As Reported by the Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee

134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022

Sub. S. B. No. 134

Senator Lang
Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Cirino, Reineke, Romanchuk, Rulli, Wilson

A BILL

To enact section 3701.353 of the Revised Code to enact The Business Fairness Act and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3701.353 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3701.353. Notwithstanding section 3701.352 of the Revised Code, a business does not violate that section and may continue or resume operations if both of the following are true:

(A) The business has been required to cease or limit operations by order or rule of the director or department of health that was issued under this chapter to prevent a threat to the public caused by a pandemic, epidemic, or bioterrorism event;

(B) The business complies with all safety precautions that the order or rule requires of businesses that are permitted to continue operations under the order or rule.
This section does not apply to an order or rule of the director or department of health that is issued under this chapter and applicable only to a particular business or business location due to circumstances uniquely present at that particular business or business location.

Section 3. This act's enactment of section 3701.353 of the Revised Code shall be known as "The Business Fairness Act."

Section 4. This act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. The reasons for such necessity are the economic effects of COVID-19. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect.