



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5195

Introduced 2/10/2026, by Rep. Lawrence "Larry" Walsh, Jr.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 605/605-1119 new

Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Creates the Illinois Future of Energy Choice and Economic Impact Commission. Sets forth the membership of the Commission. Provides that the Commission has certain duties with respect to energy policy. Effective immediately.

LRB104 18785 HLH 32228 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 adding Section 605-1119 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-1119 new)

8 Sec. 605-1119. Illinois Future of Energy Choice and
9 Economic Impact Commission.

10 (a) The General Assembly is increasingly concerned with
11 energy affordability, accessibility, resilience, and choice.
12 In 2021, the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) set forth
13 guidelines to advance clean energy policy and established
14 clean energy goals in both the short term and the long term.
15 Since the passage of that law, there have been several
16 developments in the energy space that require a continued
17 analysis and evaluation of emerging challenges, changing
18 technologies, and solutions that address issues of
19 reliability, cost, and energy choice. Some of these
20 developments include (i) rapidly growing energy demand, (ii)
21 demand for new investments in existing infrastructure, (iii)
22 uncertainty in energy reliability, (iv) increased costs on
23 both residential customers and commercial and industrial

1 users, (v) other State actions to expand energy sources,
2 including nuclear development, (vi) new innovative energy
3 solutions and technologies, (vii) the existing energy industry
4 workforce and future workforce needs, (viii) economic impact
5 of energy policies on a local, regional, and statewide basis,
6 and (ix) other critical considerations. To meet these demands
7 and to address continued challenges and solutions, it is
8 necessary to establish a commission of industry stakeholders
9 and regulators to have regular engagements to navigate growing
10 challenges, inform best practices, and advise policymakers on
11 industry-informed and customer-focused solutions that embrace
12 a comprehensive solution to energy policy that supports the
13 State's diverse energy industry, understands the needs of
14 employers, energy industry stakeholders, and customers, and
15 offers necessary, reasonable policy recommendations.

16 (b) The Illinois Future of Energy Choice and Economic
17 Impact Commission is hereby created.

18 (c) The Commission shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
20 President of the Senate;

21 (2) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
22 Minority Leader of the Senate;

23 (3) one member of the House of Representatives,
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

25 (4) one member of the House of Representatives,
26 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of

1 Representatives;

2 (5) the Director of the Illinois Power Agency or his
3 or her designee;

4 (6) the Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission
5 or his or her designee;

6 (7) the Director of the Illinois Environmental
7 Protection Agency or his or her designee;

8 (8) the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
9 or his or her designee; the person serving under this item
10 (8) shall serve as the Chair of the Commission;

11 (9) 2 members representing natural gas utilities,
12 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic
13 Opportunity;

14 (10) 2 members representing electric utilities,
15 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic
16 Opportunity;

17 (11) one member representing a statewide organization
18 representing regulated municipalities and cooperatives,
19 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic
20 Opportunity;

21 (12) 2 members representing a statewide business
22 organization, appointed by the Director of Commerce and
23 Economic Opportunity;

24 (13) 2 members representing a statewide labor
25 organization, appointed by the Director of Commerce and
26 Economic Opportunity;

1 (14) one member representing the nuclear power
2 industry in Illinois, appointed by the Director of
3 Commerce and Economic Opportunity;

4 (15) one member representing a trade association that
5 represents wind and solar electric generators, renewable
6 transmission companies, and storage companies, appointed
7 by the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity; and

8 (16) up to 2 additional members with expertise in
9 energy policy, appointed by the Director of Commerce and
10 Economic Opportunity, from the private sector or an
11 institution of higher education in Illinois.

12 (d) The members of the Commission shall serve without
13 compensation.

14 (e) The Commission shall meet at least quarterly to
15 fulfill its duties under this Act.

16 (f) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
17 shall provide administrative support to the Commission.

18 (g) The Commission shall have the following duties:

19 (1) to analyze the feasibility of the State continuing
20 to be a net exporter of energy, including identifying any
21 limitations or possible burdens that may impact energy
22 generation or delivery in Illinois and, if there are
23 policies, either regulatory or statutory, in place that
24 impact the State's ability to continue being a net
25 exporter of energy, to identify solutions to prevent those
26 policies from having further negative impact on the State;

1 (2) to analyze the impact of current energy policies
2 on the State's economy, including identifying any negative
3 impacts on workers in Illinois who are employed by
4 utilities or energy sector industries that are reliant
5 upon diverse energy sources, including natural gas,
6 electricity, nuclear, and other sectors;

7 (3) to consider the viability of existing energy
8 policies, adopted either through rule or legislation, that
9 may be negatively impacting the State's ability to meet
10 energy demands, support affordable energy prices, or
11 support direct or indirect energy jobs; the Commission
12 shall make recommendations to the Governor and the General
13 Assembly for reasonable delays or elimination of certain
14 established energy policy timelines, retirements, or
15 disruptions;

16 (4) to generate recommendations or studies that may
17 help inform future energy policy decisions based on
18 actual, pessimistic, and optimistic forecasts concerning
19 impacts on Illinois energy affordability, energy choices,
20 workforce, economic development, resource adequacy, energy
21 efficiency, and energy demands;

22 (5) to study all sources related to or impacting
23 energy costs in Illinois, looking to industry data and
24 other sources that may provide insights into possible
25 regulations, policies, or federal, State, or local
26 pressures on the industry or customers;

1 (6) to allow for public comments to be submitted on
2 behalf of individuals, organizations, or other
3 stakeholders that may help inform the work of the
4 Commission; and

5 (7) to identify opportunities and barriers to ensure
6 that State agencies are endorsing an inclusive approach to
7 energy policy that reasonably supports existing energy
8 sources and infrastructure and explores new technologies.

9 (h) The Commission shall report to the Governor and the
10 General Assembly by December 1 of each year on its activities,
11 findings, and recommendations.

12 (i) This Section is repealed on December 31, 2030.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.