

1 HB582
2 199753-1
3 By Representatives Drake, Carns, Standridge, Hill, Mooney,
4 Wingo, Fincher, Alexander, Grimsley and Boyd
5 RFD: County and Municipal Government
6 First Read: 07-MAY-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, businesses and nonprofit
9 entities are required to file forms and pay fees to
10 the judge of probate and Secretary of State, as
11 well as make separate business filings for
12 municipalities.

13 This bill would authorize municipalities to
14 provide an alternate electronic process for the
15 processing and recordation of business license
16 renewals specific to that municipality.

17
18 A BILL
19 TO BE ENTITLED
20 AN ACT

21
22 Relating to business filing requirements; to
23 authorize a municipality to create an electronic process for
24 the processing and recordation of business license renewals.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. (a) A municipality may develop and
27 implement an electronic process for the processing and

1 recordation of business license renewals by business and
2 nonprofit entities.

3 (b) (1) A municipality may contract with a vendor to
4 provide electronic processing services which may include, but
5 are not limited to, the online filing of forms, online
6 recording, payment of fees through credit or debit cards, and
7 any other service related to the administration of the
8 electronic process, as determined by the municipality.

9 (2) The municipality may also develop a
10 certification process to allow a third party to provide these
11 electronic processing services.

12 (c) All recording fees, whether established by
13 general or local law, shall be collected by the vendor and the
14 fees applicable to the municipality, including all data
15 associated with the local recording fees, shall be remitted by
16 the vendor to the municipality no less than twice per month.

17 (d) A municipality may continue to provide filing
18 services pursuant to current procedures and is in no way bound
19 or obligated to participate in the electronic process for the
20 recordation of filing activities as provided for by this
21 section.

22 Section 2. A municipality shall ensure that the
23 electronic process created under this act does all of the
24 following:

25 (1) Determines if any additional forms, including
26 those not specific to the municipality, are required during

1 submission, and informs a user about those forms and how to
2 obtain them.

3 (2) Utilizes an electronic application process that
4 will remove the physical mailing process for business licenses
5 within municipalities participating in the program, and allows
6 business license renewals and the accompanying appropriate
7 fees to be submitted electronically.

8 (3) Allows business license registration and
9 renewals to be completed and submitted electronically.

10 (4) Once a business license has been approved,
11 allows the municipality to deliver the official business
12 license to the business license applicant either
13 electronically or through standard postal mail, at the
14 preference of the applicant.

15 (5) Includes an Internet webpage that generally
16 informs users about business licensure requirements in the
17 municipality and in the State of Alabama and guides them
18 through the specific steps of the electronic business
19 licensure process.

20 Section 3. A licensure process administered by a
21 municipality as provided in this act shall satisfy any and all
22 business and nonprofit license renewal requirements applicable
23 to the participating municipality, whether prescribed by
24 general or local law , and, furthermore, shall fulfill any and
25 all statutory requirements of a municipality as it relates to
26 renewal of licensure of business entities, including
27 nonprofits.

1 Section 4. This act shall become effective
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.