

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence.

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

4 Section 5. The Domestic Violence Fatality Review Act is
5 amended by changing Sections 35, 40, and 65 as follows:

6 (750 ILCS 62/35)

7 Sec. 35. Statewide Committee quorum; meetings;
8 compensation.

9 (a) A quorum shall consist of a simple majority ~~7~~ of the
10 voting members of the Statewide Committee.

11 (b) The first meeting of the Statewide Committee shall
12 occur by January 15, 2022. At the first meeting and at
13 subsequent meetings when terms expire, the voting members
14 shall elect 2 co-chairs and a secretary from among the voting
15 members and may elect any other officers and other officers
16 the voting members deem necessary to carry out the duties and
17 responsibilities of the Statewide Committee.

18 (c) The Statewide Committee shall meet at least quarterly
19 each State fiscal year. Additional meetings may be called by
20 the co-chairs, after at least 7 days prior notice to the
21 Statewide Committee members, or upon a written request signed
22 by at least 5 Statewide Committee members to the co-chairs for
23 a meeting request. Meetings may be held by a virtual meeting

1 format during a public health emergency or disaster
2 proclamation declared by the Governor, or at the discretion of
3 the co-chairs.

4 (d) The meetings of the Statewide Committee are subject to
5 the Open Meetings Act, except the following shall occur in
6 closed executive sessions not subject to the requirements of
7 the Open Meetings Act:

8 (1) discussions about personnel matters, confidential
9 information as defined by Section 5, or cases eligible for
10 review under Section 70; and

11 (2) conducting a domestic violence fatality review.

12 (e) The members shall receive no compensation for their
13 service as members of the Statewide Committee, but may receive
14 reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in the performance
15 of their duties, subject to the availability of funds for that
16 purpose.

17 (Source: P.A. 102-520, eff. 8-20-21.)

18 (750 ILCS 62/40)

19 Sec. 40. Duties and responsibilities of the Statewide
20 Committee.

21 (a) The Statewide Committee shall carry out the following
22 duties and responsibilities:

23 (1) Subject to available funds, hire or assign a
24 full-time Program Manager to carry out the duties and
25 responsibilities of the Statewide Committee and the

1 purposes of this Act. The Program Manager may hire
2 additional staff, subject to the availability of funds for
3 that purpose and subject to the approval of the Board. The
4 Statewide Committee and regional review teams can operate
5 without an acting Program Manager.

6 (2) Establish and maintain an Internet website.

7 (3) Prepare an annual budget that includes
8 compensation for the Program Manager and staff, and
9 financial reimbursement to regional review team members or
10 teams for actual expenses incurred in the performance of
11 their duties, subject to the availability of funds for
12 that purpose.

13 (4) Facilitate the establishment and implementation of
14 regional review teams across the State over 6 years after
15 the effective date of this Act and collaboratively develop
16 regional implementation plans and procedures.

17 (5) Provide training and ongoing technical assistance
18 to regional review teams.

19 (6) Conduct, or assist in conducting, regional
20 domestic violence fatality reviews if requested by
21 regional review teams in specific cases.

22 (7) Develop model confidentiality agreement, policies,
23 and procedures for the use of regional review teams.

24 (8) Develop guidelines for the annual and biennial
25 reports of the Statewide Committee and the regional review
26 teams pursuant to this Section and Section 65.

1 (9) Appoint the initial members of each regional
2 review team in accordance with Section 50 or designate a
3 founding member of a regional review team to form the
4 remainder of the regional review team in accordance with
5 Section 50, unless the regional review team has been
6 formed prior to the effective date of this Act or elects to
7 form without the involvement of the Statewide Committee.

8 (10) Create a process whereby the Statewide Committee
9 shall annually officially recognize regional review teams
10 that are formed and operated in substantial compliance
11 with the requirements of this Act, and nonrecognize those
12 regional review teams that are substantially out of
13 compliance after reasonable efforts are made by the
14 Statewide Committee to engage the regional review team's
15 co-chairs and other regional stakeholders to facilitate
16 corrective actions to bring the regional review team into
17 substantial compliance. A nonrecognized regional review
18 team no longer has the authority to operate under this
19 Act, however, nonrecognition would not preclude the
20 formation of a new regional review team for the affected
21 region.

