

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Budget Committee

BILL: SB 1976 (SPB 7082)

INTRODUCER: Budget Committee

SUBJECT: One Stop Business Registration Portal

DATE: February 15, 2012      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Blizzard	Rhodes		<b>SPB 7082 Favorable</b>
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

**I. Summary:**

This bill directs the Department of Revenue (department) to establish and implement, by January 1, 2013, a One-Stop Business Registration Portal, through an Internet website, to provide individuals and businesses with a single point of entry for transacting business in the State of Florida. The bill authorizes the department to competitively procure and contract for services to develop and maintain the Internet website for the One-Stop Business Registration Portal. The Departments of Business and Professional Regulation, Economic Opportunity, Financial Services, Lottery, Management Services and State are directed to cooperate with the department in the development and implementation of the One-Stop Business Registration Portal.

Specifically, the One-Stop Business Registration Portal must provide businesses and individuals a single point-of-entry for:

- Completing and submitting applications for various licenses, registrations or permits that are issued by state agencies or departments to do business in the state.
- Filing of documents that must be submitted to state agencies or departments to transact business in the state.
- Remitting of payments for the various fees that must be paid to state agencies or departments to obtain licensure, registration or a permit.

The department has developed an implementation plan including up to four potential phases over the next three fiscal years. The total cost of the project is estimated to be between \$7 and \$9 million. The Senate proposed budget includes an appropriation of \$3 million from the General

Revenue Fund for implementation of Phase 1, which establishes the One-Stop Business Registration Portal.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2012.

This bill substantially amends section 288.109 and repeals the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 288.1092, 288.1093, and 288.1095, F.S.

## II. Present Situation:

Currently, individuals desiring to start a business in the State of Florida must interact with several state agencies to register for taxes, request a license or receive certain permits. These tasks include visits to multiple state agency websites which collect duplicative information data from the potential applicant. The State of Florida does not have a single point-of-entry where businesses can accomplish these tasks.

Section 288.109, F.S., directs the State Technology Office to establish and implement an Internet website for a One-Stop Permitting System, which would allow an applicant to complete and submit application forms for various permits to state agencies and counties by January 1, 2001. However, despite the current statutory language, the system was not built and the State Technology Office was later abolished.

## III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

**Section 1** substantially rewords section 213.053, F.S. This section is renamed the One-Stop Business Registration Portal. The department is required to establish the One-Stop Business Registration Portal that provides individuals and businesses with a single point of entry for:

- Completing and submitting applications for various licenses, registrations, or permits that must be issued by a state agency in order for the applicant to transact business in the state.
- Filing various documents that must be filed with state agencies or departments in order for the filer to transact business in the state.
- Remitting payment for various fees that must be paid to state agencies or departments.

The department is to establish the Internet website and implement it in the timeliest manner practicable. The department may competitively procure and contract for services to develop and maintain the Internet website for the One Stop Business Registration Portal. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Financial Services, the Department of the Lottery, the Department of Management Services, and the Department of State is directed to cooperate with the department in the development and implementation of the portal.

Beginning January 1, 2013, the department must submit an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the implementation of the One-Stop Business Registration Portal. The report must include a complete and detailed description of the department's activities and accomplishments related to implementation of the One-Stop Business Registration Portal during the previous calendar year and a plan for

expansion of the portal. The report may also include recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the portal and increasing of agency participation.

The department may adopt rules necessary to carry out section 288.109, F.S.

The department may provide information collected from applicants under section 288.109, F.S., to agencies or local governments participating in the One-Stop Business Registration Portal while conducting official duties. Information collected from an individual or business by a state department or agency or local government that is not otherwise confidential does not become confidential solely because the information is collected through the One-Stop Business Registration Portal.

**Section 2** repeals sections 288.1092, 288.1093, and 288.1095, F.S., relating to the former State Technology Office and One-Stop Permitting.

**Section 3** provides an effective date of July 1, 2012.

#### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

#### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

A single point of entry will make it easier for individuals and new businesses to register and comply with legal requirements in order to conduct business in the state.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Revenue requires funds to design and implement the portal. The department has developed an implementation plan which includes up to four potential phases over the next three fiscal years. The total estimated cost of the multi-year project is \$7 to \$9 million. The Senate proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 includes an

appropriation of \$3 million from the General Revenue Fund to implement Phase 1 of the One-Stop Business Registration Portal.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Additional Information:**

A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. **Amendments:**

None.