

Sen. Don Harmon

16

Filed: 11/1/2023

	10300SB0509sam001 LRB103 02961 AWJ 64962 a
1	AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 509
2	AMENDMENT NO Amend Senate Bill 509 by replacing
3	everything after the enacting clause with the following:
4 5	"Section 5. The Innovation Development and Economy Act is amended by changing Sections 10 and 20 as follows:
6	(50 ILCS 470/10)
7	Sec. 10. Definitions. As used in this Act, the following
8	words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless
9	different meaning clearly appears from the context:
10	"Base year" means the calendar year immediately prior to
11	the calendar year in which the STAR bond district is
12	established.
13	"Commence work" means the manifest commencement of actua
14	operations on the development site, such as, erecting
15	building, general on-site and off-site grading and utility

installations, commencing design and construction

- documentation, ordering lead-time materials, excavating the
- 2 ground to lay a foundation or a basement, or work of like
- 3 description which a reasonable person would recognize as being
- 4 done with the intention and purpose to continue work until the
- 5 project is completed.
- 6 "County" means the county in which a proposed STAR bond
- 7 district is located.
- 8 "De minimis" means an amount less than 15% of the land area
- 9 within a STAR bond district.
- "Department of Revenue" means the Department of Revenue of
- 11 the State of Illinois.
- "Destination user" means an owner, operator, licensee,
- 13 co-developer, subdeveloper, or tenant (i) that operates a
- 14 business within a STAR bond district that is a retail store
- having at least 150,000 square feet of sales floor area; (ii)
- that at the time of opening does not have another Illinois
- 17 location within a 70 mile radius; (iii) that has an annual
- average of not less than 30% of customers who travel from at
- 19 least 75 miles away or from out-of-state, as demonstrated by
- 20 data from a comparable existing store or stores, or, if there
- 21 is no comparable existing store, as demonstrated by an
- 22 economic analysis that shows that the proposed retailer will
- have an annual average of not less than 30% of customers who
- travel from at least 75 miles away or from out-of-state; and
- 25 (iv) that makes an initial capital investment, including
- 26 project costs and other direct costs, of not less than

1 \$30,000,000 for such retail store.

"Destination hotel" means a hotel (as that term is defined in Section 2 of the Hotel Operators' Occupation Tax Act) complex having at least 150 guest rooms and which also includes a venue for entertainment attractions, rides, or other activities oriented toward the entertainment and amusement of its guests and other patrons.

"Developer" means any individual, corporation, trust, estate, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, or other entity. The term does not include a not-for-profit entity, political subdivision, or other agency or instrumentality of the State.

"Director" means the Director of Revenue, who shall consult with the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in any approvals or decisions required by the Director under this Act.

"Economic impact study" means a study conducted by an independent economist to project the financial benefit of the proposed STAR bond project to the local, regional, and State economies, consider the proposed adverse impacts on similar projects and businesses, as well as municipalities within the projected market area, and draw conclusions about the net effect of the proposed STAR bond project on the local, regional, and State economies. A copy of the economic impact study shall be provided to the Director for review.

"Eligible area" means any improved or vacant area that (i)

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

is contiguous and is not, in the aggregate, less than 250 acres nor more than 500 acres which must include only parcels of real property directly and substantially benefited by the proposed STAR bond district plan, (ii) is adjacent to a federal interstate highway, (iii) is within one mile of 2 State highways, (iv) is within one mile of an entertainment user, or a major or minor league sports stadium or other similar entertainment venue that had an initial capital investment of least \$20,000,000, and (v) includes land that previously surface or strip mined. The area may be bisected by streets, highways, roads, alleys, railways, bike paths, streams, rivers, and other waterways and still be deemed contiguous. In addition, in order to constitute an eligible area one of the following requirements must be satisfied and all of which are subject to the review and approval of the Director as provided in subsection (d) of Section 15:

- (a) the governing body of the political subdivision shall have determined that the area meets the requirements of a "blighted area" as defined under the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act; or
- (b) the governing body of the political subdivision shall have determined that the area is a blighted area as determined under the provisions of Section 11-74.3-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code; or
- (c) the governing body of the political subdivision shall make the following findings:

