



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3786

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Camille Y. Lilly

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Office of Civility Act. Makes findings. Defines terms. Establishes the Office of Civility within the Office of the Governor, with support from specific other State agencies. Provides that the operations of the Office shall be subject to appropriations. Provides the purpose of the Office. Provides for an Advisory Board to assist the Office, with certain membership and other requirements and duties. Requires the Advisory Board to submit a report to the Office of Civility, General Assembly, and Governor's Office by December 31, 2026, after which the Advisory Board is dissolved. Effective immediately.

LRB104 09350 BDA 19408 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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Office  
5 of Civility Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The Illinois General Assembly joins  
7 the Center for Disease Control in recognizing violence as a  
8 public health problem, namely a disease. In addressing this  
9 disease, it is necessary to facilitate the creation of an  
10 Office of Civility to educate Illinoisans on civil conduct.  
11 This Office will expand on the provisions of Public Act 102-4  
12 to continue Illinois' commitment to improving the health  
13 outcomes of its people. The Office shall deploy strategies  
14 based on available evidence to understand the factors that  
15 produce or influence violence and promote evidence-based  
16 solutions to help reduce violent behaviors within the State.

17 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

18 "Civility" means treating and respecting other persons  
19 within Illinois as free and equal members of society entitled  
20 to rights and liberties without barriers.

21 "Cultural diversity" means diversity of thoughts, actions,  
22 traditions, beliefs, and values inherently held on the basis

1 of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or identity, age, and  
2 location.

3 "Institutional violence" means a form of violence where  
4 social structures or institutions harm people from  
5 underprivileged backgrounds through the exercise of power.

6 "Morality" means a learned system of behaviors and  
7 principles that govern one's conduct, which includes the  
8 practice of civility.

9 "Violence" means (i) the intentional use of held power or  
10 physical force against a person, group or community resulting  
11 in physical or psychological harm, death, or developmental  
12 impairment and (ii) a disease deriving from exposure to  
13 environmental, social, or personal stressors. "Violence"  
14 includes, but is not limited to, bullying, incivility, and  
15 harmful bias.

16 Section 15. Office of Civility. The Office of Civility  
17 shall be established within the Office of the Governor, with  
18 support from the Department of Public Health, Department of  
19 Human Services, Department of Human Rights, and Commission on  
20 Equity and Inclusion. The Office shall operate with a goal of  
21 educating Illinoisans on civic morals and virtues, preventing  
22 institutional violence, promoting thoughtful and responsible  
23 conduct, nurturing a civil and engaged population, and  
24 reflecting regional, racial, and cultural diversity. The  
25 operations of the Office shall be subject to the availability

1 of appropriations.

2 Section 20. Purpose of the Office of Civility. The purpose  
3 of the Office of Civility shall include educating individuals  
4 on civility, morality, and institutional violence. The Office  
5 is directed to strive to reduce barriers that stand in the way  
6 of individual and societal peace. The Office shall promote  
7 access to behavioral health services as a method of promoting  
8 civility in Illinois.

9 Section 25. Office of Civility Advisory Board; membership.  
10 There shall be created an Advisory Board to assist the Office  
11 of Civility in the execution of its duties. This Advisory  
12 Board shall be representative of all caucuses within the  
13 Illinois General Assembly and regions of the State and shall  
14 reflect the diversity inherent within Illinois. The Advisory  
15 Board shall consist of 27 voting members, with at least one  
16 being appointed by each branch of State government. The  
17 co-chairs may add additional non-voting members to the  
18 Advisory Board upon mutual agreement. The membership shall be  
19 as follows:

20 (1) One member of the House of Representatives, to  
21 co-chair the Advisory Board, appointed by the Speaker of  
22 the House of Representatives.

23 (2) One member of the Senate, to co-chair the Advisory  
24 Board, appointed by the President of the Senate.

1           (3) One member of the House of Representatives,  
2 appointed by the House Minority Leader.

3           (4) One member of the House of Representatives,  
4 appointed by the Senate Minority Leader.

5           (5) Two human resources professionals, one employed by  
6 a State agency, and one employed by a private company,  
7 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

8           (6) Two human resources professionals, one employed by  
9 a State agency, and one employed by a private company,  
10 appointed by the President of the Senate.

11           (7) Two Commissioners of the Illinois Supreme Court  
12 Commission on Professionalism, appointed by the Chief  
13 Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court.

14           (8) The Director of Public Health, or the Director's  
15 designee.

