



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB5225

Introduced 1/31/2022, by Rep. Sonya M. Harper

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Apprenticeship Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program Act. Provides that the Department of Labor shall develop a 5 year Apprenticeship Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program. Specifies that the Pilot Program shall provide transportation assistance and a child care subsidy to eligible individuals participating in a qualified apprenticeship. Provides that no later than January 1, 2028, the Department shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report that evaluates the results of the Pilot Program and its effectiveness in assisting Program participants in entering the workforce or in obtaining better employment. Provides for the adoption of rules. Repeals Act on January 1, 2029.

LRB102 25500 SPS 34788 b

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

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 Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of the Apprenticeship
7 Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program is to address
8 significant barriers to individuals participating in
9 apprenticeships, including lack of affordable and reliable
10 transportation and lack of affordable, high-quality childcare,
11 by providing subsidies to eligible individuals participating
12 in apprenticeships.

13 Section 10. Apprenticeship Assistance and Support Services
14 Pilot Program.

15 (a) The Department of Labor shall develop a 5 year
16 Apprenticeship Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program. To
17 be eligible for the Pilot Program, an individual is required
18 to participate in an apprenticeship program accredited and
19 approved by the United States Department of Labor.

20 (b) The assistance provided by the Pilot Program shall be
21 as follows:

22 (1) Transportation assistance. Subject to

1 appropriation, if an individual travels 5 miles or more to
2 a job site for work or to a classroom for apprenticeship
3 training, the individual is eligible to receive mileage
4 reimbursement at 50% of the current federal rate, or
5 reimbursement of documented expenditures on public
6 transportation, up to \$500 per individual per year.

7 (2) Child care subsidy. Subject to appropriation, if
8 an individual participating in the Pilot Program enters
9 into a qualified apprenticeship in accordance with
10 subsection (a), the individual shall be eligible for a
11 child care subsidy. In order for an individual to be
12 eligible for a child care subsidy, the child must be
13 entered into a child care program licensed by the State.
14 The subsidy provided shall be as follows:

15 (A) up to \$10,000 for child care paid during the
16 first year following the individual's date of
17 apprentice registration and dispatch;

18 (B) up to \$7,500 for child care paid during the
19 second year following the individual's date of
20 apprentice registration and dispatch; and

21 (C) up to \$5,000 for child care paid during the
22 third year following the individual's date of
23 apprentice registration and dispatch.

24 (c) To receive transportation assistance in accordance
25 with paragraph (1) of subsection (b), an individual shall
26 apply to the Department of Labor for reimbursement for travel

1 expenses related to the individual's apprenticeship. As part
2 of the individual's application, the individual is required to
3 provide documentation that the apprenticeship in which the
4 individual is participating is accredited and approved by the
5 United States Department of Labor.

6 (d) To receive a child care subsidy in accordance with
7 paragraph (2) of subsection (b), an individual shall apply to
8 the Department of Labor for child care costs incurred as a
9 result of the individual's commitment to the apprenticeship.
10 As part of the individual's application, the individual is
11 required to provide documentation that the apprenticeship in
12 which the individual is participating is accredited and
13 approved by the United States Department of Labor. An
14 individual shall also provide documentation of the costs of
15 child care, which shall include documentation that the child
16 care is utilized during the days and times in which the
17 individual is participating in the apprenticeship.

18 (e) In determinations of which eligible apprentices are to
19 receive assistance under the Pilot Program, priority shall be
20 given to apprentices who:

21 (1) belong to a group that, based on their race,
22 color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation,
23 disability, or age, is underrepresented in the career
24 field of the apprenticeship;

25 (2) are displaced workers;

26 (3) were previously incarcerated, or

1 (4) are veterans.

2 Section 15. Report. No later than January 1, 2028, the
3 Department of Labor shall submit to the Governor and the
4 General Assembly a report that evaluates the results of the
5 Pilot Program and its effectiveness in assisting Program
6 participants in entering the workforce or in obtaining better
7 employment. The report shall include a recommendation
8 regarding whether to renew the Pilot Program, and if renewal
9 is recommended, if the Pilot Program should be expanded or
10 otherwise enhanced.

11 Section 20. Rules. The Department shall adopt all rules
12 necessary for the implementation of the Program created under
13 this Act.

14 Section 25. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,
15 2029.