



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1851

Introduced 1/29/2025, by Rep. Natalie A. Manley

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 3305/23

Amends the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act. In provisions regarding the Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committee, provides that the Advisory Committee shall comply with all provisions of the Open Meetings Act except that the Advisory Committee is exempt from the provisions that specifically require a quorum of members of a public body to be physically present at the location of an open meeting. Allows Advisory Committee members to attend meetings of the Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committee remotely by video or audio conference with all attending members counting toward a quorum, provided there is at least one member in physical attendance at the publicly posted physical location of the meeting.

LRB104 11869 BDA 21959 b

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 5. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act is
5 amended by changing Section 23 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 3305/23)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2032)

8 Sec. 23. Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committee.

9 (a) In this Section, "Advisory Committee" means the Access
10 and Functional Needs Advisory Committee.

11 (b) The Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committee is
12 created.

13 (c) The Advisory Committee shall:

14 (1) Coordinate meetings occurring, at a minimum, 3
15 times each year, in addition to emergency meetings called
16 by the chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

17 (2) Research and provide recommendations for
18 identifying and effectively responding to the needs of
19 persons with access and functional needs before, during,
20 and after a disaster using an intersectional lens for
21 equity.

22 (3) Provide recommendations to the Illinois Emergency
23 Management Agency regarding how to ensure that persons

1 with a disability are included in disaster strategies and
2 emergency management plans, including updates and
3 implementation of disaster strategies and emergency
4 management plans.

5 (4) Review and provide recommendations for the
6 Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and all relevant
7 State agencies that are involved in drafting and
8 implementing the Illinois Emergency Operation Plan, to
9 integrate access and functional needs into State and local
10 emergency plans.

11 (d) The Advisory Committee shall be composed of the
12 Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or his or
13 her designee, the Attorney General or his or her designee, the
14 Secretary of Human Services or his or her designee, the
15 Director of Aging or his or her designee, and the Director of
16 Public Health or his or her designee, together with the
17 following members appointed by the Governor on or before
18 January 1, 2022:

19 (1) Two members, either from a municipal or
20 county-level emergency agency or a local emergency
21 management coordinator.

22 (2) Nine members from the community of persons with a
23 disability who represent persons with different types of
24 disabilities, including, but not limited to, individuals
25 with mobility and physical disabilities, hearing and
26 visual disabilities, deafness or who are hard of hearing,

1 blindness or who have low vision, mental health
2 disabilities, and intellectual or developmental
3 disabilities. Members appointed under this paragraph shall
4 reflect a diversity of age, gender, race, and ethnic
5 background.

6 (3) Four members who represent first responders from
7 different geographical regions around the State.

8 (e) Of those members appointed by the Governor, the
9 initial appointments of 6 members shall be for terms of 2 years
10 and the initial appointments of 5 members shall be for terms of
11 4 years. Thereafter, members shall be appointed for terms of 4
12 years. A member shall serve until his or her successor is
13 appointed and qualified. If a vacancy occurs in the Advisory
14 Committee membership, the vacancy shall be filled in the same
15 manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the
16 unexpired term.

17 (f) After all the members are appointed, and annually
18 thereafter, they shall elect a chairperson from among the
19 members appointed under paragraph (2) of subsection (d).

20 (g) The initial meeting of the Advisory Committee shall be
21 convened by the Director of the Illinois Emergency Management
22 Agency no later than February 1, 2022.

23 (h) Advisory Committee members shall serve without
24 compensation.

25 (i) The Illinois Emergency Management Agency shall provide
26 administrative support to the Advisory Committee.

1 (j) The Advisory Committee shall prepare and deliver a
2 report to the General Assembly, the Governor's Office, and the
3 Illinois Emergency Management Agency by July 1, 2022, and
4 annually thereafter. The report shall include the following:

5 (1) Identification of core emergency management
6 services that need to be updated or changed to ensure the
7 needs of persons with a disability are met, and shall
8 include disaster strategies in State and local emergency
9 plans.

10 (2) Any proposed changes in State policies, laws,
11 rules, or regulations necessary to fulfill the purposes of
12 this Act.

13 (3) Recommendations on improving the accessibility and
14 effectiveness of disaster and emergency communication.

15 (4) Recommendations on comprehensive training for
16 first responders and other frontline workers when working
17 with persons with a disability during emergency situations
18 or disasters, as defined in Section 4 of the Illinois
19 Emergency Management Agency Act.

20 (5) Any additional recommendations regarding emergency
21 management and persons with a disability that the Advisory
22 Committee deems necessary.

23 (k) The annual report prepared and delivered under
24 subsection (j) shall be annually considered by the Illinois
25 Emergency Management Agency when developing new State and
26 local emergency plans or updating existing State and local

1 emergency plans.

2 (l) The Advisory Committee shall comply with all
3 provisions of the Open Meetings Act except the Advisory
4 Committee shall be exempt from the requirements of Section
5 2.01 of the Open Meetings Act that specifically require a
6 quorum of members of a public body to be physically present at
7 the location of an open meeting. Notwithstanding Section 2.01
8 of the Open Meetings Act, Advisory Committee members shall be
9 allowed to attend remotely by video or audio conference with
10 all attending members counting toward a quorum, provided there
11 is at least one member in physical attendance at the publicly
12 posted physical location of the meeting.

13 (m) ~~(l)~~ The Advisory Committee is dissolved and this
14 Section is repealed on January 1, 2032.

15 (Source: P.A. 102-361, eff. 8-13-21; 102-671, eff. 11-30-21;
16 103-154, eff. 6-30-23.)