

**104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY****State of Illinois****2025 and 2026****HB4443**

Introduced 1/20/2026, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

30 ILCS 105/5.1038 new  
30 ILCS 105/6z-112  
410 ILCS 705/7-17 new

Amends the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. Creates the Illinois Future Fund as a special fund in the State treasury. Requires the Department of Human Services to establish the Direct Cash Assistance Program, which will provide qualifying individuals with a monthly cash payment of \$500. Allows the Department of Human Services to adopt rules. Defines terms. Makes conforming changes in the State Finance Act regarding the Illinois Future Fund and further amends the Act in provisions regarding the Cannabis Regulation Fund. Provides that the 25% of the monthly amount transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund shall be changed, beginning July 1, 2027, according to the following schedule: (i) for the 2028 fiscal year, the excess between the amount transferred during the 2027 calendar year and the amount transferred in the 2026 calendar year shall be transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the Illinois Future Fund, and the remainder of the 25% of the monthly amount transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund; (ii) for the 2029 fiscal year, only 20% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund and 5% shall be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund; (iii) for the 2030 fiscal year, only 15% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund and 10% shall be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund; (iv) for the 2031 fiscal year, only 10% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund and 15% shall be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund; (v) for the 2032 fiscal year, only 5% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund and 20% shall be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund; and (vi) for the 2033 fiscal year and all subsequent fiscal years, 25% shall be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund.

LRB104 16268 BDA 29652 b

1 AN ACT concerning health.

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

4 Section 5. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
5 Section 5.1038 and by changing Section 6z-112 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 105/5.1038 new)

7 Sec. 5.1038. The Illinois Future Fund.

8 (30 ILCS 105/6z-112)

9 Sec. 6z-112. The Cannabis Regulation Fund.

10 (a) There is created the Cannabis Regulation Fund in the  
11 State treasury, subject to appropriations unless otherwise  
12 provided in this Section. All moneys collected under the  
13 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act shall be deposited into the  
14 Cannabis Regulation Fund, consisting of taxes, license fees,  
15 other fees, and any other amounts required to be deposited or  
16 transferred into the Fund.

17 (b) Whenever the Department of Revenue determines that a  
18 refund should be made under the Cannabis Regulation and Tax  
19 Act to a claimant, the Department of Revenue shall submit a  
20 voucher for payment to the State Comptroller, who shall cause  
21 the order to be drawn for the amount specified and to the  
22 person named in the notification from the Department of

1 Revenue. This subsection (b) shall constitute an irrevocable  
2 and continuing appropriation of all amounts necessary for the  
3 payment of refunds out of the Fund as authorized under this  
4 subsection (b).

5 (c) On or before the 25th day of each calendar month, the  
6 Department of Revenue shall prepare and certify to the State  
7 Comptroller the transfer and allocations of stated sums of  
8 money from the Cannabis Regulation Fund to other named funds  
9 in the State treasury. The amount subject to transfer shall be  
10 the amount of the taxes, license fees, other fees, and any  
11 other amounts paid into the Fund during the second preceding  
12 calendar month, minus the refunds made under subsection (b)  
13 during the second preceding calendar month by the Department.  
14 The transfers shall be certified as follows:

15 (1) The Department of Revenue shall first determine  
16 the allocations which shall remain in the Cannabis  
17 Regulation Fund, subject to appropriations, to pay for the  
18 direct and indirect costs associated with the  
19 implementation, administration, and enforcement of the  
20 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act by the Department of  
21 Revenue, the Department of State Police, the Department of  
22 Financial and Professional Regulation, the Department of  
23 Agriculture, the Department of Public Health, the  
24 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and the  
25 Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

26 (2) After the allocations have been made as provided

1 in paragraph (1) of this subsection (c), of the remainder  
2 of the amount subject to transfer for the month as  
3 determined in this subsection (c), the Department shall  
4 certify the transfer into the Cannabis Expungement Fund  
5 1/12 of the fiscal year amount appropriated from the  
6 Cannabis Expungement Fund for payment of costs incurred by  
7 State courts, the Attorney General, State's Attorneys,  
8 civil legal aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public  
9 Interest Attorney Assistance Act, and the Department of  
10 State Police to facilitate petitions for expungement of  
11 Minor Cannabis Offenses pursuant to Public Act 101-27, as  
12 adjusted by any supplemental appropriation, plus  
13 cumulative deficiencies in such transfers for prior  
14 months.

15 (3) After the allocations have been made as provided  
16 in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection (c), the  
17 Department of Revenue shall certify to the State  
18 Comptroller and the State Treasurer shall transfer the  
19 amounts that the Department of Revenue determines shall be  
20 transferred into the following named funds according to  
21 the following:

22 (A) 2% shall be transferred to the Drug Treatment  
23 Fund to be used by the Department of Human Services  
24 for: (i) developing and administering a scientifically  
25 and medically accurate public education campaign  
26 educating youth and adults about the health and safety

1 risks of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drug use (including  
2 prescription drugs), and cannabis, including use by  
3 pregnant women; and (ii) data collection and analysis  
4 of the public health impacts of legalizing the  
5 recreational use of cannabis. Expenditures for these  
6 purposes shall be subject to appropriations.

