103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5058

Introduced 2/8/2024, by Rep. Sonya M. Harper

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 405/405-540

Amends the Department of Central Management Services Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that a duly appointed member attending a meeting of the Commission may be counted as attending for the purpose of quorum if the member is accessing the meeting virtually via two-way, live communication.

LRB103 38849 MXP 68986 b

HB5058

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AN ACT concerning State government.

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

Section 5. The Department of Central Management Services
Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by
changing Section 405-540 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 405/405-540)

8 Sec. 405-540. African Descent-Citizens Reparations
9 Commission.

(a) The African Descent-Citizens Reparations Commission is
 hereby established within the Department of Central Management
 Services.

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(b) The Commission shall include the following members:

14 (1) the Governor or his or her designee;

15 (2) one member of the House of Representatives
 16 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

17 (3) one member of the Senate appointed by the18 President of the Senate;

19 (4) one member of the House of Representatives
 20 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
 21 Representatives;

(5) one member of the Senate appointed by the Minority
Leader of the Senate;

HB5058

(6) three representatives of a national coalition that
 supports reparations for African Americans appointed by
 the Governor; and

4 (7) ten members of the public appointed by the
5 Governor, at least 8 of whom are African American
6 descendants of slavery.

7 (c) Appointment of members to the Commission shall be made 8 within 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act 9 of the 101st General Assembly, with the first meeting of the 10 Commission to be held at a reasonable period of time 11 thereafter. The Chairperson of the Commission shall be elected 12 from among the members during the first meeting. Members of 13 the Commission shall serve without compensation, but may be 14 reimbursed for travel expenses. The 10 members of the public 15 appointed by the Governor shall be from diverse backgrounds, 16 including businesspersons and persons without high school 17 diplomas.

18 (c-5) A duly appointed member attending a meeting of the 19 Commission may be counted as attending for the purpose of 20 guorum if the member is accessing the meeting virtually via 21 two-way, live communication.

(d) Administrative support and staffing for the Commission shall be provided by the Department of Central Management Services. Any State agency under the jurisdiction of the Governor shall provide testimony and documents as directed by the Department.

- HB5058
- 1

(e) The Commission shall perform the following duties:

(1) develop and implement measures to ensure equity,
equality, and parity for African American descendants of
slavery;

5 (2) hold hearings to discuss the implementation of 6 measures to ensure equity, equality, and parity for 7 African American descendants of slavery;

8 (3) educate the public on reparations for African
9 American descendants of slavery;

10 (4) report to the General Assembly information and 11 findings regarding the work of the Commission under this 12 Section and the feasibility of reparations for Illinois 13 African American descendants of slavery, including any 14 recommendations on the subject; and

15 (5) discuss and perform actions regarding the 16 following issues:

17 (i) Preservation of African American neighborhoods 18 and communities through investment in business 19 development, home ownership, and affordable housing at 20 the median income of each neighborhood, with a full 21 range of housing services and strengthening of 22 institutions, which shall include, without limitation, 23 schools, parks, and community centers.

(ii) Building and development of a Vocational
 Training Center for People of African
 Descent-Citizens, with satellite centers throughout

- 4 - LRB103 38849 MXP 68986 b

1 the State, to address the racial disparity in the 2 building trades and the de-skilling of African 3 American labor through the historic discrimination in 4 the building trade unions. The Center shall also have 5 departments for legitimate activities in the informal 6 economy and apprenticeship.

7 (iii) Ensuring proportional economic 8 representation in all State contracts, including 9 reviews and recommendations for changes to the State 10 procurement and contracting requirements and 11 procedures with the express goal of increasing the 12 number of African American vendors and contracts for 13 to an equitable level reflecting their services 14 population in the State.

(iv) Creation and enforcement of an Illinois 15 16 Slavery Era Disclosure Bill mandating that in addition 17 to disclosure, an affidavit must be submitted entitled "Statement of Financial Reparations" that has been 18 negotiated between the Commission established under 19 20 this Section and a corporation or institution that 21 disclosed ties to the enslavement or injury of people 22 of African descent in the United States of America.

(f) Beginning January 1, 2022, and for each year thereafter, the Commission shall submit a report regarding its actions and any information as required under this Section to the Governor and the General Assembly. The report of the

HB5058

HB5058 - 5 - LRB103 38849 MXP 68986 b

- Commission shall also be made available to the public on the
 Internet website of the Department of Central Management
 Services.
- 4 (Source: P.A. 101-657, Article 15, Section 15-5, eff. 3-23-21;
- 5 102-29, eff. 6-25-21.)