

REPRESENTATIVE MIA COSTELLO Member, House Finance Committee

Sponsor Statement House Bill 32

"An Act providing for the issuance of one business license for multiple lines of business; and providing for reissuance of a business license to make a change on the license."

Alaska law requires a business to purchase a separate business license for each different line of business they are engaged in. This is an unnecessary burden for many small businesses that may perform various activities under the same business name. For example, an individual that plows driveways in the winter and sells firewood in the fall must currently purchase two business licenses.

Small businesses do not have large margins, and this is one added expense they should not need to pay. Entrepreneurs that are required to purchase multiple licenses are most often those who are involved in several lines of business just to make ends meet. Small businesses should not be required to subsidize government through duplicative licensing fees.

Proposed legislation would require one fee to be paid and allow a business to register all of its lines of business on a single license.

The proposed legislation would also allow for a business owner to make one change to their business license without paying an additional fee. Currently, changes to information on a business license require the purchase of a new license.

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