



Rep. Patrick J. Verschoore

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LRB097 08433 HLH 53188 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3414

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3414 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Main Street Act.

6 Section 5. Legislative purpose. The General Assembly makes
7 the following findings:

8 (1) The continued economic vitality of downtown and
9 neighborhood commercial districts in our municipalities is
10 essential to community preservation, social cohesion, and
11 economic growth.

12 (2) Municipalities need to maintain their local
13 economies so that business owners will be able to provide
14 goods and services to the community, to provide employment
15 opportunities, to avoid disinvestment and economic
16 dislocations, and to develop and sustain downtown and

1 neighborhood commercial district revitalization programs
2 to address these problems.

3 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

4 "Department" means the Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity.

6 "Director" means the Director of Commerce and Economic
7 Opportunity.

8 "Program" means the Illinois Main Street Program.

9 Section 15. Illinois Main Street Program. The Illinois Main
10 Street Program is created within the Department. In order to
11 implement the Illinois Main Street Program, the Department
12 shall do all of the following:

13 (1) Provide assistance to municipalities designated as
14 Main Street Communities, municipalities interested in
15 becoming designated through the program, and businesses,
16 property owners, organizations, and municipalities
17 undertaking a comprehensive downtown or neighborhood
18 commercial district revitalization initiative and
19 management strategy. Assistance may include, but is not
20 limited to, initial site evaluations and assessments,
21 training for local programs, training for local program
22 staff, site visits and assessments by technical
23 specialists, local program design assistance and
24 evaluation, and continued local program on-site

1 assistance.

2 (2) To the extent funds are made available, provide
3 financial assistance to municipalities or local
4 organizations to assist in initial downtown or
5 neighborhood commercial district revitalization program
6 specialized training, specific project feasibility
7 studies, market studies, and design assistance.

8 (3) Operate the Illinois Main Street Program in
9 accordance with the plan developed by the Department.

10 (4) Consider other factors the Department deems
11 necessary for the implementation of this Act.

12 Section 20. Main Street Community designation.

13 (a) The Department shall adopt criteria for the designation
14 of a Main Street Community. In establishing the criteria, the
15 Department shall consider all of the following:

16 (1) The degree of interest and commitment to
17 comprehensive downtown or neighborhood commercial district
18 revitalization and, where applicable, historic
19 preservation by both the public and private sectors.

20 (2) The evidence of potential private sector
21 investment in the downtown or neighborhood commercial
22 district.

23 (3) Where applicable, a downtown or neighborhood
24 commercial district with sufficient historic fabric to
25 become a foundation for an enhanced community image.

1 (4) The capacity of the organization to undertake a
2 comprehensive program and the financial commitment to
3 implement a long-term downtown or neighborhood commercial
4 district revitalization program that includes a commitment
5 to employ a professional program manager.

6 (5) The National Main Street Center's criteria for
7 designating official main street municipalities.

8 (6) Other factors the Department deems necessary for
9 the designation of a local program.

10 (b) Illinois Main Street shall designate local downtown or
11 neighborhood commercial district revitalization programs and
12 official local main street programs.

13 (c) The Department must approve all local downtown or
14 neighborhood commercial district revitalization program
15 boundaries. The boundaries of a local downtown or neighborhood
16 commercial district revitalization program are typically
17 defined using the pedestrian core of a traditional commercial
18 district.

19 Section 25. Illinois Main Street Plan. The Department
20 shall, in consultation with the Lieutenant Governor, develop a
21 plan for the Illinois Main Street Program. The plan shall
22 describe:

23 (1) the objectives and strategies of the Illinois Main
24 Street Program;

25 (2) how the Illinois Main Street Program will be

1 coordinated with existing federal, state, local, and
2 private sector business development and historic
3 preservation efforts;

4 (3) the means by which private investment will be
5 solicited and employed;

6 (4) the methods of selecting and providing assistance
7 to participating local programs; and

8 (5) a means to solicit private contributions for State
9 and local operations of the Illinois Main Street Program.

10 Section 30. Role of the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant
11 Governor shall be the Ambassador of the Illinois Main Street
12 Program. The Department shall advise and consult with the
13 Lieutenant Governor on the activities of the Illinois Main
14 Street Program. The Lieutenant Governor, with the assistance of
15 the Department, shall promote and encourage the success of the
16 Illinois Main Street Program.

17 Section 35. Illinois Main Street Fund. The Illinois Main
18 Street Fund is created as a special fund in the State treasury.
19 All receipts from private contributions, federal funds,
20 legislative appropriations, and fees for services, if levied,
21 must be deposited into the Fund. Subject to appropriation,
22 expenditures from the Fund may be used only for the benefit of
23 the Illinois Main Street Program.

1 Section 40. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
2 Section 5.786 as follows:

3 (30 ILCS 105/5.786 new)

4 Sec. 5.786. The Illinois Main Street Fund.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.".