26

1	(i) that the vacant portions of the area have
2	remained vacant for at least one year, or that any
3	building located on a vacant portion of the property
4	was demolished within the last year and that the
5	building would have qualified under item (ii) of this
6	subsection;
7	(ii) if portions of the area are currently
8	developed, that the use, condition, and character of
9	the buildings on the property are not consistent with
10	the purposes set forth in Section 5;
11	(iii) that the STAR bond district is expected to
12	create or retain job opportunities within the
13	political subdivision;
14	(iv) that the STAR bond district will serve to
15	further the development of adjacent areas;
16	(v) that without the availability of STAR bonds,
17	the projects described in the STAR bond district plan
18	would not be possible;
19	(vi) that the master developer meets high
20	standards of creditworthiness and financial strength
21	as demonstrated by one or more of the following: (i)
22	corporate debenture ratings of BBB or higher by
23	Standard & Poor's Corporation or Baa or higher by
24	Moody's Investors Service, Inc.; (ii) a letter from a

financial institution with assets of \$10,000,000 or

more attesting to the financial strength of the master

2.1

_	developer;	or (iii)	spec	ific	evide	ence	of	equity
2	financing f	or not	less	than	10%	of the	esti	imated	total
3	STAR bond pr	roject	costs	;					

(vii) that the STAR bond district will strengthen the commercial sector of the political subdivision;

(viii) that the STAR bond district will enhance the tax base of the political subdivision; and

(ix) that the formation of a STAR bond district is in the best interest of the political subdivision.

"Entertainment user" means an owner, operator, licensee, co-developer, subdeveloper, or tenant that operates a business within a STAR bond district that has a primary use of providing a venue for entertainment attractions, rides, or other activities oriented toward the entertainment and amusement of its patrons, occupies at least 20 acres of land in the STAR bond district, and makes an initial capital investment, including project costs and other direct and indirect costs, of not less than \$25,000,000 for that venue.

"Feasibility study" means a feasibility study as defined in subsection (b) of Section 20.

"Infrastructure" means the public improvements and private improvements that serve the public purposes set forth in Section 5 of this Act and that benefit the STAR bond district or any STAR bond projects, including, but not limited to, streets, drives and driveways, traffic and directional signs and signals, parking lots and parking facilities,

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

interchanges, highways, sidewalks, bridges, underpasses and overpasses, bike and walking trails, sanitary storm sewers and lift stations, drainage conduits, channels, levees, canals, storm water detention and retention facilities, utilities and utility connections, water mains and extensions, and street and parking lot lighting and connections.

"Local sales taxes" means any locally-imposed taxes received by a municipality, county, or other governmental entity arising from sales by retailers and servicemen within a STAR bond district, including business district sales taxes and STAR bond occupation taxes, and that portion of the net revenue realized under the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act, the Use Tax Act, the Service Use Tax Act, and the Service Occupation Tax Act from transactions at places of business located within a STAR bond district, including that portion of the net revenue that would have been realized but for the reduction of the rate to 0% under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, that is deposited or, under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, transferred into the Local Government Tax Fund and the County and Mass Transit District Fund. For the purpose of this Act, "local sales taxes" does not include (i) any taxes authorized pursuant to the Local Mass Transit District Act or the Metro-East Park and Recreation District Act for so long as the applicable taxing district does not impose a tax on real property, (ii) county school facility and resources occupation

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

taxes imposed pursuant to Section 5-1006.7 of the Counties

Code, or (iii) any taxes authorized under the Flood Prevention

District Act.

"Local sales tax increment" means, except as otherwise provided in this Section, with respect to local sales taxes administered by the Illinois Department of Revenue, (i) all of the local sales tax paid (plus all of the local sales tax that would have been paid but for the reduction of the rate to 0% under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly) by destination users, destination hotels, and entertainment users that is in excess of the local sales tax paid (plus all of the local sales tax that would have been paid but for the reduction of the rate to 0% under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly) by destination users, destination hotels, and entertainment users for the same month in the base year, as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue, (ii) in the case of a municipality forming a STAR bond district that is wholly within the corporate boundaries of the municipality and in the case of a municipality and county forming a STAR bond district that is only partially within such municipality, that portion of the local sales tax paid (plus the local sales tax that would have been paid but for the reduction of the rate to 0% under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly) by taxpayers that are not destination users, destination hotels, or entertainment users that is in excess of the local sales tax paid (plus the local sales tax that would have been paid but

