

HB 5555 PERMITTING IMPROVEMENTS

The program outlined in this bill reaffirms that the Office of Business Permits and Regulatory Assistance within DCEO shall enroll and facilitate projects through this voluntary program to better serve Illinois constituents and businesses for continued economic growth and development throughout the State. The voluntary program allows for the following:

- **Agencies must coordinate** in creating an agreed timetable for issuance of all required authorizations to ensure permit issuance in 2 years;
- Specify a process for Agencies to later modify their agreed-upon timetable;
- Create an **online dashboard** for tracking projects' permitting status;
- Agencies must affirmatively acknowledge or disclaim any jurisdiction or authority over a proposed project;
- Include a process to account for project delays for the applicant;
- Allow local governments with permitting programs to be part of the process; and
- Include revisions not directly related to the permitting improvement process that would **modernize** the existing Office of Business Permits and Regulatory Assistance such as the use of online communication.

This bill will also allow for Illinois to become more competitive to receive federal grants for infrastructure and economic growth-related projects.

This bill **does not** diminish any environmental protections or opportunities for public engagement in the process but rather the timing for such opportunities be accounted for in the scheduling timeline for permit review and issuance.

Project types include those with a total investment of more than \$20 million and that require two or more permits from various agencies, including:

- Renewable energy
- Electricity transmission
- Aviation
- Water resources
- Pipelines
- Conventional energy
- Surface transportation
- Ports and waterways
- Broadband
- Manufacturing

Federal Dashboard example:
<https://www.permits.performance.gov/>