



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4601

Introduced 2/3/2026, by Rep. Nabeela Syed

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 2905/2

from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 2

70 ILCS 705/29 new

Amends the Fire Protection District Act. Provides that a fire protection district organized under the Act may appeal to the State Fire Marshal if a county denies a request for multiple access points to a new fire station. Provides that the fire protection district shall provide the State Fire Marshal with evidence of why multiple access point are required. Provides that the county may offer evidence to the State Fire Marshal that shows the specific reasons for denying a request for multiple access points. Provides that, unless the State Fire Marshal approves of the fire protection district's appeal, the county retains full authority over access points. Provides that neither the county or the fire protection district may appeal the State Fire Marshal's decision. Amends the State Fire Marshal Act. Requires the State Fire Marshal to issue a binding decision on a fire protection district's appeal under the Fire Protection District Act within 90 days of receiving the appeal, unless the Fire Marshal requests additional information.

LRB104 16332 RTM 29719 b

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 State Fire Marshal Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 2 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2905/2) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 2)

7 Sec. 2. The Office shall have the following powers and  
8 duties:

9 1. To exercise the rights, powers and duties which  
10 have been vested by law in the Illinois State Police as the  
11 successor of the Department of Public Safety, State Fire  
12 Marshal, inspectors, officers and employees of the State  
13 Fire Marshal, including arson investigation. Arson  
14 investigations conducted by the State Fire Marshal's  
15 Office shall be conducted by State Fire Marshal Arson  
16 Investigator Special Agents, who shall be peace officers  
17 as provided in the Peace Officer Fire Investigation Act.

18 2. To keep a record, as may be required by law, of all  
19 fires occurring in the State, together with all facts,  
20 statistics and circumstances, including the origin of  
21 fires.

22 3. To exercise the rights, powers and duties which  
23 have been vested in the Illinois State Police by the

1 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act.

2 4. To administer the Illinois Fire Protection Training  
3 Act.

4 5. To aid in the establishment and maintenance of the  
5 training facilities and programs of the Illinois Fire  
6 Service Institute.

7 6. To disburse Federal grants for fire protection  
8 purposes to units of local government.

9 7. To pay to or in behalf of the City of Chicago for  
10 the maintenance, expenses, facilities and structures  
11 directly incident to the Chicago Fire Department training  
12 program. Such payments may be made either as  
13 reimbursements for expenditures previously made by the  
14 City, or as payments at the time the City has incurred an  
15 obligation which is then due and payable for such  
16 expenditures. Payments for the Chicago Fire Department  
17 training program shall be made only for those expenditures  
18 which are not claimable by the City under "An Act relating  
19 to fire protection training", certified November 9, 1971,  
20 as amended.

21 8. To administer grants to areas not located in a fire  
22 protection district or in a municipality which provides  
23 fire protection services, to defray the organizational  
24 expenses of forming a fire protection district.

25 9. In cooperation with the Illinois Environmental  
26 Protection Agency, to administer the Illinois Leaking

1           Underground Storage Tank program in accordance with  
2           Section 4 of this Act and Section 22.12 of the  
3           Environmental Protection Act.

4           10. To expend state and federal funds as appropriated  
5           by the General Assembly.

6           11. To provide technical assistance, to areas not  
7           located in a fire protection district or in a municipality  
8           which provides fire protection service, to form a fire  
9           protection district, to join an existing district, or to  
10          establish a municipal fire department, whichever is  
11          applicable.

12          12. To exercise such other powers and duties as may be  
13          vested in the Office by law.

14          13. To issue a binding decision on a fire protection  
15          district's appeal under Section 29 of the Fire Protection  
16          District Act that balances emergency response needs with  
17          the reasoning of the county within 90 days of receiving  
18          the appeal, unless the Fire Marshal requests additional  
19          information. If the Fire Marshal requests additional  
20          information, then the Fire Marshal shall issue the  
21          decision within 90 days of receiving the requested  
22          information. The Fire Marshal shall conduct a site visit  
23          before issuing a final decision.

24          (Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)

25          Section 10. The Fire Protection District Act is amended by

1 adding Section 29 as follows:

2 (70 ILCS 705/29 new)

3 Sec. 29. Right to appeal.

4 (a) As used in this Section, "access point" means a street  
5 or driveway that provides a vehicle with entry or exit from a  
6 fire station to an abutting street or highway.

7 (b) A fire protection district organized under this Act  
8 may appeal to the State Fire Marshal if a county denies a  
9 request for multiple access points to a new fire station. The  
10 fire protection district shall provide the State Fire Marshal  
11 with evidence of why multiple access point are required,  
12 including:

13 (1) the equipment housed, maintained, and expected for  
14 use in the new facility, including the number of apparatus  
15 bays and emergency vehicles;

16 (2) why multiple access points are operationally  
17 necessary for simultaneous deployment or emergency egress;  
18 and

19 (3) the proposed location and function of each access  
20 point, including whether an access point is intended for  
21 only for emergency use or routine access points.

22 (c) The county may offer evidence to the State Fire  
23 Marshal that shows the specific reasons for denying a request  
24 for multiple access points, including:

25 (1) how a single access point is sufficient for fire

1 operations;

2 (2) how a single access point could be modified to  
3 accommodate fire operations;

4 (3) the safety concerns or traffic impacts of  
5 justifying denial of multiple access points; and

6 (4) any alternative solutions to creating multiple  
7 access points.

8 (d) Unless the State Fire Marshal approves of the fire  
9 protection district's appeal, the county retains full  
10 authority over access points, including the access point's  
11 location, width, design specifications, required improvements,  
12 and safety conditions. However, the county may not contradict  
13 the decision of the State Fire Marshal.

14 (e) Neither the county or the fire protection district may  
15 appeal the State Fire Marshal's decision.