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

for the reduction of the rate to 0% under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly) by taxpayers that are not destination users, destination hotels, or entertainment users for the same month in the base year, as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue, and (iii) in the case of a county in which a STAR bond district is formed that is wholly within a municipality, that portion of the local sales tax paid by taxpayers that are not destination users, destination hotels, or entertainment users that is in excess of the local sales tax paid by taxpayers that are not destination users, destination hotels, or entertainment users for the same month in the base year, as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue, but only if the corporate authorities of the county adopts an ordinance, and files a copy with the Department within the same time frames as required for STAR bond occupation taxes under Section 31, that designates the taxes referenced in this clause (iii) as part of the local sales tax increment under this Act. "Local sales tax increment" means, with respect to local sales taxes administered by municipality, county, or other unit of local government, that portion of the local sales tax that is in excess of the local sales tax for the same month in the base year, as determined by the respective municipality, county, or other unit of local government. If any portion of local sales taxes are, at the time of formation of a STAR bond district, already subject to tax increment financing under the Tax Increment Allocation

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

Redevelopment Act, then the local sales tax increment for such portion shall be frozen at the base year established in accordance with this Act, and all future incremental increases shall be included in the "local sales tax increment" under this Act. Any party otherwise entitled to receipt incremental local sales tax revenues through an existing tax increment financing district shall be entitled to continue to receive such revenues up to the amount frozen in the base year. Nothing in this Act shall affect the prior qualification of existing redevelopment project costs incurred that are eligible for reimbursement under the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act. In such event, prior to approving a STAR bond district, the political subdivision forming the STAR bond district shall take such action as is necessary, including amending the existing tax increment financing district redevelopment plan, to carry out the provisions of this Act. The Illinois Department of Revenue shall allocate the local sales tax increment only if the local sales tax administered by the Department. "Local sales tax increment" does not include taxes and penalties collected on aviation fuel, as defined in Section 3 of the Retailers' Occupation Tax, sold on or after December 1, 2019 and through December 31, 2020.

"Market study" means a study to determine the ability of the proposed STAR bond project to gain market share locally and regionally and to remain profitable past the term of 1 repayment of STAR bonds.

2.1

"Master developer" means a developer cooperating with a political subdivision to plan, develop, and implement a STAR bond project plan for a STAR bond district. Subject to the limitations of Section 25, the master developer may work with and transfer certain development rights to other developers for the purpose of implementing STAR bond project plans and achieving the purposes of this Act. A master developer for a STAR bond district shall be appointed by a political subdivision in the resolution establishing the STAR bond district, and the master developer must, at the time of appointment, own or have control of, through purchase agreements, option contracts, or other means, not less than 50% of the acreage within the STAR bond district and the master developer or its affiliate must have ownership or control on June 1, 2010.

"Master development agreement" means an agreement between the master developer and the political subdivision to govern a STAR bond district and any STAR bond projects.

"Municipality" means the city, village, or incorporated town in which a proposed STAR bond district is located.

"Pledged STAR revenues" means those sales tax and revenues and other sources of funds pledged to pay debt service on STAR bonds or to pay project costs pursuant to Section 30. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the following revenues shall not constitute pledged STAR revenues or be

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

available to pay principal and interest on STAR bonds: any State sales tax increment or local sales tax increment from a retail entity initiating operations in a STAR bond district while terminating operations at another Illinois location within 25 miles of the STAR bond district. For purposes of this paragraph, "terminating operations" means a closing of a retail operation that is directly related to the opening of the same operation or like retail entity owned or operated by more than 50% of the original ownership in a STAR bond district within one year before or after initiating operations in the STAR bond district, but it does not mean closing an operation for reasons beyond the control of the retail entity, as documented by the retail entity, subject to a reasonable finding by the municipality (or county if such retail operation is not located within a municipality) in which the terminated operations were located that the closed location contained inadequate space, had become economically obsolete, or was no longer a viable location for the retailer or serviceman.

"Political subdivision" means a municipality or county which undertakes to establish a STAR bond district pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

"Project costs" means and includes the sum total of all costs incurred or estimated to be incurred on or following the date of establishment of a STAR bond district that are reasonable or necessary to implement a STAR bond district plan

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

- 1 or any STAR bond project plans, or both, including costs
- incurred for public improvements and private improvements that
- 3 serve the public purposes set forth in Section 5 of this Act.
- 4 Such costs include without limitation the following:
 - (a) costs of studies, surveys, development of plans specifications, formation, implementation, administration of a STAR bond district, STAR bond district plan, any STAR bond projects, or any STAR bond project plans, including, but not limited to, staff professional service costs for architectural, engineering, legal, financial, planning, or other services, provided however that no charges for professional services may be based on a percentage of the tax increment collected and contracts for professional services, excluding architectural and engineering services, may be entered into if the terms of the contract extend beyond a period of 3 years;
 - (b) property assembly costs, including, but not limited to, acquisition of land and other real property or rights or interests therein, located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district, demolition of buildings, site preparation, site improvements that serve as an engineered barrier addressing ground level or below environmental contamination, including, but not limited to, parking lots and other concrete or asphalt barriers, the clearing and grading of land, and importing additional

