



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

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For More Information Contact:
Dave Druker
Henry Haupt

Jesse White's Legislation Modernizing Corporations' Filing Process Moves to Governor's Desk *Illinois House Overwhelmingly Approves Measure*

Legislation proposed by Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White to modernize the filing process for business corporations was approved by the House of Representatives. The legislation now moves to the governor's desk for his approval.

Senate Bill 3211, sponsored by State Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg (D-Evanston) and State Representative Jack Franks (D-Woodstock), eliminates the requirement that copies of certain corporate documents be filed in the office of the county recorder in addition to filing with the Secretary of State.

"This measure is a business friendly, common sense initiative that eliminates government red tape and duplicative filing requirements," said White. "It is another example of my continued efforts as Secretary of State to enhance efficiency, streamline government and save taxpayer dollars."

These documents have been filed at both the state and county level since the 1800's, an era in which communication systems were at best rudimentary. The dual filing requirement was based on the difficulty in traveling to and communicating with state offices at that time. By requiring corporations to file locally, it was possible to consult the county recorder's files to determine if local corporations were properly formed and in good standing. Given the advances in communications and travel, such local filing is no longer necessary.

Complete information concerning the status and filings of Illinois corporations is now readily available on the Secretary of State's Web site at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. White also emphasized that the information with the Secretary of State's office is updated real-time, whereas once the information is filed with the county recorder's office it begins to grow stale.

Additionally, the local recording requirement was not included in newer business entity acts, including the Limited Liability Company Act, Uniform Partnership Act and Uniform Limited Partnership Act. Eliminating the duplicative filing requirement is beneficial to the business community by making transacting business in Illinois easier and less expensive. Businesses will no longer have to pay filing fees to the office of the county recorder for dual filings.

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