



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB0295

Introduced 1/24/2025, by Sen. Jil Tracy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 420/3A-40

Amends the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. Provides that, for purposes of determining the partisanship of any person who is appointed by the Governor to an office that either requires specific partisanship or limits the number of appointees from a single political party that may be appointed, the vote of that person in the 3 general primary elections immediately preceding the effective date of the appointment shall determine his or her partisanship for that person's term of office. Provides that a person who did not vote, or who voted but did not request a partisan ballot, in the 3 general primary elections immediately preceding the effective date of the appointment or who voted but requested partisan ballots for 2 or more different political parties in the 3 general primary elections immediately preceding the effective date of the appointment shall be deemed an independent for purposes of determining partisanship for that person's term of office.

LRB104 04087 BDA 14111 b

1 AN ACT concerning government.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Governmental Ethics Act is amended
5 by changing Section 3A-40 as follows:

6 (5 ILCS 420/3A-40)

7 Sec. 3A-40. Appointees with expired terms; temporary and
8 acting appointees.

9 (a) A person who is nominated by the Governor on or after
10 August 26, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-582) for
11 any affected office to which appointment requires the advice
12 and consent of the Senate, who is appointed pursuant to that
13 advice and consent, and whose term of office expires on or
14 after August 26, 2011 shall not continue in office longer than
15 60 calendar days after the expiration of that term of office.
16 After that 60th day, each such office is considered vacant and
17 shall be filled only pursuant to the law applicable to making
18 appointments to that office, subject to the provisions of this
19 Section.

20 A person who has been nominated by the Governor before
21 August 26, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-582) for
22 any affected office to which appointment requires the advice
23 and consent of the Senate, who has been appointed pursuant to

1 that advice and consent, and whose term of office has expired
2 shall not continue in office longer than 60 calendar days
3 after the date upon which his or her term of office has
4 expired. After that 60 days, each such office is considered
5 vacant and shall be filled only pursuant to the law applicable
6 to making appointments to that office, subject to the
7 provisions of this Section. If the term of office of a person
8 who is subject to this paragraph expires more than 60 calendar
9 days prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
10 97th General Assembly, then that office is considered vacant
11 on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th
12 General Assembly, and that vacancy shall be filled only
13 pursuant to the law applicable to making appointments to that
14 office. For the purposes of this subsection (a), "affected
15 office" means (i) an office in which one receives any form of
16 compensation, including salary or per diem, but not including
17 expense reimbursement, or (ii) membership on the board of
18 trustees of a public university.

19 (b) A person who is appointed by the Governor on or after
20 August 26, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-582) to
21 serve as a temporary appointee during a recess of the Senate,
22 pursuant to Article V, Section 9(b) of the Illinois
23 Constitution or any other applicable statute, to any office to
24 which appointment requires the advice and consent of the
25 Senate shall not continue in office after the next meeting of
26 the Senate unless the Governor has filed a message with the

1 Secretary of the Senate nominating that person to fill that
2 office on or before that meeting date. After that meeting
3 date, each such office is considered vacant and shall be
4 filled only pursuant to the law applicable to making
5 appointments to that office, subject to the provisions of this
6 Section. Any temporary appointment made pursuant to subsection
7 (b) of Section 9 of Article V of the Illinois Constitution or
8 any applicable statute shall be filed with the Secretary of
9 State and the Secretary of the Senate. The form of the
10 temporary appointment message shall be established by the
11 Senate under its rules.

12 For the purposes of this subsection (b), a meeting of the
13 Senate does not include a perfunctory session day as
14 designated by the Senate under its rules. For the purposes of
15 this subsection (b), the Senate is in recess on a day in which
16 it is not in session and does not include a perfunctory session
17 day as designated by the Senate under its rules.

18 (c) A person who is designated by the Governor on or after
19 August 26, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-582) to
20 serve as an acting appointee to any office to which
21 appointment requires the advice and consent of the Senate
22 shall not continue in office more than 60 calendar days unless
23 the Governor files a message with the Secretary of the Senate
24 nominating that person to fill that office within that 60
25 days. After that 60 days, each such office is considered
26 vacant and shall be filled only pursuant to the law applicable

1 to making appointments to that office, subject to the
2 provisions of this Section. The Governor shall file with the
3 Secretary of the Senate the name of any person who the Governor
4 designates as an acting appointee under this Section. The form
5 of the message designating an appointee as acting shall be
6 established by the Senate under its rules. No person who has
7 been designated by the Governor to serve as an acting
8 appointee to any office to which appointment requires the
9 advice and consent of the Senate shall, except at the Senate's
10 request, be designated again as an acting appointee for that
11 office at the same session of that Senate, subject to the
12 provisions of this Section.

13 During the term of a General Assembly, the Governor may
14 not designate a person to serve as an acting appointee to any
15 office to which appointment requires the advice and consent of
16 the Senate if that person's nomination to serve as the
17 appointee for the same office was rejected by the Senate of the
18 same General Assembly.

19 For the purposes of this subsection (c), "acting
20 appointee" means a person designated by the Governor to serve
21 as an acting director or acting secretary pursuant to Section
22 5-605 of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. "Acting
23 appointee" also means a person designated by the Governor
24 pursuant to any other statute to serve as an acting holder of
25 any office, to execute the duties and functions of any office,
26 or both.

1 (d) The provisions of this Section apply notwithstanding
2 any law to the contrary. However, the provisions of this
3 Section do not apply to appointments made under Article 1A of
4 the Election Code or to the appointment of any person to serve
5 as Director of the Illinois Power Agency.

6 (e) Except as otherwise provided by law, for purposes of
7 determining the partisanship of any person who is appointed by
8 the Governor to an office that either requires specific
9 partisanship or limits the number of appointees from a single
10 political party that may be appointed, the vote of that person
11 in the 3 general primary elections immediately preceding the
12 effective date of the appointment shall determine that
13 person's partisanship for his or her term of office. A person
14 who did not vote, or who voted but did not request a partisan
15 ballot, in the 3 general primary elections immediately
16 preceding the effective date of the appointment or who voted
17 but requested partisan ballots for 2 or more different
18 political parties in the 3 general primary elections
19 immediately preceding the effective date of the appointment
20 shall be deemed an independent for purposes of determining
21 partisanship for that person's term of office. After being
22 appointed to an office, no person shall be disqualified from
23 continuing in that office during the term for which that
24 person was appointed, or for holding over thereafter, based on
25 that person's voting in a general primary election after his
26 or her appointment.

1 This subsection (e) shall apply to a person who is
2 nominated by the Governor on or after the effective date of
3 this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly and shall
4 apply to all appointments, including those which are acting or
5 temporary.

6 (Source: P.A. 97-582, eff. 8-26-11; 97-719, eff. 6-29-12;
7 98-692, eff. 7-1-14.)