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

2.5

26

soil and fill materials, or removal of soil and fill materials from the site:

- (c) subject to paragraph (d), costs of buildings and other vertical improvements that are located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district and owned by a political subdivision or other public entity, including without limitation police and fire stations, educational facilities, and public restrooms and rest areas;
- (c-1) costs of buildings and other vertical improvements that are located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district and owned by a destination user or destination hotel; except that only 2 destination users in a STAR bond district and one destination hotel are eligible to include the cost of those vertical improvements as project costs;
- (c-5) costs of buildings; rides and attractions, which include carousels, slides, roller coasters, displays, models, towers, works of art, and similar theme and amusement park improvements; and other vertical improvements that are located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district and owned by an entertainment user; except that only one entertainment user in a STAR bond district is eligible to include the cost of those vertical improvements as project costs;
- (d) costs of the design and construction of infrastructure and public works located within the

-15-

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

boundaries of a STAR bond district that are reasonable or necessary to implement a STAR bond district plan or any STAR bond project plans, or both, except that project costs shall not include the cost of constructing a new municipal public building principally used to provide offices, storage space, or conference facilities repair storage, maintenance, or administrative, public safety, or public works personnel and that is not intended to replace an existing public building unless the political subdivision makes reasonable determination in a STAR bond district plan or any STAR bond project plans, supported by information that provides the basis for that determination, that the new municipal building is required to meet an increase in the need for public safety purposes anticipated to result from the implementation of the STAR bond district plan or any STAR bond project plans;

(e) costs of the design and construction of the following improvements located outside the boundaries of a STAR bond district, provided that the costs are essential to further the purpose and development of a STAR bond district plan and either (i) part of and connected to sewer, water, or utility service lines that physically connect to the STAR bond district or (ii) significant improvements for adjacent offsite highways, streets, roadways, and interchanges that are approved by the

2.1

Illinois Department of Transportation. No other cost of infrastructure and public works improvements located outside the boundaries of a STAR bond district may be deemed project costs;

- (f) costs of job training and retraining projects, including the cost of "welfare to work" programs implemented by businesses located within a STAR bond district;
- (g) financing costs, including, but not limited to, all necessary and incidental expenses related to the issuance of obligations and which may include payment of interest on any obligations issued hereunder including interest accruing during the estimated period of construction of any improvements in a STAR bond district or any STAR bond projects for which such obligations are issued and for not exceeding 36 months thereafter and including reasonable reserves related thereto;
- (h) to the extent the political subdivision by written agreement accepts and approves the same, all or a portion of a taxing district's capital costs resulting from a STAR bond district or STAR bond projects necessarily incurred or to be incurred within a taxing district in furtherance of the objectives of a STAR bond district plan or STAR bond project plans;
- (i) interest cost incurred by a developer for project costs related to the acquisition, formation,

2.1

1	implementation,	development,	construction,	and
2	administration of a	STAR bond distri	ct, STAR bond distr	rict
3	plan, STAR bond pro	jects, or any ST	'AR bond project pl	ans
4	provided that:			

- (i) payment of such costs in any one year may not exceed 30% of the annual interest costs incurred by the developer with regard to the STAR bond district or any STAR bond projects during that year; and
- (ii) the total of such interest payments paid pursuant to this Act may not exceed 30% of the total cost paid or incurred by the developer for a STAR bond district or STAR bond projects, plus project costs, excluding any property assembly costs incurred by a political subdivision pursuant to this Act;
- (j) costs of common areas located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district;
- (k) costs of landscaping and plantings, retaining walls and fences, man-made lakes and ponds, shelters, benches, lighting, and similar amenities located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district;
- (1) costs of mounted building signs, site monument, and pylon signs located within the boundaries of a STAR bond district; or
- (m) if included in the STAR bond district plan and approved in writing by the Director, salaries or a portion of salaries for local government employees to the extent

25

26

1	the same are directly attributable to the work of such
2	employees on the establishment and management of a STAR
3	bond district or any STAR bond projects.
4	Except as specified in items (a) through (m), "project
5	costs" shall not include:
6	(i) the cost of construction of buildings that are
7	privately owned or owned by a municipality and leased to a
8	developer or retail user for non-entertainment retail
9	uses;
10	(ii) moving expenses for employees of the businesses
11	locating within the STAR bond district;
12	(iii) property taxes for property located in the STAR
13	bond district;
14	(iv) lobbying costs; and
15	(v) general overhead or administrative costs of the
16	political subdivision that would still have been incurred
17	by the political subdivision if the political subdivision
18	had not established a STAR bond district.
19	"Project development agreement" means any one or more
20	agreements, including any amendments thereto, between a master
21	developer and any co-developer or subdeveloper in connection
22	with a STAR bond project, which project development agreement
23	may include the political subdivision as a party.

