

SB2024



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB2024

Introduced 2/15/2019, by Sen. Ann Gillespie

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Apprenticeship Study Act. Creates the Apprenticeship Study. Requires the Department of Labor to conduct a study on the potential expansion of apprenticeship programs in this State and produce a report on its findings. Provides for the contents of the report. Requires the Department of Labor to submit its report with findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before June 1, 2020. Defines "Illinois Apprenticeship Plus Framework". Provides findings and purpose provisions. Repeals the Act on January 1, 2022.

LRB101 11211 RJF 56468 b

A BILL FOR

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Apprenticeship Study Act.

6 Section 5. Findings and purpose. The General Assembly finds
7 the following:

8 (1) our State has the unfortunate distinction of
9 ranking second in youth unemployment and also has one of
10 the highest unemployment rates in the country for people of
11 color of all ages;

12 (2) employers from a range of sectors struggle to fill
13 positions that require more training than a high school
14 diploma, but less than a college degree;

15 (3) apprenticeship programs help address these needs
16 by allowing employers to secure the talent they need while
17 providing apprentices a debt-free pathway to a career and
18 credentials, with 91% of apprentices remaining employed at
19 a median salary of \$50,000;

20 (4) our State has over 15,000 Registered Apprentices,
21 but the demographics of these apprentices do not mirror the
22 diversity of Illinoisans in that only 28% of Registered
23 Apprentices are people of color, only 4% of Registered

1 Apprentices are women; and the vast majority (82%) of
2 apprenticeship programs are concentrated in the
3 construction and trade industries;

4 (5) intentionally targeting industries that appeal to
5 diverse populations could increase not only the number of
6 apprentices in this State, but increase the diversity of
7 those who identify as apprentices;

8 (6) there are significant possibilities for growing
9 apprenticeship into an inclusive workforce strategy for
10 Illinois, but to build a foundation for success, we need to
11 understand what apprenticeship programs exist, how they
12 are funded, and the barriers employers face to launching
13 quality apprenticeship programs; and

14 (7) the purpose of this study is build such a
15 foundation for successful apprenticeship growth, and this
16 study is needed to assess what the future may hold for
17 expansion of apprenticeship in Illinois.

18 Section 10. Apprenticeship Study.

19 (a) There is hereby created the Apprenticeship Study.

20 (b) The Department of Labor shall conduct a study on the
21 potential expansion of apprenticeship programs in this State
22 and produce a report on its findings. The report shall include,
23 but not be limited to, the following:

24 (1) research on existing apprenticeship programs,
25 using the Illinois Apprenticeship Plus Framework as a

1 guide. This research shall seek to identify programs that
2 fit the 4 models of apprenticeship (registered,
3 non-registered, youth, and pre-apprenticeship);

4 (2) identification of work-based learning programs
5 that may have the potential to align with the
6 Apprenticeship Plus Framework;

7 (3) identification of how apprenticeship programs in
8 this State are currently funded and what funding streams
9 exist with potential for expanded sustainable funding of
10 apprenticeship programs;

11 (4) data on the distinct demographic trends and
12 industry composition of various regions of this State, with
13 an assessment of the industrial needs of each region and
14 how apprenticeship programs may be tailored to fit those
15 needs;

16 (5) identification of job fields having high
17 participation rates among diverse communities so as to
18 support diverse and equitable apprenticeship growth in
19 this State; and

20 (6) any other relevant information or recommendations
21 concerning apprenticeship programs and how such programs
22 may be utilized in this State to increase economic
23 development and opportunity.

24 For the purposes of this subsection (b), "Illinois
25 Apprenticeship Plus Framework" means the Apprenticeship Plus
26 Framework established by the Illinois Workforce Innovation

1 Board's Apprenticeship Committee in defining high-quality
2 apprenticeships for the State.

3 (c) The Department of Labor shall submit its report with
4 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General
5 Assembly on or before June 1, 2020.

6 Section 15. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,
7 2022.