



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4952

Introduced 2/7/2024, by Rep. Thaddeus Jones

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

220 ILCS 5/16-108.12

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Provides that an electric utility that serves more than 3,000,000 customers in the State shall fund the construction of 5 employment training centers at a cost to be determined by the utility. Provides that the employment training centers shall be located in: the west side of Chicago; Ford Heights; Waukegan; Bloomington; and Peoria.

LRB103 36042 SPS 66129 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by changing
5 Section 16-108.12 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/16-108.12)

7 Sec. 16-108.12. Utility job training program.

8 (a) An electric utility that serves more than 3,000,000
9 customers in the State shall spend \$10,000,000 per year in
10 2017, 2021, and 2025 to fund the programs described in this
11 Section.

12 (1) The utility shall fund a solar training pipeline
13 program in the amount of \$3,000,000. The utility may
14 administer the program or contract with another entity to
15 administer the program. The program shall be designed to
16 establish a solar installer training pipeline for projects
17 authorized under Section 1-56 of the Illinois Power Agency
18 Act and to establish a pool of trained installers who will
19 be able to install solar projects authorized under
20 subsection (c) of Section 1-75 of the Illinois Power
21 Agency Act and otherwise. The program may include single
22 event training programs. The program described in this
23 paragraph (1) shall be designed to ensure that entities

1 that offer training are located in, and trainees are
2 recruited from, the same communities that the program aims
3 to serve and that the program provides trainees with the
4 opportunity to obtain real-world experience. The program
5 described in this paragraph (1) shall also be designed to
6 assist trainees so that they can obtain applicable
7 certifications or participate in an apprenticeship
8 program. The utility or administrator shall include
9 funding for programs that provide training to individuals
10 who are or were foster children or that target persons
11 with a record who are transitioning with job training and
12 job placement programs. The program shall include an
13 incentive to facilitate an increase of hiring of qualified
14 persons who are or were foster children and persons with a
15 record. It is a goal of the program described in this
16 paragraph (1) that at least 50% of the trainees in this
17 program come from within environmental justice communities
18 and that 2,000 jobs are created for persons who are or were
19 foster children and persons with a record.

20 (2) The utility shall fund a craft apprenticeship
21 program in the amount of \$3,000,000. The program shall be
22 an accredited or otherwise recognized apprenticeship
23 program over a period not to exceed 4 years, for
24 particular crafts, trades, or skills in the electric
25 industry that may, but need not, be related to solar
26 installation.

1 (3) The utility shall fund multi-cultural jobs
2 programs in the amount of \$4,000,000. The funding shall be
3 allocated in the applicable year to individual programs as
4 set forth in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of this
5 paragraph (3) and may, but need not, be related to solar
6 installation, over a period not to exceed 4 years, by
7 diversity-focused community organizations that have a
8 record of successfully delivering job training.

9 (A) \$1,000,000 to a community-based civil rights
10 and human services not-for-profit organization that
11 provides economic development, human capital, and
12 education program services.

13 (B) \$500,000 to a not-for-profit organization that
14 is also an education institution that offers training
15 programs approved by the Illinois State Board of
16 Education and United States Department of Education
17 with the goal of providing workforce initiatives
18 leading to economic independence.

19 (C) \$500,000 to a not-for-profit organization
20 dedicated to developing the educational and leadership
21 capacity of minority youth through the operation of
22 schools, youth leadership clubs and youth development
23 centers.

24 (D) \$1,000,000 to a not-for-profit organization
25 dedicated to providing equal access to opportunities
26 in the construction industry that offer training

1 programs that include Occupational Safety and Health
2 Administration 10 and 30 certifications, Environmental
3 Protection Agency Renovation, Repair and Painting
4 Certification and Leadership in Energy and
5 Environmental Design Accredited Green Associate Exam
6 preparation courses.

7 (E) \$500,000 to a non-profit organization that has
8 a proven record of successfully implementing utility
9 industry training programs, with expertise in creating
10 programs that strengthen the economics of communities
11 including technical training workshops and economic
12 development through community and financial partners.

13 (F) \$500,000 to a nonprofit organization that
14 provides family services, housing education, job and
15 career education opportunities that has successfully
16 partnered with the utility on electric industry job
17 training.

18 (4) The utility shall fund the construction of 5
19 employment training centers at a cost to be determined by
20 the utility. The employment training centers shall be
21 located in the following Illinois cities or areas: (A) the
22 west side of Chicago; (B) Ford Heights; (C) Waukegan; (D)
23 Bloomington; and (E) Peoria.

24 For the purposes of this Section, "person with a record"
25 means any person who (1) has been convicted of a crime in this
26 State or of an offense in any other jurisdiction, not

1 including an offense or attempted offense that would subject a
2 person to registration under the Sex Offender Registration
3 Act; (2) has a record of an arrest or an arrest that did not
4 result in conviction for any crime in this State or of an
5 offense in any other jurisdiction; or (3) has a juvenile
6 delinquency adjudication.

7 (b) Within 60 days after the effective date of this
8 amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly, an electric
9 utility that serves more than 3,000,000 customers in the State
10 shall file with the Commission a plan to implement this
11 Section. Within 60 days after the plan is filed, the
12 Commission shall enter an order approving the plan if it is
13 consistent with this Section or, if the plan is not consistent
14 with this Section, the Commission shall explain the
15 deficiencies, after which time the utility shall file a new
16 plan. The utility shall use the funds described in
17 subparagraph (O) of paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Section
18 1-75 of the Illinois Power Agency Act to pay for the Commission
19 approved programs under this Section.

20 (Source: P.A. 99-906, eff. 6-1-17.)