

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 Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory Council Act.

6 Section 5. Definition. For purposes of this Act:

7 "Council" means the Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory
8 Council.

9 Section 10. The Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory
10 Council. For the purpose of facilitating communication between
11 the youth of the State of Illinois and the elected branches of
12 State government regarding the issues, interests, and needs
13 important to youth in the State of Illinois, the Illinois
14 Legislative Youth Advisory Council is created. The Council
15 shall have the powers and responsibilities enumerated in this
16 Act, together with such others as may be conferred upon it by
17 law. The Council shall be an entity created under the
18 legislative branch, and maintained and staffed under the
19 executive branch by the Office of the Governor or an agency
20 designated by the Governor that is under the jurisdiction of
21 the Governor.

1 Section 15. Advisory Board; members; nomination; term of
2 office; vacancies.

3 (a) An Advisory Board shall be created to facilitate the
4 functions of the Council. The Advisory Board shall consist of
5 2 members of the House of Representatives, one each appointed
6 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
7 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and 2 members
8 of the Senate, one each appointed by the President of the
9 Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate. The initial term
10 for members of the Advisory Council shall begin on January 1,
11 2022, or the effective date of this Act, whichever occurs
12 later, and expire on January 9, 2024. Thereafter, the term for
13 members of the Advisory Council shall begin on the Thursday
14 following the second Wednesday of January, and expire after 2
15 years. On or before September 1, 2021, the Advisory Board
16 shall create an application that shall be used in nominating
17 individuals to be members of the Council. The Advisory Board
18 may, from time to time, modify the application with the
19 consent of the Council. While the Council is in session, the
20 Advisory Board may attend meetings of the Council, and may
21 generally advise the Council. Nothing in this Act shall be
22 construed to entitle Advisory Board members to vote on matters
23 pending before the Council.

24 (b) The Advisory Board shall make nominations for
25 prospective Council members. Nominations for prospective
26 Council members shall reflect the racial and gender diversity

1 of this State and shall represent a diverse grouping of age
2 distribution. After making the nomination, the Advisory Board
3 shall notify the nominated individuals. Upon appointing the
4 nominated individuals, the Advisory Board shall notify the
5 individual of his or her appointment. The Advisory Board shall
6 appoint one member from each congressional district of the
7 State of Illinois, as well as 2 additional members-at-large.
8 The 2 at-large members must not reside in the same
9 congressional district.

10 (c) Each Council member's term shall be for 2 years. A
11 member shall be allowed to serve more than one term, so long as
12 the member continues to meet the requirements for being a
13 member and is appointed for each term.

14 (d) Any vacancies in the Council shall be filled in the
15 same or substantially the same manner as the original
16 appointment within 30 days after the vacancy.

17 Section 20. Transition Oversight Committee.

18 (a) The Transition Oversight Committee is hereby created
19 for initial outreach and marketing of the Council to the youth
20 of Illinois as provided under Section 40.

21 (b) The members of the Transition Oversight Committee
22 shall be appointed by the Advisory Board within 30 days after
23 the appointment of the Board. The Committee shall be comprised
24 of 3 members, and the Board shall designate one member as Chair
25 of the Committee. Members of the Committee shall meet the same

1 requirements of membership qualifications as members of the
2 Council, and are responsible for overseeing the initial
3 implementation of the Council. Members of the Committee may
4 also be appointed to serve on the Council.

5 (c) The members of the Transition Oversight Committee
6 shall create the bylaws for the functioning of the Council.
7 These initial bylaws shall be subject to approval by the
8 Advisory Board and the Council.

9 (d) The Chair of the Transition Oversight Committee shall
10 preside at the first meeting of the Council with the
11 assistance of the other 2 members, until the Chair of the
12 Council is elected.

13 (e) The Transition Oversight Committee shall cease to
14 exist after the first meeting of the Council.

15 Section 25. Members; qualifications. Each member of the
16 Council shall, during his or her term, be:

17 (1) a resident of this State;

18 (2) at least 16 years of age and younger than 21 years
19 of age, except that if the member turns 21 years of age
20 during his or her term, such member shall be allowed to
21 complete the term.

