

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

S

1

SENATE BILL 869

Short Title: Master Application.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senators Plyler and Conder.

---

Referred to: Judiciary II.

---

April 15, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A MASTER APPLICATION SYSTEM FOR BUSINESS  
LICENSES AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE TO IMPLEMENT THE MASTER APPLICATION  
SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 147-54.16 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 147-54.16. Master application system.**

~~The Office shall develop an operating plan for an automated master application system, shall determine the software and hardware needs of the system, and shall determine the staffing levels and space required for the system. The plan shall be developed with the assistance of the departments that issue business licenses and with due regard to privacy statutes. In making the determinations and developing an operating plan for an automated master application system, the Office shall identify the business licenses appropriate for inclusion in a master application system and shall develop a master application form that consolidates the information needed for the various State agencies to issue the licenses. Environmental licenses may not be included in a master application form.~~

The Office shall implement and administer an automated master application system. The Office shall determine the licenses appropriate for inclusion in the master application system. The Office may not include environmental licenses in the master application system.

The appropriate agency shall continue to determine whether a requested license shall be issued and to issue the license if the application is approved by the agency. An

1 applicant who receives written notification by the Office that a license requested  
2 through the Office is being issued by the appropriate agency may proceed with the  
3 licensed business activity without having physical possession of the issued license.

4 The Office shall collect from each applicant the total amount of the fees for the  
5 licenses applied for through the Office. The Office is the repository for an original  
6 signed application form submitted through the Office for a license that is included in the  
7 master application system. If, based on the information supplied by the applicant to the  
8 Office, the Office fails to make application for a required license, and the applicant did  
9 not know such a license was required, the applicant shall not be liable for any civil or  
10 criminal penalties or disciplinary action for failure to have the license. If the failure to  
11 obtain the license is reported to the applicant by either the Office or the agency issuing  
12 the license, the applicant must make application within 30 days or be subject to the  
13 penalties or disciplinary action."

14 Sec. 2. The Business License Information Office shall implement a master  
15 application system as described in Article 4B of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes.  
16 The master application system shall be implemented in two phases as described below  
17 over a period of two years. The first phase of the process to implement the master  
18 application system shall be completed by July 1, 1994. The Department of the  
19 Secretary of State shall evaluate the first phase of the implementation of the master  
20 application system and shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on  
21 Governmental Operations by October 1, 1995, regarding the evaluation. The second  
22 phase of the process to implement the master application system shall be completed by  
23 January 1, 1996.

24 (1) Phase I. Applicant Tracking Module.

25 This phase shall consist of the following automated functions:  
26 recording and tracking of inquiries regarding business licenses,  
27 identification of required licenses, and monitoring of the status of the  
28 resulting applications. The original signed license applications  
29 received by the Office during this phase shall be forwarded by the  
30 Office to the appropriate licensing agency.

31 (2) Phase II. Application Generation Module.

32 During this phase the Office shall implement the centralized  
33 application process so that a master application may be generated for  
34 those licenses deemed appropriate by the Office for inclusion in the  
35 master application system. The Office shall retain the original signed  
36 license applications for licenses requested through the Office that are  
37 included in the master application system.

38 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of the  
39 Secretary of State the sum of four hundred thirty-eight thousand one hundred thirty-nine  
40 dollars (\$438,139) for the 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of two hundred three  
41 thousand two hundred fifteen dollars (\$203,215) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to  
42 implement the master application system as provided in G.S. 147-54.16.

43 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.