



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4963

by Rep. Kelly M. Cassidy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

705 ILCS 95/50 new

Amends the Access to Justice Act. Creates the Remote Filing Task Force of 17 members. Creates an appointment process. Provides that the Task Force shall research and evaluate the existing ability of litigants to file court documents remotely across Illinois, including (1) identifying barriers for pro se litigants, people with a primary language other than English, people in crisis, people with disabilities, and people with low-literacy; (2) research and evaluate approaches to address any barriers identified by the Task Force to increase access and usability to remote filing for all Illinoisans; and (3) make recommendations to reduce barriers for litigants to remotely file court documents and improve access and usability of remote filing statewide. Requires that the Task Force submit a report containing its findings and any recommendations to the Supreme Court and the General Assembly by October 1, 2027. Provides that the Task Force is dissolved on October 2, 2027. Effective immediately.

LRB104 18276 JRC 31716 b

1 AN ACT concerning courts.

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

4 Section 5. The Access to Justice Act is amended by adding
5 Section 50 as follows:

6 (705 ILCS 95/50 new)

7 Sec. 50. Remote Court Filing Task Force.

8 (a) The purpose of the Remote Court Filing Task Force is to
9 help ensure electronic or other remote means of filing court
10 documents are user-friendly and accessible to all Illinoisans,
11 including individuals who appear pro se. The Task Force shall
12 pay special attention to the need for remote means of filing in
13 times of emergency.

14 (b) The Task Force shall:

15 (1) research and evaluate the existing ability of
16 litigants to file court documents remotely across
17 Illinois, including identifying barriers for pro se
18 litigants, people with a primary language other than
19 English, people in crisis, people with disabilities, and
20 people with low-literacy;

21 (2) research and evaluate approaches to address any
22 barriers identified by the Task Force to increase access
23 and usability for remote filing for all Illinoisans; and

1 (3) make recommendations to reduce barriers for
2 litigants to remotely file court documents and improve
3 access and usability of remote filing statewide.

4 (c) The Remote Filing Task Force is created. The Task
5 Force shall be composed of 17 members appointed as follows:

6 (1) one member of the Illinois Senate, appointed by
7 the President of the Senate;

8 (2) one member of the Illinois Senate, appointed by
9 the Senate Minority Leader;

10 (3) one member of the Illinois House of
11 Representatives, appointed by the Speaker;

12 (4) one member of the Illinois House of
13 Representatives, appointed by the House Minority Leader;

14 (5) a representative from the Office of the Governor,
15 appointed by the Governor;

16 (6) a representative of the Supreme Court appointed by
17 the Supreme Court;

18 (7) 10 members appointed by the Supreme Court,
19 including:

20 (A) a representative of an association that
21 represents attorneys statewide;

22 (B) a representative of an association that
23 represents attorneys of a county with a population of
24 more than 5,000,000 people;

25 (C) a representative of a legal aid organization
26 servng people experiencing poverty serving a

1 community of over 5,000,000 people;

2 (D) a representative of a legal aid organization
3 serving people experiencing poverty with a service
4 area of multiple counties;

5 (E) 2 representatives of a statewide association
6 representing court clerks;

7 (F) a current or retired State court judge;

8 (G) a representative of a domestic violence
9 partner organization of direct service providers that
10 administers the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline;

11 (H) a representative of an organization that
12 advocates on behalf of people with disabilities; and

13 (I) a representative of an organization that
14 advocates on behalf of immigrant families.

15 (d) Members must be adult residents of Illinois and serve
16 without compensation.

17 (e) Appointments shall be made 30 days from the effective
18 date of this Act.

19 (f) The Task Force shall elect co-chairs from its
20 membership who have the authority to determine meeting
21 schedules, hearing schedules, and agendas.

22 (g) The circuit court clerks shall provide any relevant
23 data requested to the Task Force related to its duties.

24 (h) The Task Force shall submit a report containing its
25 findings and any recommendations to the Supreme Court and the
26 General Assembly by October 1, 2027.

1 (i) At the direction of the Supreme Court, the
2 Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts shall provide
3 administrative support to the Task Force including providing
4 requested data. The Administrative Office of the Illinois
5 Courts may collaborate with any member of the Task Force or the
6 organization that the member represents to help provide any
7 necessary staff support.

8 (j) Dissolution of Task Force. The Task Force is dissolved
9 on October 2, 2027.

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
11 becoming law.