

SB29 INTRODUCED



1 SB29
2 WMK199E-1
3 By Senator Elliott
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 31-Dec-24

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4 SYNOPSIS:

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

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

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

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21 A BILL

22 TO BE ENTITLED

23 AN ACT

24
25 Relating to government-issued licenses and permits; to
26 require state and local governmental bodies in certain
27 circumstances to approve or deny licenses and permits within a
28 prescribed time frame and if a governmental body fails to do



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so, deem the license or permit approved.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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