



Sen. Michael W. Halpin

Filed: 4/16/2026

10400SB0799sam001

LRB104 07215 HLH 36921 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 799

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 799 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Public Radio and Television Grant Act is
5 amended by changing Sections 1, 3, and 6 and by adding Section
6 8.1 as follows:

7 (30 ILCS 745/1) (from Ch. 127, par. 1551)

8 Sec. 1. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the
9 context otherwise requires:

10 "Actual operating cost" means the total sum expended for
11 the operations and maintenance of an Illinois public radio or
12 television station.

13 "Eligible station" means an Illinois public radio station
14 or an Illinois public television station that:

15 (1) has been in operation for a minimum of 2 years as
16 of January 1, 2026 or is the product of merger between

1 entities at least one of which has been in operation for a
2 minimum of 2 years as of January 1, 2026;

3 (2) originates a local program service that is
4 designed to serve its community's needs and interests and
5 that provides access free of charge to high-quality
6 content that supports an informed citizenry, provides
7 cultural enrichment, and engages curiosity;

8 (3) is recognized as a non-profit organization by the
9 State of Illinois;

10 (4) employs a professional staff with a minimum of 2
11 full-time employees; and

12 (5) funds both (i) local programming, including, but
13 not limited to, news, public affairs, or educational
14 content, and (ii) regional content, national content, or
15 both regional and national content.

16 "Illinois public radio station" or "radio station" means a
17 non-commercial public radio broadcasting station that is
18 licensed as such by the Federal Communications Commission as
19 of January 1, 2026, that operates from a community in the
20 State, and that received a Community Service Grant from the
21 Corporation for Public Broadcasting during any year between
22 2023 and 2025. ~~, or authorized under a program test authority~~
23 ~~by the Federal Communications Commission, which operates from~~
24 ~~a community located in this State, and meets the minimum~~
25 ~~criteria for receipt of Community Service Grants set by the~~
26 ~~Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and~~

1 "Illinois public television station" or "television
2 station" means a non-commercial public television broadcasting
3 station that is licensed as such by the Federal Communications
4 Commission as of January 1, 2026, that operates from a
5 community in the State, and that received a Community Service
6 Grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting during any
7 year between 2023 and 2025. ~~, or authorized under a program~~
8 ~~test authority by the Federal Communications Commission, which~~
9 ~~operates from a community located in this State, and meets the~~
10 ~~minimum criteria for receipt of Community Service Grants set~~
11 ~~by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.~~

12 ~~"Eligible station" means a public radio or television~~
13 ~~station as defined hereinabove which had been in full-time~~
14 ~~operation and has met the minimum grant criteria of the~~
15 ~~Corporation for Public Broadcasting before applying for a~~
16 ~~grant under this Act.~~

17 ~~In the event the Corporation for Public Broadcasting~~
18 ~~should cease to exist, or its Community Service Grant program~~
19 ~~should terminate, or the eligibility criteria for grants under~~
20 ~~the Community Service Grant program shall be lowered, then the~~
21 ~~criteria for eligibility for such grants which were extant on~~
22 ~~the effective date of this Act shall prevail for purposes of~~
23 ~~this Act.~~

24 "Station" unless otherwise qualified, means any eligible
25 radio or television station.

26 ~~"Actual operating cost" means the total sum expended for~~

1 ~~the operations and maintenance of an Illinois public radio or~~
2 ~~television station.~~

3 (Source: P.A. 88-494.)

4 (30 ILCS 745/3) (from Ch. 127, par. 1553)

5 Sec. 3. Allocation of Funds.

6 (a) For fiscal years before Fiscal Year 2027, funds ~~Funds~~
7 appropriated for the purpose of making grants to stations
8 under this Act shall be divided into 2 grant pools, with 75% of
9 such appropriated funds constituting a grant pool for public
10 television stations and 25% of such appropriated funds
11 constituting a grant pool for public radio stations.

12 (b) Beginning in Fiscal Year 2027, except as provided in
13 Section 6, funds appropriated for the purpose of making grants
14 to stations under this Act shall be allocated to eligible
15 stations as follows:

16 (1) Each eligible station's basic grant amount shall
17 be based on the station's share of the total amount
18 appropriated for the purpose of making grants under this
19 Act for Fiscal Year 2025. Those basic grant amounts are as
20 follows:

- 21 (A) WTTW Communications..... \$568,825;
- 22 (B) WBEZ \$180,361;
- 23 (C) WDCB \$23,361;
- 24 (D) WNIJ and WNIU \$38,728;
- 25 (E) WVIK \$22,161;

1	<u>(F) WCBU</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$18,361;</u>
2	<u>(G) WTVP</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$120,625;</u>
3	<u>(H) WIUM</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$21,361;</u>
4	<u>(I) WQPT</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$87,625;</u>
5	<u>(J) WILL AM & FM</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$45,072;</u>
6	<u>(K) WILL TV</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$125,625;</u>
7	<u>(L) WGLT</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$23,421;</u>
8	<u>(M) WEIU</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$88,275;</u>
9	<u>(N) WSIU FM</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$19,361;</u>
10	<u>(O) WSIU and WMEC</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$252,375; and</u>
11	<u>(P) WUIS</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$22,261.</u>

12 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (1), if, in
13 any fiscal year, the total amount appropriated for grants
14 under this Act is less than \$1,657,800, then the basic
15 grant amount for each station for that fiscal year shall
16 be prorated based on the particular station's percentage
17 of the total amount of Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations
18 under this Act.

19 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of item (1), if, in
20 any fiscal year, the total amount appropriated for grants
21 under this Act is more than \$1,657,800, then the increase
22 for that fiscal year shall be divided equally among all
23 participating stations.

24 (4) If any of the stations listed in item (1) cease
25 operations or otherwise fail to apply for funding in any
26 fiscal year, that station's allocation shall be divided

1 equally among the remaining stations.

2 (5) If any 2 or more of the stations listed in item (1)
3 merge to form one entity, the new entity's basic grant
4 amount shall be the sum of the basic amounts of each of the
5 entities involved in the merger.

6 (Source: P.A. 84-1040.)

7 (30 ILCS 745/6) (from Ch. 127, par. 1556)

8 Sec. 6. Grant Limitations. Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of this Act, no station shall in any year be
10 allocated funds under this Act in excess of one-half of its
11 actual operating cost for the prior fiscal year. Those funds
12 not obligated by virtue of this limitation shall be
13 distributed to the remaining stations in accordance with the
14 provisions of Section 3 5 of this Act.

15 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no~~
16 ~~station shall be allocated more than 60% of all funds in its~~
17 ~~grant pool. Those funds not obligated by virtue of this~~
18 ~~limitation shall be distributed to the remaining eligible~~
19 ~~stations in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of~~
20 ~~this Act.~~

21 (Source: P.A. 84-1040.)

22 (30 ILCS 745/8.1 new)

23 Sec. 8.1. Illinois Public Broadcasters. Any station that
24 receives grant funds is required to be a member of the Illinois

1 Public Broadcasters, a 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is
2 to support public media in the State of Illinois and whose
3 board is made up of one representative from each grant
4 receiving station. If an eligible station has both eligible
5 television operations and eligible radio operations, the
6 station may, at its discretion, be represented by each
7 broadcast station type.

8 (30 ILCS 745/4 rep.)

9 (30 ILCS 745/5 rep.)

10 (30 ILCS 745/8 rep.)

11 (30 ILCS 745/9 rep.)

12 Section 10. The Public Radio and Television Grant Act is
13 amended by repealing Sections 4, 5, 8, and 9.

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
15 2026."