



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4689

by Rep. Tracy Katz Muhl

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

70 ILCS 1707/75 new

Amends the Regional Planning Act. Creates the Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory Committee within the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. Describes membership of the Committee. Provides that, no later than May 31, 2027, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory Committee shall develop and submit a report of legislative recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly regarding the sufficiency, management, and governance of water in Northeastern Illinois. Provides that the report shall include (1) the projected water use needs in the region through 2075, including any projected growth in water demand owing to residential, industrial, agricultural, or commercial development; (2) the adequacy of currently available water sources and infrastructure to meet projected water use needs in the region; (3) the risks to water security in the region, including any risks from climate change, groundwater depletion, biological or technological interference, increased drawdown from water intensive manufacturing, infrastructure failure within community water supplies, infrastructure failure across water supplies, and other risks as deemed appropriate; (4) existing data that the State collects related to water withdrawal, transmission, and use, including where the data is kept and how it is used and shared by agencies; (5) potential future government or management structures that would better ensure affordable water access for the region's water users, including possible structures to regionalize water service in the region; (6) recommendations on the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of at least 2 intergovernmental or governmental structures to improve water quality, long-term security, and affordability in the region; and (7) recommendations on how State agencies and departments can improve data collection, planning, and regulation of water in the region. Provides that appointments to the Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory Committee shall be made within 90 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act. Dissolves the Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory Committee on July 1, 2027.

LRB104 18079 RTM 31518 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

4 Section 5. The Regional Planning Act is amended by adding
5 Section 75 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 1707/75 new)

7 Sec. 75. Northeastern Illinois water governance report.

8 (a) No later than May 31, 2027, CMAP and the Policy
9 Committee, in consultation with the Northeastern Illinois
10 Water Governance Advisory Committee created under subsection
11 (b), shall develop and submit a report of legislative
12 recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly regarding
13 the sufficiency, management, and governance of water in the
14 region. The report shall include:

15 (1) projected water use needs in the region through
16 2075, including any projected growth in water demand owing
17 to residential, industrial, agricultural, or commercial
18 development;

19 (2) the adequacy of currently available water sources
20 and infrastructure to meet projected water use needs in
21 the region, including:

22 (A) the sufficiency of infrastructure assets that
23 transmit water between municipalities;

1 (B) the technical, managerial, and financial
2 capacity of each water utility in the region to ensure
3 reliable drinking water access;

4 (C) the sufficiency of the region's groundwater
5 and surface water resources; and

6 (D) opportunities and barriers to conserve or
7 reuse water in the region;

8 (3) the risks to water security in the region,
9 including any risks from climate change, groundwater
10 depletion, biological or technological interference,
11 increased drawdown from water intensive manufacturing,
12 infrastructure failure within community water supplies,
13 infrastructure failure across water supplies, and other
14 risks as deemed appropriate;

15 (4) existing data that the State collects related to
16 water withdrawal, transmission, and use, including where
17 the data is kept and how it is used and shared by agencies;

18 (5) potential future government or management
19 structures that would better ensure affordable water
20 access for the region's water users, including possible
21 structures to regionalize water service in the region;

22 (6) recommendations on the feasibility and
23 cost-effectiveness of at least 2 intergovernmental or
24 governmental structures to improve water quality,
25 long-term security, and affordability in the region.
26 Recommendations under this paragraph shall include,

1 without limitation:

2 (A) how the governmental structures would operate;

3 (B) powers and authorities of a potential regional
4 body; and

5 (C) case studies of examples from other regions
6 and states; and

7 (7) recommendations on how State agencies and
8 departments can improve data collection, planning, and
9 regulation of water in the region.

10 (b) The Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory
11 Committee is created within CMAP. The membership of the
12 Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory Committee
13 shall include, but not be limited to:

14 (1) 2 representatives of the Illinois environmental
15 protection and conservation community appointed by the
16 Director of CMAP;

17 (2) 2 experts in the technical, financial, and
18 managerial capacities of water utilities appointed by the
19 Director of CMAP;

20 (3) at least 2 experts in the management of regional
21 drinking water or wastewater utilities;

22 (4) the Director of the Environmental Protection
23 Agency or the Director's designee;

24 (5) the Director of the Department of Natural
25 Resources or the Director's designee; and

26 (6) the Director of the Illinois State Water Survey or

1 the Director's designee.

2 (c) The Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory
3 Committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members and
4 shall have the authority to determine its meeting schedules,
5 hearing schedules, and agendas.

6 (d) Appointments to the Northeastern Illinois Water
7 Governance Advisory Committee shall be made within 90 days
8 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th
9 General Assembly.

10 (e) Members of the Northeastern Illinois Water Governance
11 Advisory Committee shall serve without compensation.

12 (f) The Northeastern Illinois Water Governance Advisory
13 Committee shall be dissolved on July 1, 2027.