



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1243

Introduced 1/28/2025, by Rep. Maurice A. West, II

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/13B-20.40 new

Amends the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law of the School Code. Provides that Regional Office of Education No. 4 shall establish a 3-year pilot program focused on serving students in grades kindergarten through 3. Provides that students in grades kindergarten through 3 who meet enrollment criteria established by a school district and who are at risk of academic failure are eligible to participate in the pilot program. Requires the pilot program to adhere to all other rules established for alternative learning opportunities programs. Requires Regional Office of Education No. 4 to provide a report to the General Assembly outlining the pilot program's methodology and student outcomes and setting forth a comprehensive impact report and a framework for future program models. Effective immediately.

LRB104 06190 LNS 16225 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 13B-20.40 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/13B-20.40 new)

7 Sec. 13B-20.40. Pilot program.

8 (a) The General Assembly recognizes that helping students
9 to build social, emotional, and academic success from an early
10 age is essential to long-term success in schools and, as a
11 result of the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors, more
12 students are exhibiting behavioral concerns that make it
13 difficult to thrive in traditional educational settings.
14 Furthermore, alternative learning opportunities programs are
15 designed to provide varied support to improve the educational
16 achievement of students at risk of academic failure, and
17 Summit Academy, the alternative learning opportunities program
18 operated by Regional Office of Education No. 4, has a stated
19 mission anchored in positive outcomes, with the goal of
20 restoring and returning every student to that student's home
21 school.

22 (b) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, Regional
23 Office of Education No. 4 shall establish a 3-year pilot

1 alternative learning opportunities program focused on serving
2 students in grades kindergarten through 3.

3 (c) Students in grades kindergarten through 3 who meet
4 enrollment criteria established by a school district and who
5 are at risk of academic failure are eligible to participate in
6 the pilot program.

7 (d) The pilot program shall adhere to all other rules
8 established for alternative learning opportunities programs.

9 (e) No later than March 31, 2028, Regional Office of
10 Education No. 4 shall provide a report to the General Assembly
11 outlining the pilot program's methodology and student outcomes
12 and setting forth a comprehensive impact report and a
13 framework for future program models.

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
15 becoming law.