

2024 -- H 7978

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LC005513
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Cruz, Morales, Speakman,
Spears, Craven, Azzinaro, Casimiro, and Solomon

Date Introduced: March 05, 2024

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-23 of the General Laws entitled "Subdivision of Land" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-23-36.1. Electronic permitting.**

4 (a) On or before October 1, 2025, every municipality in the state, shall adopt and
5 implement electronic permitting for all development applications filed under this chapter. For
6 purposes of this section, "electronic permitting" means use of computer-based tools and services
7 that automate and streamline the application process to include, but not be limited to, task-specific
8 tools for: applications; submission of plans; completed checklists and checklist documents; reports;
9 plan review; permitting; scheduling; certificates of completeness and incompleteness;
10 supplemental submissions; project tracking; staff and technical review committee comments; fee
11 calculation and collection.

12 (b) The state building commissioner, with the assistance of the office of regulatory reform
13 and the division of statewide planning, pursuant to the provisions of § 23-27.3-108.2 shall
14 promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

15 (c) On or before October 1, 2025, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the
16 state building commissioner, notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary,
17 all acts, requirements, filings, and documents necessary to comply with the application process
18 shall be conducted by means of electronic permitting.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 45-24 of the General Laws entitled "Zoning Ordinances" is hereby

1 amended by adding thereto the following section:

2 **45-24-58.1. Electronic permitting.**

3 (a) On or before October 1, 2025, every municipality in the state, shall adopt and
4 implement electronic permitting for all development applications under this chapter. For purposes
5 of this section, “electronic permitting” means use of computer-based tools and services that
6 automate and streamline the application process to include, but not be limited to, task-specific tools
7 for: applications; submission of plans; completed checklists and checklist documents; reports; plan
8 review; permitting; scheduling; project tracking; staff and technical review committee comments;
9 fee calculation and collection.

10 (b) The state building commissioner, with the assistance of the office of regulatory reform
11 and the division of statewide planning, pursuant to the provisions of § 23-27.3-108.2 shall
12 promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

13 (c) On or before October 1, 2025, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the
14 state building commissioner, and notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the
15 contrary, all acts, requirements, filings, and documents necessary to comply with the application
16 process shall be conducted by means of electronic permitting.

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 45-53 of the General Laws entitled "Low and Moderate Income
18 Housing" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

19 **45-53-16. Electronic Permitting.**

20 (a) On or before October 1, 2025, every municipality in the state, shall adopt and implement
21 electronic permitting for all development applications under this chapter. For purposes of this
22 section, “electronic permitting” means use of computer-based tools and services that automate and
23 streamline the application process to include, but not be limited to, task-specific tools for:
24 applications; submission of plans; completed checklists and checklist documents; reports; plan
25 review; permitting; scheduling; project tracking; staff and technical review committee comments;
26 fee calculation and collection.

27 (b) The state building commissioner, with the assistance of the office of regulatory reform
28 and the division of statewide planning, pursuant to the provisions of § 23-27.3-108.2 shall
29 promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

30 (c) On or before October 1, 2025, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the
31 state building commissioner, and notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the
32 contrary, all acts, requirements, filings, and documents necessary to comply with the application
33 process shall be conducted by means of electronic permitting.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

- 1 This act would require that municipalities implement electronic permitting for all
- 2 development applications pursuant to zoning and the subdivision of land.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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