

Making It Easier To Do Business Subcommittee Meeting

Tuesday, May 29, 2012

3:01 - 4:10 PM

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 1010

Providence, RI 02908

The following individuals were present and participated throughout the meeting as indicated: Mr. Ron Caniglia, Mr. Paul McGreevy and Mr. Gary Ezovski, Mr. Henry Kates and Ms. Abby Swienton.

Staff present was, Ms. Leslie Taito, Ms. Sherri Carrera, Mr. Michael Walker and Ms. Nora Eshkhanian.

Ms. Taito stated that since Subcommittee Chairman Karl Wadensten is not present this will be an informational meeting.

Ms. Taito then provided House Bill 7962 and Senate Bill 2355 for discussion

House 7962¹: Would make technical amends to the GA laws by deleting duplicative language in the section concerning regulation of small businesses under the administrative procedures act & inserting similar language in chapter 42-35.1

Senate 2355²: Would make technical amendments to the general laws by deleting duplicative language in the section concerning regulation of small businesses under the administrative procedures act.

Mr. Kates asked if the revision can be summarized. Ms. Carrera explained that the original regulatory flexibility act that was passed in 2004 had some exclusion when house and senate introduced the package in 2010 decided to create an identical act and took out the exemptions. It was mandatory for economic impact statement dealing with regulatory exemption therefore the senate leadership repealed it and incorporated the regulatory exemption act and is now called small business fairness and regulatory procedures.

Ms. Taito said the bill exempted financial institutions including banks, trusts, savings and loan associations, thrift institutions, consumer and industrial finance companies, credit unions, mortgage and investment; bankers, and stock and bond brokers; insurance companies, both stock and mutual; Mineral, oil and gas brokers; subdivides and developers; landscape architects, architects and building designers; entities organized as nonprofit institutions; entertainment activities and productions including motion pictures, stage performances, television and radio stations, and production companies; and all utilities, water companies, and power transmission

¹ <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/billtext12/housetext12/H7458.pdf>

² <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/billtext12/housetext12/H7770.pdf>

companies, except electrical power generating transmission companies providing less than four and one-half (4.5) kilowatts; all petroleum and natural gas producers, refiners and pipelines.

Ms. Taito said she will be meeting Jack Leyden , Rhode Island State Building Commissioner, to begin discussions about mapping out the state building permit process. Also, on June 7th she is meeting with department managers from City of Pawtucket to go over the process map that she put together.

Mr. McGreevy asked if a draft model will be available and legislation calls for July 31, 2013, Ms. Taito said she will have a draft done by September.

Ms. Taito gave an update on Rhode Island Ready. She has asked the following to be on the review committee.

Kevin Flynn - Statewide Planning

Scott Wolf – Growsmart RI

Steve King - - QDC

Terry Gray – DEM

John Marcantonio _ RI Builders Association

Jeff Willis – CRMC

John Isberg – National Grid

Mr. Kates asked if it's a pilot program, Ms. Taito explained it is a demonstration project is intended to expand state-wide on the PAD Ready program currently in effect in Quonset. Mr. Kates asked how it works. Mr. Walker explained that part of the demonstration program to create a request for proposal to solicit an independent 3rd party evaluator and certifier that will take the available data and evaluations and verify it.

Mr. Ezovski asked about the bills relating fire code and which bills have been passed. Ms. Swinton said EDC, DBR and DOA worked closely with the fire marshal and building officials and the bills are moving quickly in the senate.

The group then discussed House Bill 8024 which would require the completion of an economic analysis for every existing regulation.

House 7962³: Would require a cost/benefit analysis and periodic review of all regulations governing or impacting small businesses.

Ms. Swinton mentioned that everyone that came and testified had concerns with only one agency looking at every single regulation. Ms. Taito stated that she had talk to Ms. April Anderson Lamoureux, regulatory reform counterpart in Massachusetts, about the issue of incentivizing departments to complete their reviews. There is currently no incentive provided to departments. Ms. Taito added that she will be attending a Regulatory Reform Regional meeting,

hosted by THE SBA Office of Advocacy on June 21st in Massachusetts and would ask other participants if they were using incentives for departments to complete their regulatory review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM