



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB5591

Introduced 2/15/2012, by Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Illinois Human Services Commission Act. Provides that the General Assembly finds that the State depends upon public and private service providers to deliver many critical human services necessary to protect and enhance the welfare of its citizens, including its most vulnerable populations; that the citizens of Illinois and their communities depend upon these services to protect public health, create individual and family well-being, improve public safety, revitalize local economies, and enhance learning; and that a strong and well-managed network of public and private human services is integral to the achievement of other State goals in the areas of health and wellness, educational outcomes, workforce development, and an improved business climate. Creates the Illinois Human Services Commission to undertake a systematic review of human services programs with the goal of ensuring their consistent delivery in the State. Requires the Commission to make recommendations for achieving a system that will provide for the efficient and effective delivery of high quality human services. Contains provisions concerning Commission recommendations and best efforts; Commission membership and appointments; reporting requirements; and transparency.

LRB097 18528 KTG 63759 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Human Services Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Legislative findings. The General Assembly
7 finds that:

8 (1) The State of Illinois depends upon public and private
9 service providers to deliver many critical human services
10 necessary to protect and enhance the welfare of its citizens,
11 including its most vulnerable populations.

12 (2) The citizens of Illinois and their communities depend
13 upon these services to protect public health, create individual
14 and family well-being, improve public safety, revitalize local
15 economies, and enhance learning.

16 (3) Human services play a vital role in every community and
17 legislative district across the State, providing jobs and
18 revenue in addition to services and supports to children and
19 youth, families, workers, the elderly, people with
20 disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.

21 (4) A strong and well-managed network of public and private
22 human services is integral to the achievement of other State
23 goals in the areas of health and wellness, educational

1 outcomes, workforce development, and an improved business
2 climate.

3 (5) A lack of adequate appropriations, clear goals,
4 spending priorities, and measurable outcomes along with delays
5 in payments, inadequate rates, duplicative reporting
6 requirements, and other systemic barriers prevent private
7 entities from achieving the goal of a strong and effective
8 network of well managed public and private service providers.

9 (6) The maintenance of a strong and well managed network of
10 human services requires a joint planning process that brings
11 together public and private experts in human services to
12 identify best practices and strategies.

13 Section 10. Illinois Human Services Commission. The
14 Illinois Human Services Commission is created to undertake a
15 systematic review of human services programs with the goal of
16 ensuring their consistent delivery in the State.

17 Section 15. Duties.

18 (a) The Commission shall review all State human services
19 programs and make recommendations for achieving a system that
20 will provide for the efficient and effective delivery of high
21 quality human services. These recommendations shall include
22 the following elements:

23 (1) Ensuring adequate appropriations for the provision
24 of human services.

1 (2) Establishing processes for determining fair,
2 adequate, and timely reimbursement.

3 (3) Maintaining efficient management of
4 publicly-funded programs and services.

5 (4) Implementing best practices within the human
6 services field.

7 (5) Creating outcome measures and accountability
8 mechanisms.

9 (6) Developing projections for future human services
10 needs based on demographic trends and other related
11 variables.

12 (b) The Commission shall make best efforts to:

13 (1) Use existing reports, research, and planning
14 efforts and call for additional reports and research to
15 support its work.

16 (2) Seek input from existing advisory councils and task
17 forces that address human services delivery, as well as
18 other human services experts and the public-at-large
19 including one or more public hearings to take and consider
20 public comment.

21 (3) Identify opportunities for increased efficiency or
22 cross-agency collaboration regarding human services
23 delivery.

24 Section 20. Membership; appointments; meetings; support.

25 (a) The Commission shall include representation from both

1 public and private organizations, and its membership shall
2 reflect regional, racial, and cultural diversity to ensure
3 representation of the needs of all Illinois citizens.
4 Commission members shall include one member appointed by the
5 President of the Senate, one member appointed by the Minority
6 Leader of the Senate, one member appointed by the Speaker of
7 the House of Representatives, one member appointed by the
8 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and other
9 members appointed by the Governor. The Governor's appointments
10 shall include, without limitation, the following:

11 (1) A co-chair from the Office of the Governor and a
12 co-chair not employed by a governmental entity to represent
13 the interests of non-governmental organizations.

14 (2) Eight members of the General Assembly representing
15 each of the majority and minority caucuses of each chamber.

16 (3) The Directors or Secretaries of the following State
17 agencies or their designees:

18 (A) Department of Human Services.

19 (B) Department of Children and Family Services.

20 (C) Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

21 (D) State Board of Education.

22 (E) Department on Aging.

23 (F) Department of Juvenile Justice.

24 (G) Department of Corrections.

25 (H) Department of Public Health.

26 (4) Local government stakeholders and nongovernmental

1 stakeholders with an interest in human services, including
2 representation among the following private-sector fields
3 and constituencies:

4 (A) Early childhood education and development.

5 (B) Child care.

6 (C) Child welfare.

7 (D) Youth services.

8 (E) Developmental disabilities.

9 (F) Mental health.

10 (H) Employment and training.

11 (I) Sexual and domestic violence.

12 (J) Alcohol and substance abuse.

13 (K) Local community collaborations among human
14 services programs.

15 (L) Immigrant services.

16 (M) Affordable housing.

17 (N) Re-entry.

18 (O) Food and nutrition.

19 (P) Homelessness.

20 (Q) Older adults.

21 (R) Physical disabilities.

22 (S) Business.

23 (T) Philanthropy.

24 (U) Labor.

25 (V) Law enforcement.

26 (b) Members shall serve without compensation for the

1 duration of the Commission.

2 (c) In the event of a vacancy, the appointment to fill the
3 vacancy shall be made in the same manner as the original
4 appointment.

5 (d) The Commission shall convene within 60 days after the
6 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General
7 Assembly. The initial meeting of the Commission shall be
8 convened by the co-chair selected by the Governor. Subsequent
9 meetings shall convene at the call of the co-chairs. The
10 Commission shall meet on a quarterly basis, or more often if
11 necessary.

12 (e) The Department of Human Services shall provide
13 administrative support to the Commission.

14 Section 25. Report. The Commission shall report to the
15 Governor and the General Assembly on the Commission's progress
16 toward its goals and objectives by June 30, 2013, and every
17 June 30 thereafter. A final report shall be due no later than 2
18 years after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
19 97th General Assembly. The Commission and the terms of its
20 members shall expire upon delivery of the final report.

21 Section 30. Transparency. In addition to whatever policies
22 or procedures it may adopt, all operations of the Commission
23 shall be subject to the provisions of the Freedom of
24 Information Act and the Open Meetings Act. This Section shall

1 not be construed so as to preclude other State laws from
2 applying to the Commission and its activities.