

CHAPTER 2015-224

Senate Bill No. 2506-A

An act relating to the Florida Business Information Portal; creating s. 20.166, F.S.; establishing the Florida Business Information Portal within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; requiring the department, in collaboration with specified state agencies, to implement the portal by a specified date; specifying the contents of the portal; requiring designated state agencies to cooperate with the department in the development, implementation, and updates of the portal; requiring the department to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature containing recommendations and estimated costs for the inclusion of local government information in the portal; repealing s. 215.1995, F.S., relating to the One-Stop Business Registration Portal Clearing Trust Fund; repealing s. 288.109, F.S., relating to the One-Stop Business Registration Portal; providing procedures for the termination of the trust fund; providing for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature; providing for contingent retroactive operation; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Section 20.166, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

20.166 Florida Business Information Portal.—

(1) The Florida Business Information Portal is established within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

(2) By June 30, 2017, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, in collaboration with the state agencies identified in subsection (4), shall implement the Florida Business Information Portal. The Florida Business Information Portal shall provide the information needed to start and operate a business in Florida, including information regarding licenses, permits, or registrations that are issued by the state agencies in subsection (4).

(3) The Florida Business Information Portal must provide at least the following:

(a) A downloadable guide on how to start and operate a business in Florida.

(b) A list of business types and a checklist for starting each type of business.

(c) Links to guide users to the websites of appropriate state licensing, permitting, and registration agencies.

(d) Information regarding business tax registration and filing.

(e) Information regarding registering with the Department of State.

(4) The state agencies that must cooperate with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation in the development, implementation, and ongoing content updates of the Florida Business Information Portal include, but are not limited to:

(a) The Agency for Health Care Administration.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

(c) The Department of Economic Opportunity.

(d) The Department of Environmental Protection.

(e) The Department of Financial Services, including the Office of Financial Regulation and the Office of Insurance Regulation.

(f) The Department of Health.

(g) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

(h) The Department of the Lottery.

(i) The Department of Management Services.

(j) The Department of Revenue.

(k) The Department of State.

(l) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

(5) By October 1, 2017, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report containing recommendations and estimated costs for the inclusion of local government information in the Florida Business Information Portal.

Section 2. Section 215.1995, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 3. Section 288.109, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 4. The One-Stop Business Registration Portal Clearing Trust Fund within the Department of Revenue, FLAIR number 73-2-977, is terminated. The Chief Financial Officer shall close out and remove the terminated trust fund from the various state accounting systems using generally accepted accounting principles concerning warrants outstanding, assets, and liabilities.

Section 5. If any law amended by this act was also amended by a law enacted during the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature, such laws shall be construed as if enacted during the same session of the Legislature, and full effect shall be given to each if possible.

Section 6. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2015, or, if this act fails to become a law until after that date, it shall take effect upon becoming a law and operate retroactively to July 1, 2015.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2015.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2015.