

**SB29 INTRODUCED**



1 SB29  
2 WMK199E-2  
3 By Senator Elliott  
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government  
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25  
6 PFD: 19-Dec-24



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

SYNOPSIS:

State and local law may establish deadlines for when a government agency must take action on an application for a license, permit, or other certification.

This bill would require a state or local governmental body, if no law provides for a time frame, to approve or deny any application for a license, permit, or other certification within 45 days of receiving the application, unless this time frame is waived by the applicant.

This bill would also provide that if the governmental body does not take action within 45 days, the license, permit, or other certification shall be deemed approved.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to government-issued licenses and permits; to require state and local governmental bodies in certain circumstances to approve or deny licenses and permits within a prescribed time frame and if a governmental body fails to do



## SB29 INTRODUCED

29 so, deem the license or permit approved.

30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

31 Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the  
32 following terms have the following meanings:

33 (1) LICENSE. Any license, permit, or other  
34 certification issued by a state governmental body which is  
35 necessary by law to operate a business, engage in an  
36 occupation, or undertake a specific activity.

37 (2) STATE GOVERNMENTAL BODY. The state and any agency,  
38 department, board, or commission of the state responsible for  
39 approving and issuing any license.

40 (b) Unless a law specifies otherwise, a state  
41 governmental body shall:

42 (1) Upon receiving an application for a license,  
43 determine whether the application is complete and if not,  
44 within 15 calendar days after receiving the application,  
45 respond to the applicant in writing with a description of the  
46 deficiencies in the application.

47 (2) Within 45 calendar days after receiving a completed  
48 application for a license, approve or deny the application.

49 (c) Unless waived by the applicant, if a state  
50 governmental body fails to approve or deny an application for  
51 license within the 45-day period described in subdivision  
52 (b) (2), the application for the license shall be deemed  
53 approved, and the state governmental body shall forthwith  
54 issue the license upon the payment of any applicable fee.

55 Section 2. (a) For the purposes of this section, the  
56 following terms have the following meanings:



## SB29 INTRODUCED

57 (1) LICENSE. Any license, permit, or other  
58 certification issued by a local governmental body which is  
59 necessary by law to operate a business, engage in an  
60 occupation, or undertake a specific activity.

61 (2) LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL BODY. A county commission,  
62 governing body of a municipality, or any agency, department,  
63 board, or commission of the county or municipality responsible  
64 for approving and issuing any license.

65 (b) Unless a law specifies otherwise, a local  
66 governmental body shall:

67 (1) Upon receiving an application for a license,  
68 determine whether the application is complete and if not,  
69 within 15 calendar days after receiving the application,  
70 respond to the applicant in writing with a description of the  
71 deficiencies in the application.

72 (2) Within 45 calendar days after receiving a completed  
73 application for a license, approve or deny the application.

74 (c) Unless waived by the applicant, if a local  
75 governmental body fails to approve or deny an application for  
76 license within the 45-day period described in subdivision  
77 (b)(2), the application for the license shall be deemed  
78 approved and the local governmental body shall forthwith issue  
79 the license upon the payment of any applicable fee.

80 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October  
81 1, 2025.