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S.85

Introduced by Senators Pearson, Balint, Mullin, Starr, and Westman

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Commerce and trade; economic development; government operations

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to direct the Secretary of State and government partners to design a system to simplify interactions with small businesses and Vermonters starting new businesses.

An act relating to simplifying government for small businesses

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. SIMPLIFYING GOVERNMENT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

(a) The Secretary of State, in collaboration with the Department of Labor, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Department of Taxes, and other stakeholders, shall design a system that:

(1) enhances the State's website to simplify registration and offer a clear compilation of State permitting rules;

(2) simplifies the mechanism for making payments to the State, by allowing a person to pay amounts he or she owes to the State for taxes, fees, or other charges, to a single recipient within government;

1 (3) simplifies annual filing requirements by allowing a person to make a
2 single filing to a single recipient within government and simply to check a box
3 if nothing substantive has changed from the prior year; and

4 (4) provides more direct support to small businesses, whether by
5 designating an existing position or creating a new position within either the
6 Office of the Secretary of State or another government entity, to offer technical
7 guidance, information, and other support to persons who are forming or
8 operating a small business.

9 (b) The Secretary of State shall submit his or her proposal to the General
10 Assembly on or before December 15, 2017.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.