

# SB1627



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1627

Introduced 2/4/2025, by Sen. Steve McClure

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

775 ILCS 35/15

Amends the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Provides that any order, rule, regulation, or other directive issued by government pursuant to an emergency, health, or safety determination that requires closure or limitation of any place of worship entitled to the religious exemption found in Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code is considered a substantial burden even if the order, rule, regulation, or other directive is one of general applicability.

LRB104 03758 JRC 13782 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning human rights.

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

4 Section 5. The Religious Freedom Restoration Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (775 ILCS 35/15)

7 Sec. 15. Free exercise of religion protected. Government  
8 may not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion,  
9 even if the burden results from a rule of general  
10 applicability, unless it demonstrates that application of the  
11 burden to the person (i) is in furtherance of a compelling  
12 governmental interest and (ii) is the least restrictive means  
13 of furthering that compelling governmental interest. Any  
14 order, rule, regulation, or other directive issued by  
15 government pursuant to an emergency, health, or safety  
16 determination that requires closure or limitation of any place  
17 of worship entitled to the religious exemption found in  
18 Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code is  
19 considered a substantial burden even if the order, rule,  
20 regulation, or other directive is one of general  
21 applicability.

22 (Source: P.A. 90-806, eff. 12-2-98.)