**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 3931**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Bailey, Sessions, Brewer, Robbins, M.M. Smith, Burns, Haddon, Lowe, Rutherford, Schuessler and Guffey

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Introduced in the House on February 6, 2025

Introduced in the Senate on April 24, 2025

Last Amended on April 23, 2025

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit Application

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 2/6/2025 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 33)

 2/6/2025 House Referred to Committee on **Labor, Commerce and Industry** (House Journal‑page 33)

 2/26/2025 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Schuessler

 4/9/2025 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Guffey

 4/9/2025 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Labor, Commerce and Industry**

 4/23/2025 House Amended (House Journal‑page 12)

 4/23/2025 House Read second time (House Journal‑page 12)

 4/23/2025 House Roll call Yeas-102 Nays-0 (House Journal‑page 14)

 4/24/2025 House Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal‑page 67)

 4/24/2025 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal‑page 7)

 4/24/2025 Senate Referred to Committee on **Medical Affairs** (Senate Journal‑page 7)

 4/24/2025 Scrivener's error corrected

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3931&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[02/06/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3931_20250206.docx)

[04/09/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3931_20250409.docx)

[04/23/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3931_20250423.docx)

[04/24/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3931_20250424.docx)

Indicates Matter Stricken

Indicates New Matter

Amended

April 23, 2025

H. 3931

Introduced by Reps. Bailey, Sessions, Brewer, Robbins, M. M. Smith, Burns, Haddon, Lowe, Schuessler and Guffey

S. Printed 4/23/25--H. [SEC 4/24/2025 3:31 PM]

Read the first time February 6, 2025

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A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 48‑39‑150, RELATING TO APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF PERMITS, SO AS TO ESTABLISH TIMELINES FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE ACTION ON A PERMIT APPLICATION.

 Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 48‑39‑150(C) of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 (C) The department shall act upon an application for a permit within ninety days after the application is filedrequest is determined by the department to be administratively and technically complete. Provided, however, that in the case of minor developments, as defined in Section 48‑39‑10, the department shall have the authority to approve such permits and shall act within thirty days after the request is determined by the department to be administratively and technically complete. If the department requests additional technical information from the applicant, that request must be made within fifteen days after the conclusion of the public notice period. If a department request for additional technical information is not made within fifteen days after the conclusion of the public notice period, the application shall be considered complete and a decision must be rendered within the time frames prescribed above. In the event a permit is denied the department shall state the reasons for such denial and such reasons must be in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Section 48-39-80(B)(11) of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

 (11) Develop a system whereby the department shall have the authority to review all state and federal permit applications in the coastal zone, and to certify that these do not contravene the management plan. For individual navigable waters permits for docks located in the eight coastal counties but outside of critical areas, a coastal zone consistency certification is deemed approved if certification review is not completed within thirty days of an administratively complete application. For all other permits, a coastal zone consistency certification is deemed approved if certification review is not completed within ninety days of an administratively complete application.

SECTION 3. Chapter 6, Title 48 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

 Section 48-6-35. (A) The Department of Environmental Services may hire one or more third-party, independent engineers to assist the department in its duties.

 (B) The department must establish such reasonable regulations with respect to the qualifications of contractors allowed to bid on work of the department. Such regulations may fix eligibility requirements for bidders according to available capital and with due regard to experience and records of past performance.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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