



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3103

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Fred Crespo

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 605/605-705

was 20 ILCS 605/46.6a

Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that, on and after July 1, 2025, a local tourism and convention bureau may not be certified to receive local tourism funds if all or part of the geographic area served by the local tourism and convention bureau is represented by another tourism and convention bureau that is certified by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Effective immediately.

LRB104 11452 HLH 21540 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 Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois
6 is amended by changing Section 605-705 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-705) (was 20 ILCS 605/46.6a)

8 Sec. 605-705. Grants to local tourism and convention
9 bureaus.

10 (a) To establish a grant program for local tourism and
11 convention bureaus. The Department will develop and implement
12 a program for the use of funds, as authorized under this Act,
13 by local tourism and convention bureaus. Each bureau receiving
14 funds under this Act will be certified by the Department as the
15 designated recipient to serve an area of the State. For the
16 purposes of this Act, bureaus eligible to receive funds are
17 those local tourism and convention bureaus that are (i) either
18 units of local government or incorporated as not-for-profit
19 organizations; (ii) in legal existence for a minimum of 2
20 years before July 1, 2001; (iii) operating with a paid,
21 full-time staff whose sole purpose is to promote tourism in
22 the designated service area; and (iv) affiliated with one or
23 more municipalities or counties that support the bureau with

1 local hotel-motel taxes. After July 1, 2001, bureaus
2 requesting certification in order to receive funds for the
3 first time must be local tourism and convention bureaus that
4 are (i) either units of local government or incorporated as
5 not-for-profit organizations; (ii) in legal existence for a
6 minimum of 2 years before the request for certification; (iii)
7 operating with a paid, full-time staff whose sole purpose is
8 to promote tourism in the designated service area; and (iv)
9 affiliated with multiple municipalities or counties that
10 support the bureau with local hotel-motel taxes. In addition,
11 on and after July 1, 2025, a local tourism and convention
12 bureau may not be certified to receive funds under this Act if
13 all or part of the geographic area served by the local tourism
14 and convention bureau is represented by another tourism and
15 convention bureau that is certified by the Department under
16 this Section. ~~Each bureau receiving funds under this Act will~~
17 ~~be certified by the Department as the designated recipient to~~
18 ~~serve an area of the State. Notwithstanding the criteria set~~
19 ~~forth in this subsection (a), or any rule adopted under this~~
20 ~~subsection (a), the Director of the Department may provide for~~
21 ~~the award of grant funds to one or more entities if in the~~
22 ~~Department's judgment that action is necessary in order to~~
23 ~~prevent a loss of funding critical to promoting tourism in a~~
24 ~~designated geographic area of the State.~~

25 (b) To distribute grants to local tourism and convention
26 bureaus from appropriations made from the Local Tourism Fund

1 for that purpose. Of the amounts appropriated annually to the
2 Department for expenditure under this Section prior to July 1,
3 2011, one-third of those monies shall be used for grants to
4 convention and tourism bureaus in cities with a population
5 greater than 500,000. The remaining two-thirds of the annual
6 appropriation prior to July 1, 2011 shall be used for grants to
7 convention and tourism bureaus in the remainder of the State,
8 in accordance with a formula based upon the population served.
9 Of the amounts appropriated annually to the Department for
10 expenditure under this Section beginning July 1, 2011, 18% of
11 such moneys shall be used for grants to convention and tourism
12 bureaus in cities with a population greater than 500,000. Of
13 the amounts appropriated annually to the Department for
14 expenditure under this Section beginning July 1, 2011, 82% of
15 such moneys shall be used for grants to convention bureaus in
16 the remainder of the State, in accordance with a formula based
17 upon the population served. The Department may reserve up to
18 3% of total local tourism funds available for costs of
19 administering the program to conduct audits of grants, to
20 provide incentive funds to those bureaus that will conduct
21 promotional activities designed to further the Department's
22 statewide advertising campaign, to fund special statewide
23 promotional activities, and to fund promotional activities
24 that support an increased use of the State's parks or historic
25 sites. The Department shall require that any convention and
26 tourism bureau receiving a grant under this Section that

1 requires matching funds shall provide matching funds equal to
2 no less than 50% of the grant amount, except that: (1) in
3 Fiscal Years 2021 through 2024 only, the Department shall
4 require that any convention and tourism bureau receiving a
5 grant under this Section that requires matching funds shall
6 provide matching funds equal to no less than 25% of the grant
7 amount; (2) in Fiscal Year 2025, the Department shall require
8 that any convention and tourism bureau receiving a grant under
9 this Section that requires matching funds shall provide
10 matching funds equal to no less than 30% of the grant amount;
11 and (3) in Fiscal Year 2026, the Department shall require that
12 any convention and tourism bureau receiving a grant under this
13 Section that requires matching funds shall provide matching
14 funds equal to no less than 40% of the grant amount. During
15 fiscal year 2013, the Department shall reserve \$2,000,000 of
16 the available local tourism funds for appropriation to the
17 Historic Preservation Agency for the operation of the Abraham
18 Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and State historic
19 sites.

20 To provide for the expeditious and timely implementation
21 of the changes made by Public Act 101-636, emergency rules to
22 implement the changes made by Public Act 101-636 may be
23 adopted by the Department subject to the provisions of Section
24 5-45 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act.

25 (Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21; 102-699, eff. 4-19-22;
26 103-8, eff. 6-7-23; 103-588, eff. 6-5-24.)

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.