



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

SB3974

Introduced 11/18/2010, by Sen. John M. Sullivan

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 4003/10
20 ILCS 4003/15
20 ILCS 4003/17 new
20 ILCS 4003/20

Amends the Mississippi River Coordinating Council Act. Provides that the Mississippi River Coordinating Council shall include a standing subcommittee called the Mississippi River Parkway Subcommittee, which shall consist of 6 public members residing in counties in the State that are adjacent to the Mississippi River and ex-officio members from the State with specific knowledge of the Mississippi River. Provides that the chairperson of the Council shall appoint the Subcommittee members and that the Subcommittee members shall be non-voting members of the Council. Sets forth the duties of the Subcommittee. Effective January 1, 2011.

LRB096 24306 RLJ 43786 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Mississippi River Coordinating Council Act
5 is amended by changing Sections 10, 15, and 20 and adding
6 Section 17 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 4003/10)

8 Sec. 10. Mississippi River Coordinating Council.

9 (a) There is established the Mississippi River
10 Coordinating Council (Council), consisting of 13 voting
11 members to be appointed by the Governor. One member shall be
12 the Lieutenant Governor who shall serve as a voting member and
13 as chairperson of the Council. The agency members of the
14 Council shall include the Directors, or their designees, of the
15 following: the Department of Agriculture, the Department of
16 Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Illinois Environmental
17 Protection Agency, the Department of Natural Resources, and the
18 Department of Transportation. In addition, the Council shall
19 include one member representing Soil and Water Conservation
20 Districts located in the proximity of the Mississippi River and
21 its tributaries, and 6 members representing local communities,
22 not-for-profit organizations working to protect the
23 Mississippi River and its tributaries, businesses,

1 agriculture, recreation, conservation, and the environment.
2 Additionally, the Council shall include a standing
3 subcommittee called the Mississippi River Parkway Subcommittee
4 (Subcommittee). The Subcommittee shall consist of 6 public
5 members residing in counties in the State that are adjacent to
6 the Mississippi River and ex-officio members from the State
7 with specific knowledge of the Mississippi River. The
8 Subcommittee members, including the chairperson, shall be
9 appointed by the chairperson of the Council. The Subcommittee
10 members shall be non-voting members of the Council. The
11 chairperson of the Subcommittee shall also serve as the
12 Illinois representative to the National Mississippi River
13 Parkway Commission.

14 (b) The Governor may appoint, as ex-officio members,
15 individuals representing the interests of the states who border
16 the Mississippi River and individuals representing federal
17 agencies.

18 (c) Members of the Council shall serve 2-year terms, except
19 that of the initial appointments, 5 members shall be appointed
20 to serve 3-year terms and 4 members to serve one-year terms.

21 (d) The Council shall meet at least quarterly.

22 (e) The Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall be
23 responsible for the operations of the Council, including,
24 without limitation, funding and oversight of the Council's
25 activities. The Office may reimburse members of the Council for
26 travel expenses.

1 (f) This Section is subject to the provisions of Section
2 405-500 of the Department of Central Management Services Law.
3 (Source: P.A. 94-996, eff. 1-1-07.)

4 (20 ILCS 4003/15)

5 Sec. 15. Duties of the Council. The Council shall:

6 (1) periodically review activities and programs
7 administered by State and federal agencies that directly
8 impact the Mississippi River and its tributaries;

9 (2) work with local communities and organizations to
10 encourage partnerships that enhance awareness and
11 capabilities to address watershed and water resource
12 concerns and to encourage strategies that protect,
13 restore, and expand critical habitats and soil
14 conservation and water quality practices;

15 (3) work with State and federal agencies to optimize
16 the expenditure of funds affecting the Mississippi River
17 and its tributaries;

18 (4) advise and make recommendations to the Governor and
19 State agencies on ways to better coordinate the expenditure
20 of appropriated funds affecting the Mississippi River and
21 its tributaries;

22 (5) encourage local communities to develop water
23 management plans to address stormwater, erosion, flooding,
24 sedimentation, and pollution problems and encourage
25 projects for the natural conveyance and storage of

1 floodwaters, the enhancement of wildlife habitat and
2 outdoor recreation opportunities, the recovery,
3 management, and conservation of the Mississippi River and
4 its tributaries, the preservation of farmland, prairies,
5 and forests, and the use of measurable economic development
6 efforts that are compatible with the ecological health of
7 the State; ~~and~~

8 (6) help identify possible sources of additional
9 funding for Mississippi River water management projects;
10 and -

11 (7) receive, review, and analyze information submitted
12 by the Subcommittee under Section 17 and issue reports
13 concerning that information as it deems appropriate.

14 (Source: P.A. 94-996, eff. 1-1-07.)

15 (20 ILCS 4003/17 new)

16 Sec. 17. Duties of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee
17 shall:

18 (1) Analyze the programs established by or associated
19 with interstate compacts, planning groups, commissions,
20 State agencies, local agencies, and any other related
21 entities that are involved in air, water, and land use
22 activities along the Mississippi River to determine their
23 relationship to the objectives of the Subcommittee.

24 (2) Submit reports to the Council detailing the
25 Subcommittee's progress in meeting the requirements of

1 paragraph (1) including without limitation observations,
2 conclusions, and recommendations concerning specific State
3 and local agencies. The reports must be submitted to the
4 Council at least twice a year.

5 (3) Advise the Department of Transportation, the
6 Department of Natural Resources, the Department of
7 Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Department of
8 Agriculture, counties, townships, municipalities, and road
9 districts concerning projects and activities related to
10 the Great River Road, a national scenic and recreational
11 highway.

12 (4) Cooperate with and provide assistance to the
13 National Mississippi River Parkway Commission in promoting
14 the development and use of the Great River Road and its
15 facilities. Subject to appropriation, the Subcommittee may
16 pay an annual fee for its participation in the programs of
17 the National Mississippi River Parkway Commission.

18 (20 ILCS 4003/20)

19 Sec. 20. Agency duties. State agencies represented on the
20 Council shall provide to the Council, on request, information
21 concerning agency programs, data, and activities that impact
22 the restoration and preservation of the Mississippi River and
23 its tributaries. The Secretary of Transportation, the Director
24 of Agriculture, the Director of Historic Preservation, the
25 Director of Natural Resources, and the Director of Commerce and

1 Economic Opportunity shall each designate at least one employee
2 from his or her respective agency to assist the Subcommittee in
3 the performance of its functions and duties.

4 (Source: P.A. 94-996, eff. 1-1-07.)

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
6 1, 2011.