



Rep. Michelle Mussman

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1863

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 1863 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the One
5 Health Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Findings and purpose. The General Assembly
7 finds that:

8 (1) The term "One Health" reflects the
9 interconnectedness of human health, animal health, and the
10 environment.

11 (2) The strong connections and interdependency between
12 humans, companion animals, livestock, wildlife, and
13 ecosystem health are recognized in the One Health
14 Framework, which facilitates addressing zoonotic diseases,
15 vector-borne diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and other
16 complex, multidisciplinary issues.

1 (3) Existing One Health initiatives at the federal
2 level were included in both the 2021 Report of the
3 Appropriations Committee of the United States House of
4 Representatives and the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations
5 Act. Congress directed the Centers for Disease Control and
6 Prevention to collaborate with the U.S. Department of
7 Agriculture, U.S. Department of the Interior, and other
8 federal agency partners:

9 (A) to create a National One Health framework to
10 address zoonotic diseases and advance public health
11 preparedness in the United States; and

12 (B) to collaborate with interagency partners on
13 the development of a One Health coordination mechanism
14 at the federal level to strengthen One Health
15 collaboration related to the prevention of, detection
16 of, control of, and response to zoonotic diseases and
17 related One Health work across the federal government.

18 (4) Existing One Health initiatives in other states
19 include the passage of Senate Bill 347 and Assembly Bill
20 1992 in New Jersey in June 2021 for the purpose of
21 developing a New Jersey One Health Commission.

22 (5) Awareness and collaboration among disciplines will
23 help protect the environment and the health of all
24 species, will save lives in present and future
25 generations, and will improve the quality of life, the
26 physical and mental health, and the productivity of

1 residents of the State.

2 (6) A One Health approach recognizes that the health
3 of people is connected to the health of animals and the
4 environment, and it has been described as a collaborative,
5 multisector, and transdisciplinary approach, working at
6 the local, regional, national, and global levels, with the
7 goal of achieving optimal health outcomes while
8 recognizing the interconnection between people, animals,
9 plants, and their shared environment.

10 (7) A One Health approach is important because
11 approximately 60% of known infectious diseases in humans
12 and 75% of emerging infectious diseases originate from
13 animals; environmental factors, including climate change,
14 land-use changes, and biodiversity loss, significantly
15 influence the emergence and transmission of zoonotic
16 diseases. Animals can serve as early warning indicators of
17 potential public health threats, and robust agricultural
18 and environmental health systems are integral to public
19 health preparedness and response efforts.

20 (8) It is, therefore, in the public interest for the
21 State to establish a One Health Commission to promote the
22 health and wellness of Illinois' natural resource,
23 residents, and animals, including pets, livestock, and
24 wildlife, by encouraging the collaborative efforts of
25 experts and leveraging knowledge and resources
26 effectively.

1 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

2 "One Health" means an integrated, unifying approach that
3 aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people,
4 animals, and ecosystems while recognizing that the health of
5 humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider
6 environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and
7 interdependent.

8 "Commission" means the One Health Commission established
9 under this Act.

10 Section 15. One Health Commission.

11 (a) The One Health Commission is established in the
12 Department of Public Health. The purpose of this Commission
13 shall be to develop a strategic plan to promote
14 interdisciplinary communication and collaboration between
15 physicians, veterinarians, and other scientific professionals
16 and State agencies, with the goal of promoting the health and
17 well-being of the State's residents, animals, and environment.

18 (b) The goals and responsibilities of the Commission shall
19 include:

20 (1) recommending the best practices to promote
21 interdisciplinary communication and collaboration between
22 human, animal, and environmental health professionals;

23 (2) establishing mechanisms to provide feedback on,
24 and to support State agency and local government responses

1 to, and recovery from, zoonotic disease outbreaks in
2 animals and humans;

3 (3) coordinating and collaborating with appropriate
4 entities to develop effective approaches to reduce hazards
5 to human, animal, and environmental health and ensuring
6 innovative, science-based solutions are integrated into
7 public health strategies;

8 (4) developing educational and outreach initiatives to
9 promote the One Health approach across State government
10 agencies, the State's academic and research institutions,
11 nongovernmental organizations, and private entities;

12 (5) collaborating with disciplines for development of
13 effective xenosurveillance and other means of surveilling
14 emerging One Health-related threats; and

15 (6) promoting and providing education concerning
16 judicious antibiotic use by physicians, veterinarians, and
17 agricultural health professionals, including
18 recommendations on use of antibiotic alternatives, such as
19 bacteriophage therapy.

20 (c) The Commission shall partner with academic
21 institutions and nongovernmental organizations in the State
22 and consult with associations, organizations, and individuals
23 who are knowledgeable about the One Health initiative.

24 (d) The Commission shall be composed of the following
25 members:

26 (1) the Director of Public Health or the Director's

1 designee, who shall serve as co-chairperson;

2 (2) the President of the University of Illinois, or
3 the President's designee, who shall serve as
4 co-chairperson;

5 (3) the Director of Agriculture or the Director's
6 designee;

7 (4) the Director of the Environmental Protection
8 Agency or the Director's designee;

9 (5) the Director of the Illinois Emergency Management
10 Agency and Office of Homeland Security or the Director's
11 designee;

12 (6) the Chairman of the Illinois Housing Development
13 Authority or the Chairman's designee;

14 (7) the Director of Natural Resources or the
15 Director's designee;

16 (8) the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's
17 designee;

18 (9) the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
19 or the Director's designee, who shall serve as an ex
20 officio, nonvoting, advisory member;

21 (10) 4 members who are experts regarding One Health
22 from the academic or teaching community in this State,
23 appointed by the Director of Public Health;

24 (11) 2 members who are experts regarding One Health
25 and who are physicians licensed to practice medicine in
26 all its branches in this State, including at least one

1 with expertise in epidemiology or infectious disease
2 surveillance, appointed by the Director of Public Health;

3 (12) 2 members who are experts regarding One Health
4 and who are veterinarians licensed in this State,
5 entomologists, or licensed environmental health
6 practitioners, appointed by the Director of Public Health;
7 and

8 (13) one member who represents a safety net medical
9 facility in the State of Illinois who has expertise in One
10 Health, appointed by the Director of Public Health.

11 (e) The Commission shall convene and meet at the call of a
12 co-chairperson and shall meet as frequently as necessary to
13 carry out its duties as required by this Act.

14 (e-5) Members shall be appointed for 4-year terms.

15 (f) The Department of Public Health and the University of
16 Illinois shall provide administrative and other support to the
17 Commission.

18 (g) The members of the Commission shall serve without
19 compensation.

20 (h) The Commission shall submit a final report to the
21 General Assembly and the Governor on or before January 1,
22 2028. This report shall:

23 (1) outline the development of the One Health
24 Framework described in this Act;

25 (2) provide details regarding the goals and
26 responsibilities of the Commission in this Act;

1 (3) provide an assessment of One Health surveillance
2 and response systems; and

3 (4) provide recommendations for future policy
4 enhancements any other recommendations for legislative or
5 regulatory action to improve, promote, and protect the
6 health and well-being of the State's residents, animals,
7 and environment.

8 The Commission shall provide an update to this report
9 every 2 years.

10 (i) The final report under subsection (h) shall be posted
11 on the public websites of the all the State agencies listed in
12 subsection (d) that participate in the Commission.".