"Project labor agreement" means a prehire collective

bargaining agreement that covers all terms and conditions of

employment between the general contractor and all

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

subcontractors hired by the master developer, developer, co-developer, or subdeveloper, as applicable, of a STAR bond project and the local building and construction trades council having geographic jurisdiction over a STAR bond project. A "project labor agreement" must include the following provisions: (1) a provision establishing the minimum hourly wage for each class of labor organization employee; (2) a provision establishing the benefits and other compensation for each class of labor organization employee; (3) a provision requiring that no strike or dispute will be engaged in by the labor organization employees; (4) a provision requiring that no lockout or dispute will be engaged in by the general contractor and all subcontractors building the project; and (5) a provision establishing goals for apprenticeship hours to be performed by minority persons and women, as those terms are defined under the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with Disabilities Act, and goals for total hours to be performed by minority persons and women. A "project labor agreement" may include other terms and conditions as the appropriate building and construction trades council and the general contractor building the STAR bond project deem necessary.

"Projected market area" means any area within the State in which a STAR bond district or STAR bond project is projected to have a significant fiscal or market impact as determined by the Director.

"Resolution" means a resolution, order, ordinance, or other appropriate form of legislative action of a political subdivision or other applicable public entity approved by a vote of a majority of a quorum at a meeting of the governing body of the political subdivision or applicable public entity.

"STAR bond" means a sales tax and revenue bond, note, or other obligation payable from pledged STAR revenues and issued by a political subdivision, the proceeds of which shall be used only to pay project costs as defined in this Act.

"STAR bond district" means the specific area declared to be an eligible area as determined by the political subdivision, and approved by the Director, in which the political subdivision may develop one or more STAR bond projects.

"STAR bond district plan" means the preliminary or conceptual plan that generally identifies the proposed STAR bond project areas and identifies in a general manner the buildings, facilities, and improvements to be constructed or improved in each STAR bond project area.

"STAR bond project" means a project within a STAR bond district which is approved pursuant to Section 20.

"STAR bond project area" means the geographic area within a STAR bond district in which there may be one or more STAR bond projects.

"STAR bond project plan" means the written plan adopted by a political subdivision for the development of a STAR bond

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

project in a STAR bond district; the plan may include, but is not limited to, (i) project costs incurred prior to the date of the STAR bond project plan and estimated future STAR bond project costs, (ii) proposed sources of funds to pay those costs, (iii) the nature and estimated term of any obligations to be issued by the political subdivision to pay those costs, (iv) the most recent equalized assessed valuation of the STAR bond project area, (v) an estimate of the equalized assessed valuation of the STAR bond district or applicable project area after completion of a STAR bond project, (vi) a general description of the types of any known or proposed developers, users, or tenants of the STAR bond project or projects included in the plan, (vii) a general description of the type, structure, and character of the property or facilities to be developed or improved, (viii) a description of the general land uses to apply to the STAR bond project, and (ix) a general description or an estimate of the type, class, and number of employees to be employed in the operation of the STAR bond project, and (x) a project labor agreement.

"State sales tax" means all of the net revenue realized under the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act, the Use Tax Act, the Service Use Tax Act, and the Service Occupation Tax Act from transactions at places of business located within a STAR bond district, excluding that portion of the net revenue realized under the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act, the Use Tax Act, the Service Use Tax Act, and the Service Occupation Tax Act from

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

1 transactions at places of business located within a STAR bond district that is deposited into the Local Government Tax Fund 2 3 and the County and Mass Transit District Fund.

