



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1271

Introduced 1/28/2025, by Rep. Katie Stuart

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

425 ILCS 25/13.1.1 new

Amends the Fire Investigation Act. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2026, the Office of the State Fire Marshal shall, in consultation with the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), annually determine what funding is necessary for MABAS to sufficiently alleviate difficulties that emergency responders face in coordinating personnel and equipment from participating agencies and units of local government when responding to tornado disasters at large warehouse complexes in this State. Provides that, by January 1, 2027, the Office shall, in consultation with MABAS, establish a formula for the distribution of that funding, with certain requirements. Provides for a continuing appropriation from the General Revenue Fund to the Office for the maintenance, operation, and capital expenses of MABAS. Makes findings. Defines terms. Effective immediately.

LRB104 06208 BDA 16243 b

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

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

4 Section 5. The Fire Investigation Act is amended by adding
5 Section 13.1.1 as follows:

6 (425 ILCS 25/13.1.1 new)

7 Sec. 13.1.1. MABAS continuing appropriation for warehouse
8 tornado disaster response.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that, because of the
10 large-scale footprint of many large warehouse complexes in
11 this State, and because emergency responders face difficulties
12 in coordinating personnel and equipment from a variety of
13 agencies in a given geographic region to respond to tornado
14 disasters at large warehouse complexes, the State should
15 further invest moneys into the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System
16 (MABAS) to assist emergency responders with respect to
17 responding to tornado disasters at large warehouse complexes
18 in this State.

19 (b) In this Section:

20 "Large warehouse complex" means one or more warehouses
21 at the same location, whose individual or combined
22 warehouse space is at least 400,000 square feet, operating
23 under the same management.

1 "Mutual Aid Box Alarm System" or "MABAS" means an
2 intergovernmental organization established under Section
3 10 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution and the
4 Intergovernmental Cooperation Act that, through
5 prearranged mutual aid and dispatch agreements among
6 participating units of local government, engages in
7 mutual-aid responses for the purpose of disaster
8 preparedness and response.

9 (c) Beginning July 1, 2026, the Office shall, in
10 consultation with MABAS, annually determine what funding is
11 necessary for MABAS to sufficiently alleviate difficulties
12 that emergency responders face in coordinating personnel and
13 equipment from participating agencies and units of local
14 government when responding to tornado disasters at large
15 warehouse complexes in this State.

16 (d) By July 1, 2026, the Office shall, in consultation
17 with MABAS, establish a formula for the distribution of the
18 funding provided under subsection (c) that considers the risk
19 of tornadoes, the total square footage of warehouse space at
20 large warehouse complexes, and the human population of the
21 large warehouse complexes during all working hours.

22 (e) Beginning July 1, 2026, there is hereby appropriated,
23 on a continuing annual basis in each fiscal year, from the
24 General Revenue Fund to the Office, to be distributed under
25 this Section or rules adopted under this Section for the
26 maintenance, operation, and capital expenses of MABAS, an

1 amount equal to that determined under subsection (c) of this
2 Section.

3 (f) The Office shall adopt rules before July 1, 2026,
4 implementing this Section.

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