House Bill 2657

Sponsored by Representatives SMITH DB, OWENS (Presession filed.)

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.

Requires Department of Environmental Quality to approve or disapprove application for permit within 60 days of receipt or according to timeline established by Environmental Quality Commission for permits that require public participation.

Becomes operative January 1, 2022.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to permits issued by the Department of Environmental Quality; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 468.

SECTION 2. (1) A permit authorized or required by ORS 454.610, 459.705 to 459.790, 466.005 to 466.385, 466.760, 468A.040, 468B.025, 468B.050, 468B.083, 468B.093 or 468B.195 must be approved or disapproved by the Department of Environmental Quality in the manner provided by subsection (2) of this section.

(2)(a) Except for a permit issued under the process set forth in ORS 517.952 to 517.989 or as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a completed application for a permit described in subsection (1) of this section must be approved or disapproved within 60 days after its receipt by the department. If the department fails to act within the time allowed, the application shall be considered approved unless an extension of time is granted by the Environmental Quality Commission on a showing of good cause by the department.

(b) The commission may establish by rule an alternative timeline for permits that require public participation, as determined by the commission, including public notice, public comments or a public hearing, before a permit may be approved. Rules adopted under this paragraph must require that a permit be approved or disapproved within 30 days of the close of a comment period.

SECTION 3. (1) Section 2 of this 2021 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2022.

(2) The Department of Environmental Quality may 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 2021 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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.