

SB0240



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB0240

Introduced 1/22/2025, by Sen. Michael W. Halpin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 31/20

Amends the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Act. Provides that, in calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026 and ending on or before December 31, 2028, the State Historic Preservation Office within the Department of Natural Resources may allocate \$75,000,000 (currently, \$25,000,000) in credits under the Act. Effective immediately.

LRB104 06900 HLH 16936 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

4 Section 5. The Historic Preservation Tax Credit Act is
5 amended by changing Section 20 as follows:

6 (35 ILCS 31/20)

7 Sec. 20. Limitations, reporting, and monitoring.

8 (a) In each calendar year beginning on or after January 1,
9 2019 and ending on or before December 31, 2023, the Division is
10 authorized to allocate \$15,000,000 in tax credits in addition
11 to any unallocated, returned, or rescinded allocations from
12 previous years, pursuant to qualified rehabilitation plans. In
13 each calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 2024 and
14 ending on or before December 31, 2025, the Division is
15 authorized to allocate \$25,000,000 in tax credits in addition
16 to any unallocated, returned, or rescinded allocations from
17 previous years, pursuant to qualified rehabilitation plans. In
18 each calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 2026
19 ~~January 1, 2024~~ and ending on or before December 31, 2028, the
20 Division is authorized to allocate \$75,000,000 ~~\$25,000,000~~ in
21 tax credits in addition to any unallocated, returned, or
22 rescinded allocations from previous years, pursuant to
23 qualified rehabilitation plans. The Division shall not

1 allocate or award more than \$3,000,000 in tax credits with
2 regard to a single qualified rehabilitation plan. In
3 allocating tax credits under this Act, the Division must
4 prioritize applications that meet one or more of the
5 following:

6 (1) the structure is located in a county that borders
7 a State with a historic income-producing property
8 rehabilitation credit;

9 (2) the structure was previously owned by a federal,
10 state, or local governmental entity for no less than 6
11 months;

12 (3) the structure is located in a census tract that
13 has a median family income at or below the State median
14 family income; data from the most recent 5-year estimate
15 from the American Community Survey (ACS), published by the
16 U.S. Census Bureau, shall be used to determine
17 eligibility;

18 (4) the qualified rehabilitation plan includes in the
19 development partnership a Community Development Entity or
20 a low-profit (B Corporation) or not-for-profit
21 organization, as defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the
22 Internal Revenue Code; or

23 (5) the structure is located in an area declared under
24 an Emergency Declaration or Major Disaster Declaration
25 under the federal Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
26 Emergency Assistance Act. The declaration must be no older

1 than 3 years at the time of application.

2 (b) The annual aggregate authorization ~~of \$15,000,000~~ set
3 forth in subsection (a) shall be allocated by the Division, in
4 such proportion as determined by the Director twice in each
5 calendar year that the program is in effect, provided that the
6 amount initially allocated by the Division for the first
7 calendar year application period shall not exceed 65% of the
8 total amount available for allocation. Any unallocated amount
9 remaining as of the end of the second application period of a
10 given calendar year shall be rolled over and added to the total
11 authorized amount for the next available calendar year. The
12 qualified rehabilitation plan must meet a readiness test, as
13 defined by the Division, in order for the application to
14 qualify. In any given application period, applications that
15 qualify under this Act will be prioritized as set forth in
16 subsection (a) and placed in a queue based on the date and time
17 the application is received. Applicants whose applications
18 qualify but do not receive an allocation must reapply to be
19 considered in subsequent application periods.

20 (c) Subject to appropriation to the Division, moneys in
21 the Historic Property Administrative Fund shall be used, on a
22 biennial basis, beginning at the end of the second fiscal year
23 after the effective date of this Act, to hire a qualified third
24 party to prepare a biennial report to assess the overall
25 impact of this Act from the qualified rehabilitation plans
26 under this Act completed in that year and in previous years.

