



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1358

Introduced 1/28/2025, by Rep. Sharon Chung

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.25g-5 new

Amends the School Code. Creates the Waiver Process Task Force. Sets forth provisions concerning membership, meetings, and support services. Provides that the purposes of the Task Force are to examine the current waiver response process and make recommendations on a more equitable and fair waiver response at the elementary and secondary school levels in this State; develop and use metrics to assess the viability of waiver requests and the impact of such requests on students in kindergarten through grade 12; promote training and professional development on creating waiver requests that include accountability measures for teachers and other community stakeholders across this State; identify and seek local, State, and national resources to support an equitable and fair waiver process; and complete such other strategies as may be identified by the Task Force. Provides that the Task Force shall make recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on how waivers should be requested, how waivers should be reviewed for approval, and how to demonstrate the ability to fulfill accountability measures proposed in requested waivers. Requires the Task Force to file a report with the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2025. Effective immediately.

LRB104 06331 LNS 16366 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 2-3.25g-5 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25g-5 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.25g-5. Waiver Process Task Force.

8 (a) The Waiver Process Task Force is created. The Task  
9 Force shall consist of the following voting members:

10 (1) a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the  
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives;

12 (2) a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the  
13 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

14 (3) a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the  
15 President of the Senate;

16 (4) a member of the General Assembly, appointed by the  
17 Minority Leader of the Senate;

18 (5) the Lieutenant Governor or his or her designee;

19 (6) the State Superintendent of Education or his or  
20 her designee, who shall serve as a co-chairperson of the  
21 Task Force;

22 (7) the Director of Public Health or his or her  
23 designee, who shall serve as a co-chairperson of the Task

1       Force;

2           (8) the Chief Executive Officer of City of Chicago  
3       School District 299, appointed by the Chicago Board of  
4       Education;

5           (9) 2 representatives from a statewide organization  
6       representing health, physical education, recreation, and  
7       dance, appointed by the head of that organization, of  
8       which one representative is a current teacher and one is a  
9       retired teacher;

10          (10) a representative of City of Chicago School  
11       District 299, appointed by the Chicago Board of Education;

12          (11) 2 representatives of a statewide professional  
13       teachers' organization, appointed by the head of that  
14       organization;

15          (12) 2 representatives of a statewide professional  
16       teachers' organization other than the statewide  
17       professional teachers' organization in paragraph (11),  
18       appointed by the head of that organization;

19          (13) a representative of an organization representing  
20       professional teachers in a city having a population of  
21       more than 500,000, appointed by the head of that  
22       organization;

23          (14) a representative of a statewide organization  
24       representing principals, appointed by the head of that  
25       organization;

26          (15) a representative of a statewide organization

1 representing school administrators, appointed by the head  
2 of that organization;

3 (16) a representative of a statewide organization  
4 representing school boards, appointed by the head of that  
5 organization;

6 (17) a representative of a statewide organization  
7 representing school business officials, appointed by the  
8 head of that organization;

9 (18) a representative of a statewide organization  
10 representing parents, appointed by the head of that  
11 organization;

12 (19) a representative of a national research and  
13 advocacy organization focused on cardiovascular health and  
14 wellness, appointed by the head of that organization;

15 (20) a representative of an organization that  
16 advocates for healthy school environments, appointed by  
17 the head of that organization;

18 (21) a representative of a not-for-profit organization  
19 serving children and youth, appointed by the head of that  
20 organization;

21 (22) a representative of a not-for-profit organization  
22 that partners to promote prevention and improve public  
23 health systems that maximize the health and quality of  
24 life of the people of this State, appointed by the head of  
25 that organization;

26 (23) a representative of a statewide organization

1 representing driver education and safety, appointed by the  
2 head of that organization;

3 (24) a representative of a statewide organization  
4 representing adapted physical education, appointed by the  
5 head of that organization;

6 (25) a representative of a statewide organization  
7 representing health education, appointed by the head of  
8 that organization; and

9 (26) a representative from a regional office of  
10 education, appointed by the State Superintendent of  
11 Education.

12 Additional members may be appointed to the Task Force with  
13 the approval of the co-chairpersons. All members of the Task  
14 Force shall serve without compensation.

15 (b) The Task Force shall meet at the call of the  
16 co-chairpersons, with the initial meeting of the Task Force  
17 being held as soon as possible after the effective date of this  
18 amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly.

19 (c) The State Board of Education and the Department of  
20 Public Health shall provide assistance and necessary staff  
21 support services to the Task Force.

22 (d) The purposes of the Task Force are to:

23 (1) examine the current waiver response process and  
24 make recommendations on a more equitable and fair waiver  
25 response at the elementary and secondary school levels in  
26 this State, including educating and promoting leadership

1 on the waiver response process among school districts and  
2 school officials;

3 (2) develop and use metrics to assess the viability of  
4 waiver requests and the impact of such requests on  
5 students in kindergarten through grade 12;

6 (3) promote training and professional development on  
7 creating waiver requests that include accountability  
8 measures for teachers and other community stakeholders  
9 across this State;

10 (4) identify and seek local, State, and national  
11 resources to support an equitable and fair waiver process;  
12 and

13 (5) complete such other strategies as may be  
14 identified by the Task Force.

15 (e) The Task Force shall make recommendations to the  
16 Governor and the General Assembly on how waivers should be  
17 requested, how waivers should be reviewed for approval, and  
18 how to demonstrate the ability to fulfill accountability  
19 measures proposed in requested waivers. The Task Force shall  
20 focus on updating the waiver request process, the waiver  
21 acceptance or denial process, and ways to hold waiver  
22 applicants accountable for meeting the stated goals of  
23 waivers.

24 (f) On or before December 31, 2025, the Task Force must  
25 report its recommendations by filing copies of its report with  
26 the Governor and the General Assembly. Upon filing its report,

1 the Task Force is dissolved.

2 (g) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2027.

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
4 becoming law.