

**104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY****State of Illinois****2025 and 2026****HB4181**

Introduced 10/28/2025, by Rep. Stephanie A. Kifowit

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

See Index

Amends the Airport Authorities Act. Provides that, in an order finding the results of an election to be favorable to the establishment of an airport authority, the circuit court shall determine, among other things, the population of each municipality within the authority having 5,000 or more inhabitants who reside within the corporate limits of the authority (rather than the population of each municipality within the authority having 5,000 or more inhabitants). Provides that, if a municipality not wholly located within the Springfield Airport Authority attains 5,000 or more inhabitants who reside within both the corporate limits of the municipality and the corporate limits of the Springfield Airport Authority, then a referendum may be held to determine whether those residents may be deannexed from the Springfield Airport Authority. Authorizes the referendum to be initiated either (i) by a petition signed by a number of voters equal to or at least 8% of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the last gubernatorial election by the registered voters who reside in the corporate limits of the municipality and the corporate limits of the Springfield Airport Authority or (ii) by the corporate authorities of a municipality not wholly located within the corporate limits of the Springfield Airport Authority with 5,000 or more inhabitants who reside within both the corporate limits of the municipality and the corporate limits of the Springfield Airport Authority. Specifies that, if the majority of those voting on the referendum approve of deannexation, then the Springfield Airport Authority shall either deannex all the territory within the corporate limits of the municipality or accept the appointment of one additional commissioner to the board who shall be appointed by the municipality that voted for deannexation. Requires the Springfield Airport Authority to vote to either deannex the affected property or accept the appointment of an additional commissioner within 45 days after certification of the vote. Requires all appointments of commissioners to boards of commissioners of airport authorities to indicate whether or not the person appointed resides within or without a municipality having a population of 5,000 or more inhabitants within the corporate limits of the authority (rather than a municipality having a population of 5,000 or more inhabitants).

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1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

4 Section 5. The Airport Authorities Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 3, 3.1, and 3.2 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 5/3) (from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3)

7 Sec. 3. Boards of commissioners. Every authority  
8 established under this Act shall be governed by a board of  
9 commissioners. For authorities other than Metropolitan Airport  
10 Authorities, the Greater Metropolitan Airport Authority, and  
11 the Crawford County Airport Authority, in the order finding  
12 the results of the election to be favorable to the  
13 establishment of the authority, the circuit court shall  
14 determine the population of the authority and the population  
15 of each municipality within the authority having 5,000 or more  
16 inhabitants who reside within the corporate limits of the  
17 authority according to the last census.

18 (Source: P.A. 95-365, eff. 1-1-08.)

19 (70 ILCS 5/3.1) (from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3a)

20 Sec. 3.1. Boards of commissioners - Appointment. The  
21 Boards of Commissioners of Authorities shall be appointed as  
22 follows:

1           (1) In case there are one or more municipalities having a  
2           population of 5,000 or more within the Authority, the  
3           commissioners shall be appointed as follows:

4                 (a) Where there is only one such municipality, 3  
5                 commissioners shall be appointed from such municipality,  
6                 and 2 commissioners shall be appointed at large.

7                 (a-5) Within 30 days after the effective date of this  
8                 amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly, one  
9                 additional commissioner shall be appointed to the board of  
10                the Springfield Airport Authority from each municipality  
11                having a population of 5,000 or more within the Authority,  
12                and one additional commissioner shall be appointed at  
13                large. The additional commissioners shall serve for a term  
14                of 4 or 5 years, as determined by lot. Their successors  
15                shall serve for terms of 5 years.

