

2024 -- H 7978

=====  
LC005513  
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

—————  
A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Introduced By: Representative K. Joseph Shekarchi

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.

=====  
LC005513  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
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.

=====  
LC005513  
=====