, securing, or demolition of the building for
32 | which the permit was issued is in violation of or not in
33 | conformity with the building code or the fire code.

34 | (b) A county that issues building permits shall post each
35 | type of building permit application on its website. Completed
36 | applications must be submitted electronically to the county
37 | building department. Accepted methods of electronic submission
38 | include, but are not limited to, e-mail submission of
39 | applications in portable document format or submission of
40 | applications through an electronic fill-in form available on the
41 | building department's website or through a third-party
42 | submission management software. Payments, attachments, or
43 | drawings required as part of the permit application may be
44 | submitted in person in a nonelectronic format, at the discretion
45 | of the building official.

46 | Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 553.79, Florida
47 | Statutes, is amended to read:

48 | 553.79 Permits; applications; issuance; inspections.—

49 | (1) (a) After the effective date of the Florida Building
50 | Code adopted as herein provided, it shall be unlawful for any
51 | person, firm, corporation, or governmental entity to construct,
52 | erect, alter, modify, repair, or demolish any building within

53 | this state without first obtaining a permit therefor from the
54 | appropriate enforcing agency or from such persons as may, by
55 | appropriate resolution or regulation of the authorized state or
56 | local enforcing agency, be delegated authority to issue such
57 | permits, upon the payment of such reasonable fees adopted by the
58 | enforcing agency. The enforcing agency is empowered to revoke
59 | any such permit upon a determination by the agency that the
60 | construction, erection, alteration, modification, repair, or
61 | demolition of the building for which the permit was issued is in
62 | violation of, or not in conformity with, the provisions of the
63 | Florida Building Code. Whenever a permit required under this
64 | section is denied or revoked because the plan, or the
65 | construction, erection, alteration, modification, repair, or
66 | demolition of a building, is found by the local enforcing agency
67 | to be not in compliance with the Florida Building Code, the
68 | local enforcing agency shall identify the specific plan or
69 | project features that do not comply with the applicable codes,
70 | identify the specific code chapters and sections upon which the
71 | finding is based, and provide this information to the permit
72 | applicant. Installation, replacement, removal, or metering of
73 | any load management control device is exempt from and shall not
74 | be subject to the permit process and fees otherwise required by
75 | this section.

76 | (b) A local enforcement agency shall post each type of
77 | building permit application on its website. Completed
78 | applications must be submitted electronically to the appropriate

79 building department. Accepted methods of electronic submission
80 include, but are not limited to, e-mail submission of
81 applications in portable document format or submission of
82 applications through an electronic fill-in form available on the
83 building department's website or through a third-party
84 submission management software. Payments, attachments, or
85 drawings required as part of the permit application may be
86 submitted in person in a nonelectronic format, at the discretion
87 of the building official.

88 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2017.