"State sales tax increment" means (i) 100% of that portion of the State sales tax that is in excess of the State sales tax for the same month in the base year, as determined by the Revenue, from transactions at Department of up to destination users, one destination hotel, entertainment user located within a STAR bond district, which destination users, destination hotel, and entertainment user shall be designated by the master developer and approved by the political subdivision and the Director in conjunction with the applicable STAR bond project approval, and (ii) 25% of that portion of the State sales tax that is in excess of the State sales tax for the same month in the base year, as determined by the Department of Revenue, from all other transactions within a STAR bond district. If any portion of State sales taxes are, at the time of formation of a STAR bond district, already subject to tax increment financing under the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, then the State sales tax increment for such portion shall be frozen at the base year established in accordance with this Act, and all future incremental increases shall be included in the State sales tax increment under this Act. Any party otherwise entitled to receipt of incremental State sales tax revenues through an existing tax increment financing district shall be

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

1 entitled to continue to receive such revenues up to the amount frozen in the base year. Nothing in this Act shall affect the 2 3 prior qualification of existing redevelopment project costs 4 incurred that are eligible for reimbursement under the Tax 5 Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act. In such event, prior to approving a STAR bond district, the political subdivision 6 forming the STAR bond district shall take such action as is 7 necessary, including amending the existing tax increment 8 9 financing district redevelopment plan, to carry out the 10 provisions of this Act.

"Substantial change" means a change wherein the proposed STAR bond project plan differs substantially in size, scope, or use from the approved STAR bond district plan or STAR bond project plan.

"Taxpayer" means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, trust, estate, or other entity that is subject to the Illinois Income Tax Act.

"Total development costs" means the aggregate public and private investment in a STAR bond district, including project costs and other direct and indirect costs related to the development of the STAR bond district.

"Traditional retail use" means the operation of a business that derives at least 90% of its annual gross revenue from sales at retail, as that phrase is defined by Section 1 of the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act, but does not include the operations of destination users, entertainment

- 1 restaurants, hotels, retail uses within hotels, or any other
- 2 non-retail uses.
- 3 "Vacant" means that portion of the land in a proposed STAR
- 4 bond district that is not occupied by a building, facility, or
- 5 other vertical improvement.
- 6 (Source: P.A. 101-10, eff. 6-5-19; 101-455, eff. 8-23-19;
- 7 101-604, eff. 12-13-19; 102-700, eff. 4-19-22.)
- 8 (50 ILCS 470/20)
- 9 Sec. 20. Approval of STAR bond projects. The governing
- 10 body of a political subdivision may establish one or more STAR
- 11 bond projects in any STAR bond district. A STAR bond project
- which is partially outside the boundaries of a municipality
- must also be approved by the governing body of the county by
- 14 resolution.
- 15 (a) After the establishment of a STAR bond district, the
- 16 master developer may propose one or more STAR bond projects to
- 17 a political subdivision and the master developer shall, in
- 18 cooperation with the political subdivision, prepare a STAR
- bond project plan in consultation with the planning commission
- of the political subdivision, if any. The STAR bond project
- 21 plan may be implemented in separate development stages.
- 22 (b) Any political subdivision considering a STAR bond
- 23 project within a STAR bond district shall notify the
- Department, which shall cause to be prepared an independent
- 25 feasibility study by a feasibility consultant with certified

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

1	copies provided to the political subdivision, the Director,
2	and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The
3	feasibility study shall include the following:

- (1) the estimated amount of pledged STAR revenues expected to be collected in each year through the maturity date of the proposed STAR bonds;
- (2) a statement of how the jobs and taxes obtained from the STAR bond project will contribute significantly to the economic development of the State and region;
 - (3) visitation expectations;
 - (4) the unique quality of the project;
- (5) an economic impact study;
- 13 (6) a market study;
- 14 (7) integration and collaboration with other resources 15 or businesses:
 - (8) the quality of service and experience provided, as measured against national consumer standards for the specific target market;
 - (9) project accountability, measured according to best industry practices;
 - (10) the expected return on State and local investment that the STAR bond project is anticipated to produce; and
- 23 (11) an anticipated principal and interest payment 24 schedule on the STAR bonds.
- 25 The feasibility consultant, along with the independent 26 economist and any other consultants commissioned to perform

- 1 the studies and other analysis required by the feasibility
- study, shall be selected by the Director with the approval of
- the political subdivision. The consultants shall be retained 3
- 4 by the Director and the Department shall be reimbursed by the
- 5 master developer for the costs to retain the consultants.
- The failure to include all information enumerated in this 6
- subsection in the feasibility study for a STAR bond project 7
- 8 shall not affect the validity of STAR bonds issued pursuant to
- 9 this Act.

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

- 10 (c) If the political subdivision determines the STAR bond
- project is feasible, the STAR bond project plan shall include: 11
- (1) a summary of the feasibility study; 12
- 13 (2) a reference to the STAR bond district plan that 14 identifies the STAR bond project area that is set forth in 15 the STAR bond project plan that is being considered;
- 16 (3) a legal description and map of the STAR bond 17 project area to be developed or redeveloped;
 - (4) a description of the buildings and facilities proposed to be constructed or improved in such STAR bond project area, including destination users and an entertainment user, as applicable;
 - (5) a copy of letters of intent to locate within the STAR bond district signed by both the master developer and appropriate corporate officer of at least destination user for the first STAR bond project proposed within the district; and

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

(6) any other information the governing body of the 1 political subdivision deems reasonable and necessary to advise the public of the intent of the STAR bond project plan.