16                (a-10) If a municipality not wholly located within the  
17                Springfield Airport Authority attains 5,000 or more  
18                inhabitants who reside within both the corporate limits of  
19                the municipality and the corporate limits of the  
20                Springfield Airport Authority, then the inhabitants who  
21                reside within both the corporate limits of the  
22                municipality and the corporate limits of the Springfield  
23                Airport Authority may hold a referendum to be deannexed  
24                from the Springfield Airport Authority through referendum.  
25                The referendum may be initiated by either (i) a petition  
26                signed by a number of voter equal to of at least 8% of the

1       total votes cast or candidates for Governor in the last  
2       gubernatorial election by the registered voters who reside  
3       in the corporate limits of the municipality and the  
4       corporate limits of the Springfield Airport Authority or  
5       (ii) the corporate authorities of a municipality not  
6       wholly located within the corporate limits of the  
7       Springfield Airport Authority with 5,000 or more  
8       inhabitants who reside within both the corporate limits of  
9       the municipality and the corporate limits of the  
10       Springfield Airport Authority. If the majority of those  
11       voting on the referendum approve of deannexation, then the  
12       Springfield Airport Authority shall either deannex all the  
13       territory within the corporate limits of the municipality  
14       or accept the appointment of one additional commissioner  
15       to the board who shall be appointed by the municipality  
16       that voted for deannexation. The Springfield Airport  
17       Authority must vote to either deannex the affected  
18       property or accept the appointment of an additional  
19       commissioner within 45 days following certification of the  
20       vote.

21       (b) Where there are 2 or more such municipalities, one  
22       commissioner shall be appointed from each municipality  
23       with a population between 5,000 and 45,000, 2  
24       commissioners shall be appointed from each municipality  
25       with a population of more than 45,000, and 3 commissioners  
26       shall be appointed at large; except that when the physical

1 facilities of the airport of the Authority are located  
2 wholly within a single county with a population between  
3 600,000 and 3,000,000 there shall be one commissioner  
4 appointed from each municipality within the corporate  
5 limits of the Authority having 5,000 or more population  
6 and 5 commissioners appointed at large. If the Authority  
7 is located wholly within the corporate limits of such  
8 municipalities, 2 commissioners shall be appointed from  
9 the one of such municipalities having the largest  
10 population, and one commissioner shall be appointed from  
11 each of the other such municipalities, and 2 commissioners  
12 shall be appointed at large.

13 (c) Commissioners representing the area within an  
14 Authority located outside of any municipality having 5,000  
15 or more population and commissioners appointed at large  
16 when the authority is wholly contained within a single  
17 county shall be appointed by the presiding officer of the  
18 county board with the advice and consent of the county  
19 board, and when the physical facilities of the airport of  
20 the Authority are located wholly within a single county  
21 with a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000 the  
22 commissioners appointed at large shall be appointed by the  
23 chairman of the county board of such county, and any  
24 commissioner representing the area within any such  
25 municipality shall be appointed by its mayor or the  
26 presiding officer of its governing body. If however the

1 district is located in more than one county other than a  
2 county with a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000,  
3 the members of the General Assembly whose legislative  
4 districts encompass any portion of the Authority shall  
5 appoint the commissioners representing the area within an  
6 Authority located outside of any municipality having 5,000  
7 or more population and commissioners at large but any  
8 commissioner representing the area within any such  
9 municipality shall be appointed by its mayor or the  
10 presiding officer of its governing body.

11 (d) A commissioner representing the area within any  
12 such municipality shall reside within its corporate  
13 limits. A commissioner appointed at large may reside  
14 either within or without any such municipality but must  
15 reside within the territory of the authority. Should any  
16 commissioner cease to reside within that part of the  
17 territory he represents, or should the territory in which  
18 he resides cease to be a part of the authority, then his  
19 office shall be deemed vacated, and shall be filled by  
20 appointment for the remainder of the term as hereinafter  
21 provided.

22 (2) In case there are no municipalities having a  
23 population of 5,000 or more within such authority located  
24 wholly within a single county, such order shall so find, and in  
25 such case the Board shall consist of 5 commissioners who shall  
26 be appointed at large by the presiding officer of the county

1 board with the advice and consent of the county board. If  
2 however the district is located in more than one county, the  
3 members of the General Assembly whose legislative districts  
4 encompass any portion of the Authority shall appoint the  
5 commissioners at large.