7 (B) 8% shall be transferred to the Local  
8 Government Distributive Fund and allocated as provided  
9 in Section 2 of the State Revenue Sharing Act. The  
10 moneys shall be used to fund crime prevention  
11 programs, training, and interdiction efforts,  
12 including detection, enforcement, and prevention  
13 efforts, relating to the illegal cannabis market and  
14 driving under the influence of cannabis.

15 (C) 25% shall be transferred to either the  
16 Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund or the  
17 Illinois Future Fund according to the following  
18 schedule:

19 (i) Until the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
20 2027, 25% shall be transferred to the Criminal  
21 Justice Information Projects Fund to be used for  
22 the purposes of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew  
23 Program to address economic development, violence  
24 prevention services, re-entry services, youth  
25 development, and civil legal aid, as defined by  
26 Section 15 of the Public Interest Attorney

1 Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and Renew  
2 Program shall address these issues through  
3 targeted investments and intervention programs and  
4 promotion of an employment infrastructure and  
5 capacity building related to the social  
6 determinants of health in impacted community  
7 areas. ~~Expenditures for these purposes shall be~~  
8 ~~subject to appropriations.~~

9 (ii) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2027,  
10 the Department of Revenue shall first calculate the  
11 total amount transferred under subdivision (i) of this  
12 subparagraph (C) during the calendar year 2026. If the  
13 amount of revenue transferred during the 2027 calendar  
14 year exceeds the total amount transferred in the 2026  
15 calendar year, the amount of that excess shall be  
16 transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the  
17 Illinois Future Fund for the purposes described in  
18 Section 7-17 of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act.  
19 The remainder of the 25% under this subparagraph (C)  
20 shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice  
21 Information Projects Fund to be used for the purposes  
22 of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program to address  
23 economic development, violence prevention services,  
24 re-entry services, youth development, and civil legal  
25 aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public Interest  
26 Attorney Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and

1       Renew Program shall address these issues through  
2       targeted investments and intervention programs and  
3       promotion of an employment infrastructure and capacity  
4       building related to the social determinants of health  
5       in impacted community areas.

6               (iii) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2028,  
7       20% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice  
8       Information Projects Fund to be used for the purposes  
9       of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program to address  
10       economic development, violence prevention services,  
11       re-entry services, youth development, and civil legal  
12       aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public Interest  
13       Attorney Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and  
14       Renew Program shall address these issues through  
15       targeted investments and intervention programs and  
16       promotion of an employment infrastructure and capacity  
17       building related to the social determinants of health  
18       in impacted community areas. Additionally, 5% shall be  
19       transferred to the Illinois Future Fund for the  
20       purposes described in Section 7-17 of the Cannabis  
21       Regulation and Tax Act.

22               (iv) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2029,  
23       15% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice  
24       Information Projects Fund to be used for the purposes  
25       of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program to address  
26       economic development, violence prevention services,

1 re-entry services, youth development, and civil legal  
2 aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public Interest  
3 Attorney Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and  
4 Renew Program shall address these issues through  
5 targeted investments and intervention programs and  
6 promotion of an employment infrastructure and capacity  
7 building related to the social determinants of health  
8 in impacted community areas. Additionally, 10% shall  
9 be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund for the  
10 purposes described in Section 7-17 of the Cannabis  
11 Regulation and Tax Act.

12 (v) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2030,  
13 10% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice  
14 Information Projects Fund to be used for the purposes  
15 of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program to address  
16 economic development, violence prevention services,  
17 re-entry services, youth development, and civil legal  
18 aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public Interest  
19 Attorney Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and  
20 Renew Program shall address these issues through  
21 targeted investments and intervention programs and  
22 promotion of an employment infrastructure and capacity  
23 building related to the social determinants of health  
24 in impacted community areas. Additionally, 15% shall  
25 be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund for the  
26 purposes described in Section 7-17 of the Cannabis



1       Regulation and Tax Act.

2           (vi) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2031,  
3       5% shall be transferred to the Criminal Justice  
4       Information Projects Fund to be used for the purposes  
5       of the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program to address  
6       economic development, violence prevention services,  
7       re-entry services, youth development, and civil legal  
8       aid, as defined by Section 15 of the Public Interest  
9       Attorney Assistance Act. The Restore, Reinvest, and  
10       Renew Program shall address these issues through  
11       targeted investments and intervention programs and  
12       promotion of an employment infrastructure and capacity  
13       building related to the social determinants of health  
14       in impacted community areas. Additionally, 20% shall  
15       be transferred to the Illinois Future Fund for the  
16       purposes described in Section 7-17 of the Cannabis  
17       Regulation and Tax Act.

