House Bill 3472

Sponsored by Representative BREWER (at the request of Aaron Van Fleet)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Authorizes issuance of business license passports by Department of Consumer and Business Services to persons conducting de minimis business in cities in state.

Becomes operative July 1, 2012.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to business license passports.

- Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislative Assembly to reduce the number of city business licenses that persons who conduct de minimis business in multiple cities in this state are required to obtain in order to conduct business in those cities. The purpose of this section and section 2 of this 2011 Act is to enable persons who conduct de minimis business in multiple cities in this state to secure from the Department of Consumer and Business Services one business license passport that will permit the conduct of de minimis business in multiple cities in which the person does not have a principal place of business.

SECTION 2. (1) For purposes of this section:

- (a) "Business license fee" means any tax or fee paid by a person to a city for any form of license that is required by the city in order to conduct business in that city.
- (b) "Conduct business" means to engage in any activity in pursuit of gain, including activities carried on by a person through officers, agents and employees as well as activities carried on by a person on that person's own behalf.
- (c) "Conduct de minimis business" means to conduct business in a city of this state that derives gross receipts of \$15,000 or less during a calendar year.
- (d) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, joint venture or any other business or commercial entity, but does not include the state or other government or political subdivision or agency.
- (e) "Principal place of business" means the location in this state of the central administrative office of a person conducting business or conducting de minimis business in this state.
- (2) A person who conducts de minimis business during any calendar year in any city in this state, other than a city to which the person has paid a business license fee for that year to conduct business that is other than de minimis business, may apply for a business license passport from the Department of Consumer and Business Services. The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services by rule shall determine the manner in which a person must apply and the form and contents of an application for a business license passport.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

(3) The department shall issue a business license passport to a person when:

- (a) The person presents proof that the person will not conduct other than de minimis business in a city in this state for which the passport is issued;
- (b) The person presents proof that the person's principal place of business is other than a city for which the passport is issued; and
- (c) The person pays a nonrefundable fee to the department. The fee charged under this paragraph must be twice the average business license fee charged by cities in this state plus an amount that is sufficient to reimburse the department for the administrative expenses of the department incurred in carrying out its duties under this section.
- (4) The department shall distribute the business license passport fees collected by the department under this section, less administrative expenses, to the cities that are encompassed in the passports issued under this section and that collect a business license tax or fee. Distribution of moneys under this subsection must be made at least once in each year.
- (5) A city shall waive payment of a business license fee by a person who only conducts de minimis business in the city upon presentation of proof that the person has been issued a business license passport under subsection (2) of this section.
- (6) A city that imposes a business license fee based on or measured by adjusted net income earned by conducting business within the city shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.
- (7) If, at the end of the year for which a business license passport was issued under this section, the department determines that the person to whom the passport was issued conducted other than de minimis business in a city for which the passport was issued, the department shall invalidate that portion of the passport that applies to that city, and that city is authorized to retroactively charge the person for any business license fee the city would have charged the person to conduct business in that city during that year.

SECTION 3. (1) Section 2 of this 2011 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2012.

(2) The Department of Consumer and Business Services may adopt rules or take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the department to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the department by section 2 of this 2011 Act.