(d) Before a political subdivision may hold a public hearing to consider a STAR bond project plan, the political subdivision must apply to the Department for approval of the STAR bond project plan. An application for approval of a STAR bond project plan must not be approved unless all of the components of the feasibility study set forth in items through (11) of subsection (b) have been completed and submitted to the Department for review. In addition to reviewing all of the other elements of the STAR bond project plan required under subsection (c), which must be included in the application (which plan must include a letter or letters of intent as required under subdivision (c)(5) in order to receive Director approval), the Director must review the feasibility study and consider all of the components of the feasibility study set forth in items (1) through (11) of subsection (b) of Section 20, including, without limitation, the economic impact study and the financial benefit of the proposed STAR bond project to the local, regional, and State economies, the proposed adverse impacts on similar businesses and projects as well as municipalities within the market area, and the net effect of the proposed STAR bond project on the local, regional, and State economies. In addition to the

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

economic impact study, the political subdivision must also submit to the Department, as part of its application, the financial and other information that substantiates the basis for the conclusion of the economic impact study, in the form and manner as required by the Department, so that the Department can verify the results of the study. In addition to any other criteria in this subsection, to approve any STAR bond project plan submitted on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly, the political subdivision must also submit to the Department, as part of its application, a signed project labor agreement. In addition to any other criteria in this subsection, to approve the STAR bond project plan, the Director must be satisfied that the proposed destination user is in fact a destination user and also find that the STAR bond project plan is in accordance with the purpose of this Act and the public interest. The Director shall either approve or deny the STAR bond project plan based on the criteria in this subsection. In granting its approval, the Department may require political subdivision to execute a binding agreement or memorandum of understanding with the State. The terms of the agreement or memorandum may include, among other things, the political subdivision's repayment of the State sales increment distributed to it should any violation of the agreement or memorandum or this Act occur.

(e) Upon a finding by the planning and zoning commission

2.1

of the political subdivision that the STAR bond project plan is consistent with the intent of the comprehensive plan for the development of the political subdivision and upon issuance of written approval of the STAR bond project plan from the Director pursuant to subsection (d) of Section 20, the governing body of the political subdivision shall adopt a resolution stating that the political subdivision is considering the adoption of the STAR bond project plan. The resolution shall:

- (1) give notice that a public hearing will be held to consider the adoption of the STAR bond project plan and fix the date, hour, and place of the public hearing;
- (2) describe the general boundaries of the STAR bond district within which the STAR bond project will be located and the date of establishment of the STAR bond district;
- (3) describe the general boundaries of the area proposed to be included within the STAR bond project area;
- (4) provide that the STAR bond project plan and map of the area to be redeveloped or developed are available for inspection during regular office hours in the offices of the political subdivision; and
- (5) contain a summary of the terms and conditions of any proposed project development agreement with the political subdivision.
- (f) A public hearing shall be conducted to consider the

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

- 1 adoption of any STAR bond project plan.
 - (1) The date fixed for the public hearing to consider the adoption of the STAR bond project plan shall be not less than 20 nor more than 90 days following the date of the adoption of the resolution fixing the date of the hearing.
 - (2) A copy of the political subdivision's resolution providing for the public hearing shall be certified mail, return receipt requested, to the governing body of the county. A copy of the political subdivision's resolution providing for the public hearing shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each person or persons in whose name the general taxes for the last preceding year were paid on each parcel of land lying within the proposed STAR bond project area within 10 days following the date of the adoption of the resolution. The resolution shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision not less than one week nor more than 3 weeks preceding the date fixed for the public hearing. A map or aerial photo clearly delineating the area of land proposed to be included within the STAR bond project area shall be published with the resolution.
 - (3) The hearing shall be held at a location that is within 20 miles of the STAR bond district, in a facility that can accommodate a large crowd, and in a facility that

2.1

is accessible to persons with disabilities.