18           (vii) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2032,  
19       and for all subsequent fiscal years, 25% shall be  
20       transferred to the Illinois Future Fund for the  
21       purposes described in Section 7-17 of the Cannabis  
22       Regulation and Tax Act.

23           (D) 20% shall be transferred to the Department of  
24       Human Services Community Services Fund, to be used to  
25       address substance abuse and prevention and mental  
26       health concerns, including treatment, education, and

1 prevention to address the negative impacts of  
2 substance abuse and mental health issues, including  
3 concentrated poverty, violence, and the historical  
4 overuse of criminal justice responses in certain  
5 communities, on the individual, family, and community,  
6 including federal, State, and local governments,  
7 health care institutions and providers, and  
8 correctional facilities. Expenditures for these  
9 purposes shall be subject to appropriations.

10 (E) 10% shall be transferred to the Budget  
11 Stabilization Fund.

12 (F) 35%, or any remaining balance, shall be  
13 transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

14 As soon as may be practical, but no later than 10 days  
15 after receipt, by the State Comptroller of the transfer  
16 certification provided for in this subsection (c) to be given  
17 to the State Comptroller by the Department of Revenue, the  
18 State Comptroller shall direct and the State Treasurer shall  
19 transfer the respective amounts in accordance with the  
20 directions contained in such certification.

21 (d) On July 1, 2019 the Department of Revenue shall  
22 certify to the State Comptroller and the State Treasurer shall  
23 transfer \$5,000,000 from the Compassionate Use of Medical  
24 Cannabis Fund to the Cannabis Regulation Fund.

25 (e) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary and  
26 except as otherwise provided in this Section, this Fund is not

1 subject to sweeps, administrative charge-backs, or any other  
2 fiscal or budgetary maneuver that would in any way transfer  
3 any amounts from this Fund into any other fund of the State.

4 (f) The Cannabis Regulation Fund shall retain a balance of  
5 \$1,000,000 for the purposes of administrative costs.

6 (g) In Fiscal Year 2024 the allocations in subsection (c)  
7 of this Section shall be reviewed and adjusted if the General  
8 Assembly finds there is a greater need for funding for a  
9 specific purpose in the State as it relates to Public Act  
10 101-27.

11 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)

12 Section 10. The Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act is amended  
13 by adding Section 7-17 as follows:

14 (410 ILCS 705/7-17 new)

15 Sec. 7-17. Illinois Future Fund and Direct Cash Assistance  
16 Program.

17 (a) Definitions. As used in this Section:

18 "Disproportionately impacted area" has the meaning  
19 ascribed to it in Section 1-10 of this Act.

20 "Illinois Future Fund" means the special fund created  
21 under subsection (b) of this Section.

22 "Qualifying individual" means an individual (1) who  
23 resides within a disproportionately impacted area, as defined  
24 in Section 1-10 of this Act, and (2) who is currently eligible

1 to receive benefits under SNAP or who was determined eligible  
2 for such benefits at any point during the 2025 calendar year.

3 "SNAP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
4 Program.

5 (b) There is created in the State treasury a special fund  
6 to be known as the Illinois Future Fund. All moneys deposited  
7 into this Fund shall be exclusively used by the Department of  
8 Human Services for the purpose of the Direct Cash Assistance  
9 Program established under subsection (c) of this Section,  
10 including necessary administrative costs that shall not exceed  
11 3% of the total funds allocated in any fiscal year.

12 (c) The Department of Human Services shall establish and  
13 administer the Direct Cash Assistance Program to provide  
14 unconditional cash payments to qualifying individuals in  
15 disproportionately impacted areas.

16 (1) The purpose of this Direct Cash Assistance Program  
17 is to further the original legislative intent of the  
18 Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program by directly providing  
19 reparations and economic stability to the communities and  
20 residents most impacted by historical economic  
21 disinvestment and the criminalization of cannabis.

22 (2) Subject to available funds, each qualifying  
23 individual shall receive a monthly cash payment of \$500.

24 (3) The Department of Human Services shall use  
25 existing data from SNAP and shall establish a simple,  
26 accessible process for individuals to verify their current

1       or 2025 eligibility for SNAP benefits to qualify for the  
2       Direct Cash Assistance Program.

3           (4) If the total funds available in the Illinois  
4       Future Fund are insufficient to provide the monthly cash  
5       payments to all qualifying individuals, the Department  
6       shall implement a fair, random lottery system to select  
7       the recipients of the monthly payments. The Department  
8       shall prioritize continuous payments to existing  
9       recipients before conducting lotteries for new slots.

10       (d) The Department of Human Services may adopt rules in  
11       conformity with this Section.