

1 AN ACT concerning aging.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Act on the Aging is amended by
5 adding Section 4.04b as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 105/4.04b new)

7 Sec. 4.04b. Senior Housing Residents' Advisory Council.

8 (a) Findings and purpose. The COVID-19 pandemic has
9 impacted seniors residing in assisted living facilities and
10 congregate living arrangements especially hard. Faced with
11 sickness, isolation, and a lack of support services many
12 seniors of this State have expressed feeling overlooked and
13 forgotten about. The purpose of the Senior Housing Residents'
14 Advisory Council established under this Section is to create a
15 space and opportunity for senior Illinoisans to connect with
16 each other and meet with representatives from the Department
17 on Aging and the Department of Public Health in order to share
18 their ideas on how the State can improve the quality of life
19 for its senior residents. The Council will also give senior
20 Illinoisans the opportunity to share their findings and
21 recommendations on targeted services and supports for seniors
22 with the Governor and the General Assembly.

23 (b) Establishment and composition. The Senior Housing

1 Residents' Advisory Council is established within the
2 Department on Aging. The Council shall consist of the
3 following members:

4 (1) The Director of the Department on Aging, or his or
5 her designee, who shall serve as Chair of the Council.

6 (2) One member of the Senate appointed by the
7 President of the Senate.

8 (3) One member of the House of Representatives
9 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

10 (4) One member of the Senate appointed by the Minority
11 Leader of the Senate.

12 (5) One member of the House of Representatives
13 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
14 Representatives.

15 (6) The Director of the Department of Public Health or
16 his or her designee.

17 (7) Two seniors who reside in affordable senior
18 housing developments, appointed by the Department on
19 Aging.

20 (8) Two seniors who reside in assisted living
21 facilities, appointed by the Department of Public Health.

22 (9) One adult family member of a senior who resides in
23 an affordable senior housing development, appointed by the
24 Department on Aging.

25 (10) One adult family member of a senior who resides
26 in an assisted living facility, appointed by the

1 Department of Public Health.

2 (11) One senior who lives in Cook County, appointed by
3 the Department on Aging.

4 (12) One senior who lives in central Illinois,
5 appointed by the Department on Aging.

6 (13) One senior who lives in southern Illinois,
7 appointed by the Department on Aging.

8 (14) One senior who lives in northern Illinois,
9 appointed by the Department on Aging.

10 (15) One senior who lives in western Illinois,
11 appointed by the Department on Aging.

12 (16) One administrative personnel from an affordable
13 senior housing development, appointed by the Department on
14 Aging.

15 (17) One administrative personnel from an assisted
16 living facility, appointed by the Department of Public
17 Health.

18 (18) One outreach professional who works at the
19 Department on Aging.

20 (c) The Council shall meet quarterly at the call of the
21 Chair beginning no later than January 1, 2023 and shall
22 thereafter meet on the date of each quarterly meeting with
23 personnel from the Department of Public Health and the
24 Department on Aging. All meetings shall be open to the public
25 in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. The Council is
26 authorized to form subcommittees that can meet more frequently

1 than once per quarter. Members of the Council shall receive no
2 compensation for their service but shall be reimbursed for any
3 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties
4 from appropriations made by the General Assembly for that
5 purpose. The Department on Aging shall provide the Council
6 with administrative, personnel, and technical support
7 services.

8 (d) Duties. The Council has the following duties:

9 (1) Identify barriers to seniors feeling supported by
10 and connected to their communities.

11 (2) Evaluate available resources and services for
12 seniors.

13 (3) Evaluate State outreach to seniors.

14 (4) Evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on congregate
15 living arrangements for seniors.

16 (e) Reports. No later than December 31 in 2023, 2024, and
17 2025, the Council shall submit a written report to the
18 Governor and the General Assembly on the results of its
19 findings and evaluations under subsection (d) and shall
20 provide advice and recommendations on:

21 (1) how best to disseminate information to seniors on
22 available supports and services through the use of State
23 agency websites, informational materials, and outreach
24 personnel;

25 (2) how to ensure of the availability of targeted
26 services for seniors and to eliminate any gaps in services

1 for seniors; and

2 (3) how to improve State policy concerning seniors and
3 congregate living arrangements for seniors in response to
4 COVID-19.

5 The Council shall terminate and dissolve after it submits
6 its third report on December 31, 2025.

7 (f) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2027.

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
9 becoming law.