6 (3) Should a municipality which is wholly within an  
7 authority attain, or should such a municipality be  
8 established, having a population of 5,000 or more after the  
9 entry of said order by the circuit court, the presiding  
10 officer of such municipality may petition the circuit court  
11 for an order finding and determining the population of such  
12 municipality and, if it is found and determined upon the  
13 hearing of said petition that the population of such  
14 municipality is 5,000 or more, the board of commissioners of  
15 such authority as previously established shall be increased by  
16 one commissioner who shall reside within the corporate limits  
17 of such municipality and shall be appointed by its presiding  
18 officer. The initial commissioner so appointed shall serve for  
19 a term of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 years, as may be determined by lot,  
20 and his successors shall be similarly appointed and shall  
21 serve for terms of 5 years. All provisions of this section  
22 applicable to commissioners representing municipal areas shall  
23 apply to any such commissioner. Each such commissioner shall  
24 reside within the authority and shall continue to reside  
25 therein.

26 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section,

1 the Board of Commissioners of a Metropolitan Airport Authority  
2 shall consist of 9 commissioners.

3 Seven commissioners shall be residents of the county with  
4 a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000 within which the  
5 Metropolitan Airport Authority was established. These  
6 commissioners shall be appointed by the county board chairman  
7 of the county with a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000  
8 within which the Metropolitan Airport Authority was  
9 established, with the advice and consent of the county board  
10 of that county.

11 Two commissioners shall be residents of the territory of  
12 the Authority located outside the county with a population  
13 between 600,000 and 3,000,000. These commissioners shall be  
14 appointed jointly by the mayors of the municipalities having a  
15 population over 5,000 that are located outside the county with  
16 a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000, with the advice  
17 and consent of the governing bodies of those municipalities.

18 The transition from the pre-existing composition of the  
19 Metropolitan Airport Authority Board of Commissioners to the  
20 composition specified in this amendatory Act of 1991 shall be  
21 accomplished as follows:

22 (A) The appointee who was required to be a resident of  
23 the area outside of the county with a population between  
24 600,000 and 3,000,000 may serve until his or her term  
25 expires. The replacement shall be one of the 2 appointees  
26 who shall be residents of the territory of the Authority



1 located outside the county with a population between  
2 600,000 and 3,000,000.

3 (B) The other 8 commissioners may serve until their  
4 terms expire. Upon the occurrence of the second vacancy  
5 among these 8 commissioners after the effective date of  
6 this amendatory Act of 1991, the replacement shall be the  
7 second of the 2 appointees who shall be residents of the  
8 territory of the Authority located outside of the county  
9 with a population between 600,000 and 3,000,000. Upon the  
10 expiration of the terms of the other 7 commissioners, the  
11 replacements shall be residents of the county with a  
12 population between 600,000 and 3,000,000.

13 (C) All commissioners appointed after the effective  
14 date of this amendatory Act of 1991, and their successors,  
15 shall be appointed in the manner set forth in this  
16 amendatory Act of 1991.

17 (Source: P.A. 94-466, eff. 1-1-06; 95-641, eff. 10-11-07.)

18 (70 ILCS 5/3.2) (from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3b)

19 Sec. 3.2. Manner of exercising appointments. All  
20 appointments of Commissioners to Boards of Commissioners of  
21 Airport Authorities shall be in writing and shall indicate the  
22 legal residence of the person appointed and whether or not he  
23 resides within or without a municipality having a population  
24 of 5,000 or more inhabitants within the corporate limits of  
25 the authority.

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1 (Source: P.A. 77-685.)

1 INDEX

2 Statutes amended in order of appearance

3 70 ILCS 5/3 from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3

4 70 ILCS 5/3.1 from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3a

5 70 ILCS 5/3.2 from Ch. 15 1/2, par. 68.3b