1 Baseline data of the metrics in the report shall be collected
2 at the initiation of a qualified rehabilitation plan. The
3 overall economic impact shall include at least:

4 (1) the number of applications, project locations, and
5 proposed use of qualified historic structures;

6 (2) the amount of credits awarded and the number and
7 location of projects receiving credit allocations;

8 (3) the status of ongoing projects and projected
9 qualifying expenditures for ongoing projects;

10 (4) for completed projects, the total amount of
11 qualifying rehabilitation expenditures and non-qualifying
12 expenditures, the number of housing units created and the
13 number of housing units that qualify as affordable, and
14 the total square footage rehabilitated and developed;

15 (5) direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts;

16 (6) temporary, permanent, and construction jobs
17 created; and

18 (7) sales, income, and property tax generation before
19 construction, during construction, and after completion.

20 The report to the General Assembly shall be filed with the
21 Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the
22 Senate in electronic form only, in the manner that the Clerk
23 and the Secretary shall direct.

24 (d) Any time prior to issuance of a tax credit
25 certificate, the Director of the Division, the State Historic
26 Preservation Officer, or staff of the Division may, upon

1 reasonable notice of not less than 3 business days, conduct a
2 site visit to the project to inspect and evaluate the project.

3 (e) Any time prior to the issuance of a tax credit
4 certificate, the Director may, upon reasonable notice of not
5 less than 30 calendar days, request a status report from the
6 Applicant consisting of information and updates relevant to
7 the status of the project. Status reports shall not be
8 requested more than twice yearly.

9 (f) In order to demonstrate sufficient evidence of
10 reviewable progress within 12 months after the date the
11 Applicant received notification of allocation from the
12 Division, the Director may require the Applicant to provide
13 all of the following:

14 (1) a viable financial plan which demonstrates by way
15 of an executed agreement that all financing has been
16 secured for the project; such financing shall include, but
17 not be limited to, equity investment as demonstrated by
18 letters of commitment from the owner of the property,
19 investment partners, and equity investors;

20 (2) (blank); and

21 (3) all historic approvals, including all federal and
22 State rehabilitation documents required by the Division.

23 The Director shall review the submitted evidence and may
24 request additional documentation from the Applicant if
25 necessary. The Applicant will have 30 calendar days to provide
26 the information requested, otherwise the allocation may be

1 rescinded at the discretion of the Director.

2 (g) In order to demonstrate sufficient evidence of
3 reviewable progress within 24 months after the date the
4 application received notification of approval from the
5 Division, the Director may require the Applicant to provide
6 detailed evidence that the Applicant has secured and closed on
7 financing for the complete scope of rehabilitation for the
8 project. To demonstrate evidence that the Applicant has
9 secured and closed on financing, the Applicant will need to
10 provide signed and processed loan agreements, bank financing
11 documents or other legal and contractual evidence to
12 demonstrate that adequate financing is available to complete
13 the project. The Director shall review the submitted evidence
14 and may request additional documentation from the Applicant if
15 necessary. The Applicant will have 30 calendar days to provide
16 the information requested, otherwise the allocation may be
17 rescinded at the discretion of the Director.

18 If the Applicant fails to document reviewable progress
19 within 24 months of approval, the Director may notify the
20 Applicant that the allocation is rescinded. However, should
21 financing and construction be imminent, the Director may elect
22 to grant the Applicant no more than 5 months to close on
23 financing and commence construction. If the Applicant fails to
24 meet these conditions in the required timeframe, the Director
25 shall notify the Applicant that the allocation is rescinded.
26 Any such rescinded allocation shall be added to the aggregate

1 amount of credits available for allocation for the year in
2 which the forfeiture occurred.

3 The amount of the qualified expenditures identified in the
4 qualified taxpayer's certification of completion and reflected
5 on the Historic Preservation Tax Credit certificate issued by
6 the Director is subject to inspection, examination, and audit
7 by the Department of Revenue.

8 The qualified taxpayer shall establish and maintain for a
9 period of 4 years following the effective date on a project tax
10 credit certificate such records as required by the Director.
11 Such records include, but are not limited to, records
12 documenting project expenditures and compliance with the U.S.
13 Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The qualified taxpayer
14 shall make such records available for review and verification
15 by the Director, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the
16 Department of Revenue, or appropriate staff, as well as other
17 appropriate State agencies. In the event the Director
18 determines an Applicant has submitted a status report
19 containing erroneous information or data not supported by
20 records established and maintained under this Act, the
21 Director may, after providing notice, require the Applicant to
22 resubmit corrected reports.

23 (Source: P.A. 102-741, eff. 5-6-22; 103-9, eff. 6-7-23.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law.