



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB2418

Introduced 2/4/2025, by Rep. Joyce Mason

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Commission on Youth Sports Act. Creates the Commission on Youth Sports. Provides that the purpose of the Commission is to research, study, and make recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Human Services concerning the following: (1) the creation of equitable, safe, and sustainable access for youth across the State to participate in sports that meet their skills and match their interests; (2) expanding integration of positive youth development in youth sports; and (3) and the promotion, development, expansion, hosting, and fostering of youth sports, youth sports programs, and youth sporting events and tournaments throughout the State. Provides that the Department of Human Services shall provide administrative and other support to the Commission. Provides for membership; terms; meetings; and expenses. Provides that the Commission shall submit a report of its findings, research, and recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Human Services on or before December 31, 2025, and each year thereafter. Effective immediately.

LRB104 09422 SPS 19482 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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Commission on Youth Sports Act.

6 Section 5. Commission on Youth Sports; purpose; duties.

7 (a) The Commission on Youth Sports is created.

8 (b) The purpose of the Commission is to research, study,  
9 and make recommendations to the Governor, the General  
10 Assembly, and the Department of Human Services concerning the  
11 following:

12 (1) the creation of equitable, safe, and sustainable  
13 access for youth across this State to participate in  
14 sports that meet their skills and match their interests;

15 (2) the expansion and integration of positive youth  
16 development in youth sports; and

17 (3) the promotion, development, expansion, hosting,  
18 and fostering of youth sports, youth sports programs, and  
19 youth sporting events and tournaments throughout this  
20 State.

21 (c) Recommendations made by the Commission shall focus  
22 generally on the creation, promotion, and encouragement of  
23 sports-based youth development. The recommendations reported

1 by the Commission to the Governor, the General Assembly, and  
2 the Department of Human Services shall include, but shall not  
3 be limited to, the following objectives:

4 (1) to support workshops, trainings, and conferences  
5 that promote positive youth development through sport;

6 (2) to connect public, private, local, and State  
7 entities to generate funding for youth sports programs and  
8 to facilitate the communication of information statewide  
9 about youth sports programs and events;

10 (3) to promote the equitable participation of  
11 community youth sports programs;

12 (4) to encourage the inclusion and participation of  
13 persons with disabilities in youth sports and youth sports  
14 programs; and

15 (5) to encourage the inclusion and participation of  
16 persons from historically disadvantaged communities in  
17 youth sports and youth sports programs.

18 Section 10. Membership.

19 (a) The Commission shall include the following members:

20 (1) one member of the Senate appointed by the  
21 President of the Senate;

22 (2) one member of the Senate appointed by the Minority  
23 Leader of the Senate;

24 (3) one member of the House of Representatives  
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

1           (4) one member of the House of Representatives  
2           appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of  
3           Representatives;

4           (5) one member appointed by the Governor representing  
5           the Governor's Office; and

6           (6) 14 members appointed by the Governor as follows:

7           (A) one person with experience running or coaching  
8           a nonprofit organization whose mission is to leverage  
9           sport for youth development;

10          (B) one person with experience running or coaching  
11          a nonprofit organization whose mission is to leverage  
12          sport for youth development;

13          (C) one person with experience in adaptive sports  
14          programming;

15          (D) one person with experience coaching or  
16          administering youth sports programs for one or more  
17          school-sponsored sports teams or sports club;

18          (E) one person with experience coaching or  
19          administering youth sports programs for one or more  
20          sports or activities that are not officially  
21          sanctioned at the high school level;

22          (F) one representative of a high school athletic  
23          association in this State;

24          (G) one representative of an elementary school  
25          athletic association in this State;

26          (H) one current or retired physical education

1 teacher;

2 (I) one parent or caregiver of youth who  
3 participate in a nonprofit sports program;

4 (J) one parent or caregiver of youth who  
5 participate in school-sponsored sports;

6 (K) one person with experience training coaches in  
7 positive youth development;

8 (L) one person with experience in implementing  
9 youth sports programming in park districts;

10 (M) one person with experience in policies,  
11 funding, and community engagement to elevate  
12 underserved youth; and

13 (N) one person with experience in the evaluation  
14 of youth activities or sports programming and/or  
15 coaching and positive youth development.

16 (b) More than 4 members of the General Assembly may be  
17 appointed to serve on the Commission as long as the number of  
18 members appointed at any time, except during a vacancy,  
19 represent equally each of the majority and minority caucuses  
20 of each house.

21 (c) The Governor shall select the chairperson of the  
22 Commission from among the members.

23 Section 15. Terms; meetings; support; expenses.

24 (a) Each member of the Commission shall be appointed for a  
25 2-year term and until his or her successor is appointed. The

1 Governor may stagger the members' terms to ensure continuity  
2 in the performance of the Commission's responsibilities.

3 (b) The Commission shall meet initially within 90 days  
4 after the effective date of this Act, and at least quarterly  
5 thereafter, at the times and places in this State that the  
6 Commission designates.

7 (c) The Department of Human Services shall provide  
8 administrative and other support to the Commission. The  
9 Department may designate a third party to provide  
10 administrative support in a volunteer capacity.

11 (d) Members of the Commission shall receive no  
12 compensation for their participation, but, subject to  
13 appropriation, may be reimbursed by the Department of Human  
14 Services for expenses in connection with their participation,  
15 including travel, subject to the rules of the appropriate  
16 travel control board.

17 Section 20. Reporting. The Commission shall submit a  
18 report of its findings, research, and recommendations to the  
19 Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Human  
20 Services on or before December 31, 2025, and each year  
21 thereafter.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
23 becoming law.