22 (11) Review, analyze, maintain, and securely store
23 regional review team reports and recommendations submitted
24 by each regional review team as required by Section 65.

25 (12) File an annual report with the Governor and the
26 General Assembly on the operations and activities of the

1 Statewide Committee and of the regional review teams. The
2 first report shall be due no later than March 1, 2023, and
3 each subsequent report shall be due no later than
4 September ~~March~~ 1 of each year thereafter. The annual
5 report shall be made publicly available on the Statewide
6 Committee's Internet website.

7 (13) In even numbered years, file a substantive
8 biennial report reviewing and analyzing the data and
9 recommendations collected from the reports of the regional
10 review teams. The biennial report shall include specific
11 recommendations for legislative, systemic, policy, and any
12 other changes to reduce domestic violence and domestic
13 violence related fatalities and near-fatalities. The first
14 report shall be due no later than April 1, 2024, and each
15 subsequent report shall be due no later than April 1 of
16 each even year thereafter. The biennial report shall be
17 made publicly available on the Statewide Committee's
18 Internet website.

19 (b) The Statewide Committee may carry out the following
20 duties and responsibilities:

21 (1) After a vote by the majority of the voting
22 Statewide Committee members or a decision by the
23 co-chairs, establish one or more subcommittees or task
24 forces to address specific issues regarding domestic
25 violence, domestic violence fatalities and
26 near-fatalities, domestic violence fatality review, or

1 other related issues or subject matters, and may invite
2 nonmembers with expertise on the issue or subject matter
3 to serve on the subcommittee or task force. Each
4 subcommittee or task force shall be chaired by a member of
5 the Statewide Committee.

6 (2) Advise the Governor and General Assembly on
7 domestic violence, domestic violence fatalities and
8 near-fatalities, domestic violence fatality review, data,
9 and related topics or policies.

10 (3) Engage nonmember stakeholders in reviewing
11 selected recommendations from the regional review teams in
12 accordance with notions of fairness, equity, justice, due
13 process, and practicality.

14 (4) Analyze data and identify trends related to
15 domestic violence and domestic violence related fatalities
16 and near-fatalities, and develop mechanisms for
17 collecting, analyzing, and storing data that it collects
18 or that is provided by the regional review teams.

19 (5) Adopt administrative rules in order to implement
20 this Act.

21 (6) Subject to the availability of funding and
22 approval by a vote of the majority of the Statewide
23 Committee members, engage with and enter into contracts
24 with a higher education institution or research entity for
25 research, analysis, training, and educational purposes in
26 furtherance of the purposes of this Act. Statewide

1 Committee members or Statewide Committee staff shall not
2 share information with contractors that would disclose the
3 identities of victims, survivors, deceased, offenders, and
4 their family members or by which their identities can be
5 determined by a reasonably diligent inquiry.

6 (7) Support the implementation of systemic and
7 community reform recommendations in order to advance the
8 purposes of this Act.

9 (8) Adopt notice of funding opportunities, award
10 grants, or enter into contracts with statewide or local
11 organizations that advocate on behalf of survivors.

12 (9) Assign any responsibilities under this Section.

13 (10) Engage in any other activities that enable the
14 Statewide Committee, its staff, and the regional review
15 teams to carry out the purposes of this Act.

16 (Source: P.A. 102-520, eff. 8-20-21.)

17 (750 ILCS 62/65)

18 Sec. 65. Duties and responsibilities of the regional
19 domestic violence fatality review team.

20 (a) Each regional review team shall carry out the
21 following duties and responsibilities:

22 (1) Form a regional review team in accordance with
23 Sections 50 and 55.

24 (2) Report the names, professional titles, if
25 applicable, and business contact information of each

1 review team member to the Statewide Committee and inform
2 the Statewide Committee in a timely manner of any changes
3 to the membership of the regional review team.

