



Rep. Lawrence "Larry" Walsh, Jr.

**Filed: 4/7/2025**

10400HB3541ham002

LRB104 11392 HLH 25027 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3541

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 3541 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Energy Transition Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 5-40 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 730/5-40)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on September 15, 2045)

8 Sec. 5-40. Illinois Climate Works Preapprenticeship  
9 Program.

10 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall  
11 develop, and through Regional Administrators administer, the  
12 Illinois Climate Works Preapprenticeship Program. The goal of  
13 the Illinois Climate Works Preapprenticeship Program is to  
14 create a network of hubs throughout the State that will  
15 recruit, prescreen, and provide preapprenticeship skills  
16 training, for which participants may attend free of charge and

1 receive a stipend, to create a qualified, diverse pipeline of  
2 workers who are prepared for careers in the construction and  
3 building trades and clean energy jobs opportunities therein.  
4 Upon completion of the Illinois Climate Works  
5 Preapprenticeship Program, the candidates will be connected to  
6 and prepared to successfully complete an apprenticeship  
7 program.

8 (b) Each Climate Works Hub that receives funding from the  
9 Energy Transition Assistance Fund shall provide an annual  
10 report to the Illinois Works Review Panel by April 1 of each  
11 calendar year. The annual report shall include the following  
12 information:

13 (1) a description of the Climate Works Hub's  
14 recruitment, screening, and training efforts, including a  
15 description of training related to construction and  
16 building trades opportunities in clean energy jobs;

17 (2) the number of individuals who apply to,  
18 participate in, and complete the Climate Works Hub's  
19 program, broken down by race, gender, age, and veteran  
20 status;

21 (3) the number of the individuals referenced in  
22 paragraph (2) of this subsection who are initially  
23 accepted and placed into apprenticeship programs in the  
24 construction and building trades; and

25 (4) the number of individuals referenced in paragraph  
26 (2) of this subsection who remain in apprenticeship

1 programs in the construction and building trades or have  
2 become journeymen one calendar year after their placement,  
3 as referenced in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

4 (c) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall provide  
5 funding to 3 Climate Works Hubs throughout the State,  
6 including one to the Illinois Department of Transportation  
7 Region 1, one to the Illinois Department of Transportation  
8 Regions 2 and 3, and one to the Illinois Department of  
9 Transportation Regions 4 and 5. An eligible organization may  
10 serve as the designated Climate Works Hub for all 5 regions.  
11 Climate Works Hubs shall be awarded grants in multi-year  
12 increments not to exceed 36 months. Each grant shall come with  
13 a one year initial term, with the Department renewing each  
14 year for 2 additional years unless the grantee either declines  
15 to continue or fails to meet reasonable performance measures  
16 that consider apprenticeship programs timeframes. The  
17 Department may take into account experience and performance as  
18 a previous grantee of the Climate Works Hub as part of the  
19 selection criteria for subsequent years.

20 (d) Each Climate Works Hub that receives funding from the  
21 Energy Transition Assistance Fund shall recruit, prescreen,  
22 and provide preapprenticeship training to program  
23 participants. Each Climate Works Hub that receives funding  
24 from the Energy Transition Assistance Fund shall:

25 (1) in each Hub Site where the applicant pool allows:

26 (A) dedicate at least one-third of Program

1 placements to applicants who reside in a geographic  
2 area that is impacted by economic and environmental  
3 challenges, defined as an area that is both (i) an R3  
4 Area, as defined pursuant to Section 10-40 of the  
5 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, and (ii) an  
6 environmental justice community, as defined by the  
7 Illinois Power Agency under the Illinois Power Agency  
8 Act, excluding any racial or ethnic indicators used by  
9 the Agency unless and until the constitutional basis  
10 for the inclusion of the factors in determining  
11 Program admissions is established; among applicants  
12 that satisfy these criteria, preference shall be given  
13 to applicants who face barriers to employment,  
14 including low educational attainment, prior  
15 involvement with the criminal justice system, and  
16 language barriers, and applicants that are graduates  
17 of or currently enrolled in the foster care system;  
18 and