- (4) At the public hearing, a representative of the political subdivision or master developer shall present the STAR bond project plan. Following the presentation of the STAR bond project plan, all interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard. The governing body may continue the date and time of the public hearing.
- (g) Upon conclusion of the public hearing, the governing body of the political subdivision may adopt the STAR bond project plan by a resolution approving the STAR bond project plan.
- (h) After the adoption by the corporate authorities of the political subdivision of a STAR bond project plan, the political subdivision may enter into a project development agreement if the master developer has requested the political subdivision to be a party to the project development agreement pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 25.
- (i) Within 30 days after the adoption by the political subdivision of a STAR bond project plan, the clerk of the political subdivision shall transmit a copy of the legal description of the land and a list of all new and existing mailing addresses within the STAR bond district, a copy of the resolution adopting the STAR bond project plan, and a map or plat indicating the boundaries of the STAR bond project area to the clerk, treasurer, and governing body of the county and to the Department of Revenue. Within 30 days of creation of any

2.1

new mailing addresses within a STAR bond district, the clerk of the political subdivision shall provide written notice of such new addresses to the Department of Revenue.

If a certified copy of the resolution adopting the STAR bond project plan is filed with the Department on or before the first day of April, the Department, if all other requirements of this subsection are met, shall proceed to collect and allocate any local sales tax increment and any State sales tax increment in accordance with the provisions of this Act as of the first day of July next following the adoption and filing. If a certified copy of the resolution adopting the STAR bond project plan is filed with the Department after April 1 but on or before the first day of October, the Department, if all other requirements of this subsection are met, shall proceed to collect and allocate any local sales tax increment and any State sales tax increment in accordance with the provisions of this Act as of the first day of January next following the adoption and filing.

Any substantial changes to a STAR bond project plan as adopted shall be subject to a public hearing following publication of notice thereof in a newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision and approval by resolution of the governing body of the political subdivision.

The Department of Revenue shall not collect or allocate any local sales tax increment or State sales tax increment until the political subdivision also provides, in the manner

1 prescribed by the Department, the boundaries of the STAR bond project area and each address in the STAR bond project area in 2 3 such a way that the Department can determine by its address 4 whether a business is located in the STAR bond project area. 5 The political subdivision must provide this boundary and 6 address information to the Department on or before April 1 for administration and enforcement under this Act by 7 8 Department beginning on the following July 1 and on or before 9 October 1 for administration and enforcement under this Act by 10 the Department beginning on the following January 1. The 11 Department of Revenue shall not administer or enforce any change made to the boundaries of a STAR bond project or any 12 address change, addition, or deletion until the political 13 14 subdivision reports the boundary change or address change, 15 addition, or deletion to the Department in the manner 16 prescribed by the Department. The political subdivision must provide this boundary change or address change, addition, or 17 deletion information to the Department on or before April 1 18 for administration and enforcement by the Department of the 19 20 change, addition, or deletion beginning on the following July 1 and on or before October 1 for administration and 2.1 22 enforcement by the Department of the change, addition, or 23 deletion beginning on the following January 1. If a retailer 24 is incorrectly included or excluded from the list of those 25 located in the STAR bond project, the Department of Revenue 26 shall be held harmless if it reasonably relied on information

- provided by the political subdivision.
 - (j) Any STAR bond project must be approved by the political subdivision prior to that date which is 23 years from the date of the approval of the STAR bond district, provided however that any amendments to such STAR bond project may occur following such date.
 - (k) Any developer of a STAR bond project shall commence work on the STAR bond project within 3 years from the date of adoption of the STAR bond project plan. Before commencing work on a STAR bond project, the developer must enter into a project labor agreement. If the developer fails to commence work on the STAR bond project within the 3-year period, funding for the project shall cease and the developer of the project or complex shall have one year to appeal to the political subdivision for reapproval of the project and funding. If the project is reapproved, the 3-year period for commencement shall begin again on the date of the reapproval.
 - (1) After the adoption by the corporate authorities of the political subdivision of a STAR bond project plan and approval of the Director pursuant to subsection (d) of Section 20, the political subdivision may authorize the issuance of the STAR bonds in one or more series to finance the STAR bond project in accordance with the provisions of this Act, except the corporate authorities of the political subdivision may only authorize the issuance of STAR bonds if the master developer, co-developer, or subdeveloper, as applicable, has entered into

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

a project labor agreement.

- (m) The maximum maturity of STAR bonds issued to finance a STAR bond project shall not exceed 23 years from the first date of distribution of State sales tax revenues from such STAR bond project to the political subdivision unless the political subdivision extends such maturity by resolution up to a maximum of 35 years from such first distribution date. Any such extension shall require the approval of the Director. In no event shall the maximum maturity date for any STAR bonds exceed that date which is 35 years from the first distribution date of the first STAR bonds issued in a STAR bond district.
- (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 6-7-23.) 12
- 13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 14 becoming law.".