16           (9) The Secretary of Human Services, or the  
17 Secretary's designee.

18           (10) The Director of Human Rights, or the Director's  
19 designee.

20           (11) The Director of the Illinois State Police, or the  
21 Director's designee.

22           (12) The Director of Corrections, or the Director's  
23 designee.

24           (13) The Executive Director of the Commission on  
25 Equity and Inclusion, or the Executive Director's  
26 designee.

1           (14) Three individuals representing the values of  
2           rural, suburban, and urban locations, respectively, within  
3           Illinois, appointed by the Governor:

4                   (A) one of whom shall represent a county with a  
5                   population under 250,000;

6                   (B) one of whom shall represent a county with a  
7                   population between 250,000 and 500,000; and

8                   (C) one of whom shall represent a county with a  
9                   population over 500,000.

10          (15) Two individuals representing faith-based  
11          organizations, appointed by the Governor.

12          (16) Two individuals representing Illinois businesses,  
13          appointed by the Governor.

14          (17) Four educators representing, respectively, city,  
15          suburbs, town, and rural schools as determined by National  
16          Center For Education Statistics (NCES) locale codes,  
17          appointed by the Illinois State Superintendent of  
18          Education.

19          Members of the Advisory Board shall serve without  
20          compensation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses  
21          incurred in the fulfillment of their duties from funds  
22          appropriated for that purpose. All members of the Advisory  
23          Board shall be residents of the State of Illinois.

24          Initial appointments to this Advisory Board shall be made  
25          within 90 days after the effective date of this Act.

26          The Advisory Board shall hold its first meeting within one

1 month after 80% of all members have been appointed and shall  
2 convene as the co-chairs deem necessary in order to carry out  
3 its prescribed duties and submit any reports required by this  
4 Act. The Department of Public Health, with assistance from the  
5 Department of Human Services, Department of Human Rights, and  
6 Commission on Equity and Inclusion, if required, shall provide  
7 administrative support to the Advisory Board to ensure the  
8 fulfillment of the Board's duties.

9 Section 30. Advisory Board Duties. It shall be the duty of  
10 the Office of Civility Advisory Board to provide  
11 recommendations and advice to the Office of Civility on its  
12 operations and function within the Office of the Governor.  
13 These shall include, but are not limited to the following:

14 (1) Determine how the Office will fit and be supported  
15 by the Office of the Governor, including exploring the  
16 creation of a Chief Civility Officer appointed by the  
17 Governor to lead the Office of Civility. This may include  
18 the creation of partnerships with other State agencies.

19 (2) Research and provide direction on the  
20 implementation of evidence-based strategies for reducing  
21 the factors that lead to violence and violent behaviors,  
22 as well as assess the actions of other governmental  
23 entities in achieving this goal.

24 (3) Create guidance to be distributed to first  
25 responders for civil trauma-informed, and person-centered

1 approaches to respond to crisis situations, especially  
2 those situations involving behavioral health. This may  
3 include additional collaboration with relevant behavioral  
4 health stakeholders and organizations to achieve civil  
5 resolutions to crisis situations.

6 (4) Develop parameters for the creation and  
7 implementation of a State Plan of Civility by the Office  
8 of Civility. This shall serve to assist State agencies and  
9 officers in preventing institutional violence and  
10 promoting equity.

11 (5) Explore engagement in partnerships with community  
12 organizations engaged in the work of violence prevention  
13 and assess their needs and potential supports to offer  
14 them.

15 (6) Determine opportunities to celebrate or honor  
16 National Civility Month in August and collaborate with  
17 other State agencies on the best practices for  
18 implementing these initiatives.

19 (7) Review potential coursework and training that may  
20 be provided by the Office of Civility to schools,  
21 community groups, law enforcement agencies, business  
22 organizations, and other groups on civil behaviors,  
23 conflict resolution strategies, effective communication,  
24 and other life skills.

25 (8) Establish a framework for staffing and funding  
26 needs for an Office capable of fulfilling the duties of



1 the Office of Civility as directed by the Advisory Board.

2 Section 35. Reporting.

3 (a) In addition to their continued support for the Office  
4 of Civility, the Advisory Board shall deliver their  
5 recommendations in the form of a report to be submitted to the  
6 Office of Civility, General Assembly, and Governor's Office.  
7 The Advisory Board shall be dissolved upon the submission of  
8 this report.

9 (b) The Advisory Board is responsible for submitting this  
10 report to the respective parties prior to December 31, 2026.

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
12 becoming law.