



Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II

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10400HB0917ham001

LRB104 04815 RTM 34648 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 917

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 917 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois
6 is amended by adding Section 605-1058 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-1058 new)

8 Sec. 605-1058. Flagship cultural district.

9 (a) As used in this Section, "flagship cultural district"
10 means a geographic area in a municipality with a population
11 greater than 500,000 that is certified under this Section as
12 an area in which the arts, entertainment, history, and culture
13 are provided.

14 (b) Municipalities or organizations working on behalf of a
15 certified flagship cultural district should seek to:

16 (1) promote the State and the flagship cultural

1 district's host municipality as a flagship world hub for
2 arts, entertainment, history, and culture;

3 (2) encourage economic development and support
4 entrepreneurship in the certified geographic area and
5 community, particularly in the fields of arts,
6 entertainment, and culture and supporting industries;

7 (3) encourage the preservation and development of
8 historic and culturally significant structures,
9 traditions, and languages;

10 (4) foster local cultural development and education;

11 (5) provide a focal point for celebrating and
12 strengthening the unique cultural identity of the State
13 and the flagship cultural district's host municipality;

14 (6) promote growth and opportunity without generating
15 displacement or expanding inequality; and

16 (7) promote tourism and further enhance the State and
17 the flagship cultural district's host municipality's place
18 as a global destination.

19 (c) The Department shall establish criteria and guidelines
20 for designation of a flagship cultural district by rule in
21 accordance with qualifying criteria outlined in subsection
22 (d). In executing its powers and duties under this Section,
23 the Department shall:

24 (1) establish an application system by which a
25 501(c)(3) organization may apply for certification as a
26 flagship cultural district;

1 (2) provide technical assistance for a flagship
2 cultural district by collaborating with all relevant
3 offices and grantees of the Department to help them
4 identify and achieve their goals for cultural
5 preservation, including, but not limited to, promotional
6 support of the flagship cultural district and support for
7 small businesses looking to access resources; and

8 (3) collaborate with other State agencies, units of
9 local government, community organizations, and private
10 entities to maximize the benefits of the flagship cultural
11 district.

12 (d) A geographic area in a municipality with a population
13 greater than 500,000 may be certified as a flagship cultural
14 district by applying to the Department for certification.
15 Certification as a flagship cultural district shall be for a
16 period of 10 years, after which the district may renew
17 certification every 5 years. Any applicant for certification
18 on behalf of a geographic area shall be a 501(c)(3)
19 organization. The applying entity is responsible for complying
20 with reporting requirements under subsection (f). The
21 Department shall develop criteria to assess whether an
22 applicant qualifies for certification under this Section. That
23 criteria must include a demonstration that the applicant and
24 the community that they can provide:

25 (1) a unified and inclusive approach to creating
26 cultural engagement opportunities within its designated

1 geographic area; and

2 (2) strong community support for the flagship cultural
3 district designation through participation by community
4 organizations and state, regional, and municipal
5 government agencies or officials.

6 (e) No later than September 30, 2026, the Department shall
7 award one flagship cultural district.

8 (f) Within 12 months after being designated a flagship
9 cultural district, the flagship cultural district shall submit
10 a report to the Department detailing its current programs and
11 goals for the next 4 years of its designation. For each year
12 thereafter that the district remains a flagship cultural
13 district, it shall submit a report to the Department on the
14 status of the programs and future developments of the
15 district. Any flagship cultural district that fails to file a
16 report for 2 consecutive years shall lose its status as a
17 flagship cultural district.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.".