19 (B) dedicate at least two-thirds of Program  
20 placements to applicants who reside in a geographic  
21 area that is impacted by economic or environmental  
22 challenges, defined as an area that is either (i) an R3  
23 Area, as defined pursuant to Section 10-40 of the  
24 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, or (ii) an  
25 environmental justice community, as defined by the  
26 Illinois Power Agency in the Illinois Power Agency

1 Act, excluding any racial or ethnic indicators used by  
2 the Agency unless and until the constitutional basis  
3 for the inclusion of the factors in determining  
4 Program admissions is established; among applicants  
5 that satisfy these criteria, preference shall be given  
6 to applicants who face barriers to employment,  
7 including low educational attainment, prior  
8 involvement with the criminal legal system, and  
9 language barriers, and applicants that are graduates  
10 of or currently enrolled in the foster care system;  
11 and

12 (C) prioritize the remaining Program placements  
13 for the following:

14 (i) applicants who are displaced energy  
15 workers, as defined in the Energy Community  
16 Reinvestment Act;

17 (ii) persons who face barriers to employment,  
18 including low educational attainment, prior  
19 involvement with the criminal justice system, and  
20 language barriers; and

21 (iii) applicants who are graduates of or  
22 currently enrolled in the foster care system,  
23 regardless of the applicant's area of residence;  
24 ~~Each Climate Works Hub that receives funding from~~  
25 ~~the Energy Transition Assistance Fund shall:~~

26 ~~(1) recruit, prescreen, and provide preapprenticeship~~

1 ~~training to equity investment eligible persons;~~

2 (2) provide training information related to  
3 opportunities and certifications relevant to clean energy  
4 jobs in the construction and building trades; and

5 (3) provide preapprentices with stipends they receive  
6 that may vary depending on the occupation the individual  
7 is training for.

8 (d-5) Priority shall be given to Climate Works Hubs that  
9 have an agreement with North American Building Trades Unions  
10 (NABTU) to utilize the Multi-Craft Core Curriculum or  
11 successor curriculums.

12 (e) Funding for the Program is subject to appropriation  
13 from the Energy Transition Assistance Fund.

14 (f) The Department shall adopt any rules deemed necessary  
15 to implement this Section.

16 (Source: P.A. 102-662, eff. 9-15-21; 102-1031, eff. 5-27-22;  
17 102-1123, eff. 1-27-23.)

18 Section 10. The Illinois Works Jobs Program Act is amended  
19 by changing Section 20-15 as follows:

20 (30 ILCS 559/20-15)

21 Sec. 20-15. Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program;  
22 Illinois Works Bid Credit Program.

23 (a) The Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program is  
24 established and shall be administered by the Department. The

1 goal of the Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program is to  
2 create a network of community-based organizations throughout  
3 the State that will recruit, prescreen, and provide  
4 preapprenticeship skills training, for which participants may  
5 attend free of charge and receive a stipend, to create a  
6 qualified, diverse pipeline of workers who are prepared for  
7 careers in the construction and building trades. Upon  
8 completion of the Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program,  
9 the candidates will be skilled and work-ready.

10 (b) There is created the Illinois Works Fund, a special  
11 fund in the State treasury. The Illinois Works Fund shall be  
12 administered by the Department. The Illinois Works Fund shall  
13 be used to provide funding for community-based organizations  
14 throughout the State. In addition to any other transfers that  
15 may be provided for by law, on and after July 1, 2019 at the  
16 direction of the Director of the Governor's Office of  
17 Management and Budget, the State Comptroller shall direct and  
18 the State Treasurer shall transfer amounts not exceeding a  
19 total of \$50,000,000 from the Rebuild Illinois Projects Fund  
20 to the Illinois Works Fund.

21 (b-5) In addition to any other transfers that may be  
22 provided for by law, beginning July 1, 2024 and each July 1  
23 thereafter, or as soon thereafter as practical, the State  
24 Comptroller shall direct and the State Treasurer shall  
25 transfer \$20,000,000 from the Capital Projects Fund to the  
26 Illinois Works Fund.

