

Regular Session, 2008

SENATE BILL NO. 174

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

SECRETARY OF STATE. Provides for a name change of the First Stop Shop within the Department of State to the Office of GeauxBiz. (8/15/08)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 36:746(A)(introductory paragraph), (B), (C), and (D) and R.S.
3 49:229(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph) and (3), relative to the Department of
4 State; to provide for change in name of the First Stop Shop to the Office of
5 GeauxBiz; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 36:746(A)(introductory paragraph), (B), (C), and (D) are hereby
8 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §746. ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of GeauxBiz**

10 A. There shall be within the **commercial division of the** Department of State
11 ~~a First Stop Shop~~ **the Office of GeauxBiz**, which shall have the responsibility of
12 developing, implementing, managing, and operating, in concert with other
13 departments of state government, a system of:

14 * * *

15 B. There shall be a deputy secretary for the ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of**
16 **GeauxBiz** of the department who shall be appointed by the secretary with the
17 consent of the Senate. The deputy secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the

1 secretary at a salary fixed by the secretary, which salary shall not exceed the amount
 2 approved for that position by the legislature. The deputy secretary shall be directly
 3 responsible to and shall perform his functions under the immediate supervision and
 4 control of the secretary.

5 C. The deputy secretary shall direct and be responsible for the functions and
 6 management of the ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of GeauxBiz** within the department. In
 7 such capacity he shall be responsible for all program budgeting and shall act as
 8 liaison with secretaries, assistant secretaries, deputy secretaries, and other officers
 9 and employees of the other departments of state government and members of the
 10 business community seeking and using the functions of the ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office**
 11 **of GeauxBiz**. He shall establish educational and informational services for
 12 consumers of the functions of the office and shall provide for procurement,
 13 management, program analysis, and data processing, and shall perform any
 14 additional duties assigned by the secretary.

15 D. The deputy secretary shall employ, appoint, remove, assign, and promote
 16 such personnel as is necessary for the efficient administration of the ~~First Stop Shop~~
 17 **Office of GeauxBiz** and its programs and the performance of its powers, duties,
 18 functions, and responsibilities in accordance with applicable civil service law and all
 19 budgetary control and applicable laws.

20 Section 2. R.S. 49:229(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph) and (3) are hereby
 21 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

22 §229. ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of GeauxBiz**

23 A. It is the purpose of this Section to provide a convenient, accessible, and
 24 timely system for the business community and other persons seeking to establish a
 25 business to obtain information concerning, and the acquisition and maintenance of
 26 the various licenses required by the state to conduct business. To accomplish this
 27 goal, the ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of GeauxBiz** is hereby established within the
 28 department.

29 * * *

1 C. As used in this Section ~~and in Section 229.1 of this Title~~, the following
2 terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them, unless context clearly indicates
3 otherwise:

4 * * *

5 (3) "Office" means the ~~First Stop Shop~~ **Office of GeauxBiz** within the
6 Department of State.

7 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

Duplessis (SB 174)

Present law establishes within the Department of State, a "First Stop Shop" with the responsibility of developing, implementing, managing, and operating, in concert with other departments of state government, a system of:

- (1) Obtaining information for members of the business community and persons seeking to establish a business regarding all forms of authorization required by any department of state government to begin or continue a business in the state.
- (2) Assisting applicants in the following:
 - (a) Clarification of licensing requirements and standards.
 - (b) Preparation of applications and forms.
 - (c) Determination of the status of an application during the review process, including the resolution of disputes.
 - (d) Generally coordinating the various aspects of the licensing review process.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the name of the "First Stop Shop" to the "Office of GeauxBiz."

Effective August 15, 2008.

(Amends R.S. 36:746(A)(intro. para.), (B), (C), and (D) and R.S. 49:229(A) and (C)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to the original bill.

- 1. Technical.