4 (3) Create a secure system of maintaining and storing
5 minutes, correspondence, and confidential information
6 related to the regional review team and the domestic
7 violence fatality reviews.

8 (4) Ensure that each member of the regional review
9 team participates in trainings and technical assistance
10 provided by the Statewide Committee and other
11 professionals.

12 (5) Meet at least quarterly and maintain minutes of
13 the business conducted by the regional review team at each
14 meeting.

15 (6) Establish priorities for reviewing eligible cases
16 that consider, in part, demographic and case type
17 diversity.

18 (7) Based upon information available from a variety of
19 sources, consider cases eligible for review in accordance
20 with Section 70.

21 (8) Vote by a majority of the regional review team
22 members to review a specific case based upon various
23 factors, including the priorities by the regional review
24 team.

25 (9) Invite and coordinate with the specific people
26 designated in Section 50 who were involved in the selected

1 domestic violence related fatality or near-fatality to
2 participate in the domestic violence fatality review.
3 Members of the regional review team may also participate
4 directly in the domestic violence fatality review.

5 (10) Execute a confidentiality agreement with each
6 member of the regional review team and participant of a
7 domestic violence fatality review in accordance with
8 Section 75.

9 (11) Conduct a domestic violence fatality review of at
10 least 2 eligible cases per calendar year, or, if the
11 regional review team is unable to complete at least 2
12 reviews in a given year, provide an explanation to the
13 Statewide Committee in the regional review team's annual
14 report pursuant to paragraph (12).

15 (12) Prepare and submit an annual report to the
16 Statewide Committee on the operations and activities of
17 the regional review team in accordance with guidelines
18 established by the Statewide Committee. The initial report
19 shall be due on March 1 following the formation of the
20 regional review team and subsequent reports shall be
21 submitted no later than March 1 of each year thereafter.

22 (13) On odd numbered years, prepare and submit to the
23 Statewide Committee a biennial report based upon the
24 domestic violence fatality reviews of the corresponding
25 time period. The biennial report shall include specific
26 recommendations for legislative, systemic, policy, and any

1 other changes to reduce domestic violence and domestic
2 violence related fatalities and near-fatalities. These
3 recommendations will be reviewed by the Statewide
4 Committee according to Section 40 and will, in part,
5 inform the Statewide Committee's biennial report on even
6 years. Any information that identifies the victims,
7 survivors, deceased, or offenders, or their family members
8 or any information by which their identities can be
9 determined by a reasonably diligent inquiry shall not be
10 disclosed in any domestic violence fatality review
11 biennial report or by any other means. Any narrative of
12 nonidentifying facts will be limited to those essential
13 and indispensable to the explanation of data analysis or a
14 recommendation for reform. Aggregate and nonidentifying
15 data, including demographics, may be included in the
16 biennial report. The first biennial report shall be due no
17 later than April 1, 2023, and each subsequent report shall
18 be due no later than June ~~April~~ 1 of each odd year
19 thereafter.

20 (b) Each regional review team may carry out the following
21 duties and responsibilities:

22 (1) Collect and analyze data from its regional area
23 regarding cases eligible for review that were and were not
24 reviewed by the regional review team for purposes of
25 identifying patterns and making recommendations for
26 community and systemic reforms.

1 (2) Subject to the availability of funding and
2 approval by a vote of the majority of the regional review
3 team members, engage with and enter into contracts with a
4 higher education institution or research entity for
5 research, analysis, training, and educational purposes in
6 furtherance of the purposes of this Act. Regional review
7 team members shall not share information with contractors
8 that would disclose the identities of victims, survivors,
9 deceased, offenders, and their family members or by which
10 their identities can be determined by a reasonably
11 diligent inquiry.

12 (3) Seek funds to support the operations of the
13 regional review team and the facilitation of domestic
14 violence fatality reviews.

15 (4) Support the implementation of systemic and
16 community reform recommendations in order to advance the
17 purposes of this Act.

18 (5) Engage in any other activities that enable the
19 regional review team to carry out the purposes of this
20 Act.

21 (Source: P.A. 102-520, eff. 8-20-21.)