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## DIGEST

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HB 415 Original

2015 Regular Session

Barrow

**Abstract:** Requires municipalities with a population of more than 50,000 to adopt ordinances to ensure property is maintained to community standards of civic health and integrity.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of a municipality with a population of more than 50,000 to adopt ordinances to ensure that the appearance and character of all property is maintained to a standard that reflects civic health and integrity. Such ordinances shall include:

- (1) Requirements that owners of commercial property maintain their property even when such property is unleased or unoccupied. If the property owner fails to do so, requires the local governing authority to take action to maintain the property to the community's standards of civic health and integrity and charge the property owner for such work. Such ordinances shall provide for appropriate procedures and notice to property owners.
- (2) Requirements that owners of businesses notify the municipal governing authority regarding the closing of a business not less than 60 days prior to the anticipated date of such closure.
- (3) Prohibitions on excessive signage on a single tract or other small area.
- (4) Establishing programs to encourage neighborhood pride and creativity and innovation in achieving high standards of civic health and integrity.
- (5) Partnerships with community-based, nonprofit organizations to raise awareness of the impact of negligence and to encourage civic responsibility with respect to property maintenance.

(Adds R.S. 33:4885)