22 (3) be a student enrolled at a high school or a
23 graduate from a high school with a diploma or a GED.

24 Section 30. Quorum; meetings; committees; leadership

1 responsibilities.

2 (a) A majority of those appointed to the Council shall
3 constitute a quorum.

4 (b) The Council shall convene each year and shall meet as
5 often as is deemed necessary. For all other meetings and
6 committee meetings, the Council may meet by electronic or
7 telephonic means. Members of the Council shall be excused from
8 school to participate in in-person meetings of the Council. At
9 the initial meeting of the Council, the members shall elect
10 from among their number a Chair, and may create more
11 leadership positions as deemed necessary by the Council.

12 Section 35. Powers. The Council may:

13 (1) request the drafting of legislative measures from
14 the Legislative Reference Bureau;

15 (2) provide testimony during any committee meeting of
16 the General Assembly;

17 (3) vote as a Council position on any matter pending
18 before the General Assembly and inform the General
19 Assembly of the Council's position on the matter;

20 (4) draft reports and advisory opinions to the General
21 Assembly;

22 (5) perform any other activity that may reasonably
23 inform the General Assembly of the Council's position on
24 any issue of relevance;

25 (6) conduct periodic seminars for members of the

1 Council concerning leadership, government, and the General
2 Assembly;

3 (7) collaborate with other established youth advisory
4 commissions or councils, or any other commission or
5 council as necessary within the State of Illinois; and

6 (8) attend trainings, educational seminars, and other
7 relevant educational events as approved by the Council.

8 Section 40. Outreach.

9 (a) On or before September 1 of each year, the Chair of the
10 Council, or a committee formed by the Chair, shall notify all
11 high schools, colleges, and universities in this State, and
12 make a reasonable effort to also notify community-based youth
13 organizations, civic institutions, and units of government,
14 that the time for applying to become a member of the Council is
15 open, and shall expire on October 31st. The notice shall
16 include the requirements for membership and a copy of the
17 application.

18 (b) Upon receiving notice that the application period is
19 open, any entity provided notice under subsection (a) shall
20 make reasonable attempts to notify interested students of the
21 Council.

22 (c) To raise awareness about the Council, the Council may:

23 (1) conduct a public awareness campaign;

24 (2) maintain a website and establish a social media
25 presence;

1 (3) work with established youth groups to increase
2 awareness; and

3 (4) employ any other means necessary to raise
4 awareness of the Council's existence and purpose.

5 Section 45. Administrative support. Administrative support
6 for the Council shall be provided by any State agency under the
7 jurisdiction of the Governor or as otherwise designated by the
8 Governor. Members of the Council shall not receive
9 compensation for serving as members, but may be reimbursed for
10 expenses incurred for traveling to council meetings, food,
11 lodging, the printing of the required annual report, Council
12 approved trainings, educational seminars, and other relevant
13 educational events, and any other reimbursements approved by
14 the Council. The funds for the travel and administrative costs
15 of the Council may come from appropriations to the Governor's
16 office and the Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory Council
17 Fund established under Section 55, subject to appropriation.

18 Section 50. Report to the General Assembly and Governor.
19 The Council shall submit an annual report electronically to
20 the General Assembly and the Governor detailing its activities
21 and recommending any proposed legislation.

22 Section 55. Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory Council
23 Fund. The Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory Council Fund is

1 created as a special fund in the State treasury. All moneys in
2 the Fund shall be used to reimburse Council members for actual
3 expenses incurred in traveling to Council meetings, including
4 travel, food, and lodging, and other expenses such as printing
5 the annual report, Council approved trainings, educational
6 seminars, and other relevant educational events, and any other
7 reimbursements approved by the Council in compliance with
8 Section 50 of this Act. The moneys in the Illinois Legislative
9 Youth Advisory Council Fund are subject to appropriation by
10 the General Assembly. The Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory
11 Council Fund may accept private donations and gifts.

12 Section 95. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
13 Section 5.935 as follows:

14 (30 ILCS 105/5.935 new)

15 Sec. 5.935. The Illinois Legislative Youth Advisory
16 Council Fund.

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
18 becoming law.