1           (c) Each community-based organization that receives  
2 funding from the Illinois Works Fund shall provide an annual  
3 report to the Illinois Works Review Panel by April 1 of each  
4 calendar year. The annual report shall include the following  
5 information:

6           (1) a description of the community-based  
7 organization's recruitment, screening, and training  
8 efforts;

9           (2) the number of individuals who apply to,  
10 participate in, and complete the community-based  
11 organization's program, broken down by race, gender, age,  
12 and veteran status; and

13           (3) the number of the individuals referenced in item (2)  
14 of this subsection who are initially accepted and placed  
15 into apprenticeship programs in the construction and  
16 building trades.

17           (d) The Department shall create and administer the  
18 Illinois Works Bid Credit Program that shall provide economic  
19 incentives, through bid credits, to encourage contractors and  
20 subcontractors to provide contracting and employment  
21 opportunities to historically underrepresented populations in  
22 the construction industry.

23           The Illinois Works Bid Credit Program shall allow  
24 contractors and subcontractors to earn bid credits for use  
25 toward future bids for public works projects contracted by the  
26 State or an agency of the State in order to increase the

1 chances that the contractor and the subcontractors will be  
2 selected.

3 Contractors or subcontractors may be eligible to earn bid  
4 credits for employing apprentices who have completed the  
5 Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program, the Climate Works  
6 Preapprenticeship Program, or the Highway Construction Careers  
7 Training Program. Contractors or subcontractors shall earn bid  
8 credits at a rate established by the Department and based on  
9 labor hours worked by apprentices who have completed the  
10 Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program, the Climate Works  
11 Preapprenticeship Program, or the Highway Construction Careers  
12 Training Program. In order to earn bid credits, contractors  
13 and subcontractors shall provide the Department with certified  
14 payroll documenting the hours performed by apprentices who  
15 have completed the Illinois Works Preapprenticeship Program, the Climate Works  
16 Preapprenticeship Program, or the Highway  
17 Construction Careers Training Program. Contractors and  
18 subcontractors can use bid credits toward future bids for  
19 public works projects contracted or funded by the State or an  
20 agency of the State in order to increase the likelihood of  
21 being selected as the contractor for the public works project  
22 toward which they have applied the bid credit. The Department  
23 shall establish the rate by rule and shall publish it on the  
24 Department's website. The rule may include maximum bid credits  
25 allowed per contractor, per subcontractor, per apprentice, per  
26 bid, or per year.

1           The Illinois Works Credit Bank is hereby created and shall  
2 be administered by the Department. The Illinois Works Credit  
3 Bank shall track the bid credits.

4           A contractor or subcontractor who has been awarded bid  
5 credits under any other State program for employing  
6 apprentices who have completed the Illinois Works  
7 Preapprenticeship Program is not eligible to receive bid  
8 credits under the Illinois Works Bid Credit Program relating  
9 to the same contract.

10          The Department shall report to the Illinois Works Review  
11 Panel the following: (i) the number of bid credits awarded by  
12 the Department; (ii) the number of bid credits submitted by  
13 the contractor or subcontractor to the agency administering  
14 the public works contract; and (iii) the number of bid credits  
15 accepted by the agency for such contract. Any agency that  
16 awards bid credits pursuant to the Illinois Works Credit Bank  
17 Program shall report to the Department the number of bid  
18 credits it accepted for the public works contract.

19          Upon a finding that a contractor or subcontractor has  
20 reported falsified records to the Department in order to  
21 fraudulently obtain bid credits, the Department may bar the  
22 contractor or subcontractor from participating in the Illinois  
23 Works Bid Credit Program and may suspend the contractor or  
24 subcontractor from bidding on or participating in any public  
25 works project. False or fraudulent claims for payment relating  
26 to false bid credits may be subject to damages and penalties

1 under applicable law.

2 (e) The Department shall adopt any rules deemed necessary  
3 to implement this Section. In order to provide for the  
4 expeditious and timely implementation of this Act, the  
5 Department may adopt emergency rules. The adoption of  
6 emergency rules authorized by this subsection is deemed to be  
7 necessary for the public interest, safety, and welfare.

8 (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 6-7-23; 103-305, eff. 7-28-23;  
9 103-588, eff. 6-5-24; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24.)