



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2451

Introduced 2/7/2025, by Sen. John F. Curran

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Station Act. Requires the Department of Transportation to ensure that charging stations in the State are sufficiently accessible to allow independent use by drivers with disabilities. Requires chargers designed to serve people who use mobility devices to be located on an accessible route. Provides that the Department shall adopt the technical requirements for accessible routes established under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the federal Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA). Establishes that a charging space with mobility features must provide a vehicle space with a minimum width of at least 11 feet and a minimum length of at least 20 feet. Requires chargers to provide a clear floor or ground space. Requires clear floor or ground spaces to meet ADA requirements for ground and floor surfaces. Provides that a reasonable number of chargers, as determined by the Department, shall comply with ADA operable parts requirements. Provides that a connector must allow operation with one hand and no tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist, and with no more than 5 pounds of force. Provides that all chargers operated or maintained by any entity within the State must comply with the technical requirements for hardware under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Authorizes the Attorney General to enforce the Act. Grants rulemaking authority. Defines terms.

LRB104 09134 LNS 19190 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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  
5 Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Station Act.

6 Section 5. Applicability. This Act does not apply to a  
7 charger owned by a resident of any of the following if the  
8 charger is not used for a commercial purpose:

- 9 (1) a single-family home;  
10 (2) a condominium association;  
11 (3) a common interest community association;  
12 (4) a master association; or  
13 (5) a residential housing cooperative.

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

15 "AC Level 2" means a charger that uses a 240-volt  
16 alternating-current electrical circuit to deliver electricity  
17 to an electric vehicle.

18 "ABA" means the federal Architectural Barriers Act of  
19 1968.

20 "ADA" means the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of  
21 1990.

22 "Charger" means a device with one or more charging ports

1 and connectors for charging electric vehicles. "Charger" also  
2 includes electric vehicle supply equipment.

3 "Charging port" means the system within a charger that  
4 charges an electric vehicle. A charging port may have multiple  
5 connectors, but it can only provide power to charge one  
6 electric vehicle through one connector at a time.

7 "Charging station" means one or more chargers at a common  
8 location. "Charging station" includes a large site, such as a  
9 parking lot or parking garage, that has multiple charging  
10 stations.

11 "Charging station operator" means the entity that operates  
12 and maintains the chargers and supporting equipment and  
13 facilities at one or more charging stations. "Charging station  
14 operator" also includes a charging point operator.

15 "Connector" means a device that attaches electric vehicles  
16 to charging ports to transfer electricity.

17 "Contactless payment methods" means a secure method for  
18 consumers to purchase services using a debit, credit,  
19 smartcard, or another payment device by using radio frequency  
20 identification technology and near-field communication.

21 "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

22 "Direct current fast charger" or "DCFC" means a charger  
23 that uses a 3-phase, 480-volt alternating-current electrical  
24 circuit to enable rapid charging through the delivery of  
25 direct current electricity to the electric vehicle.

26 "Electric vehicle" means an automotive vehicle that is

1 either partially or fully powered by electricity.

2 "ICT" means information and communication technology.

3 "Site" means a parcel of land bounded by a property line or  
4 a designated portion of a public right-of-way.

5 "Vehicle charging inlet" means the inlet on a vehicle into  
6 which a connector is plugged. "Vehicle charging inlet" also  
7 includes a charging port or charging door.

8 "Vehicle charging space" means a space to park a vehicle  
9 for charging. A vehicle charging space can be a marked parking  
10 space or an unmarked area adjacent to a charger.

11 Section 15. Accessible chargers; accessible routes.

12 (a) The Department shall ensure that charging stations in  
13 this State are sufficiently accessible to allow independent  
14 use by drivers with disabilities, including people who have  
15 limited or no hand dexterity, limb differences, or upper  
16 extremity amputations and use adaptive driving controls. A  
17 reasonable number of chargers, as determined by the  
18 Department, must have physical access for people who use  
19 mobility devices, such as wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, and  
20 canes. Chargers must have accessible communication features  
21 and operable parts. All chargers containing ICT that are  
22 developed, procured, maintained, or used by any entity within  
23 the State must comply with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation  
24 Act and have accessible ICT, including accessible hardware,  
25 software, and operable parts.

1 (b) Chargers designed to serve people who use mobility  
2 devices must be located on an accessible route and must  
3 provide:

4 (1) a vehicle charging space that is at least 11 feet  
5 wide and 20 feet long;

6 (2) an adjoining access aisle that is at least 5 feet  
7 wide;

8 (3) a clear floor or ground space at the same level as  
9 the vehicle charging space and positioned for an  
10 unobstructed side reach; and

11 (4) accessible operable parts, including parts on the  
12 charger and connector.

13 (c) The Department shall adopt the technical requirements  
14 for accessible routes established by the ADA and ABA  
15 standards, including walking surfaces, curb ramps, and ramps.

16 Section 20. Electric vehicle charging space; access aisle.  
17 Charging spaces with mobility features must provide a vehicle  
18 space with a minimum width of at least 11 feet and a minimum  
19 length of at least 20 feet. Adjacent to the vehicle charging  
20 space shall be an access aisle that is at least 5 feet wide and  
21 the full length of the vehicle charging space. Where vehicle  
22 charging spaces are marked, access aisles shall also be marked  
23 to restrict parking in them. The width of the vehicle charging  
24 spaces and access aisles is measured to the centerline of  
25 markings, but it can include the full width of lines where

1 there is no adjacent vehicle space or access aisle.

2 One access aisle may be shared by 2 vehicle charging  
3 spaces, or a charging space and a parking space, but overlap of  
4 the aisle shall be limited to 5-feet.

5 Access aisles shall not be blocked or obscured by curbs,  
6 wheel stops, bollards, or charging cable slack. Floor or  
7 ground surfaces of vehicle charging spaces and access aisles  
8 must comply with Section 302 of the American with Disabilities  
9 Act.

10 The access aisle shall be connected by an accessible route  
11 to the clear floor or ground space at the charger. When  
12 charging cables are less than 10 feet, the charger must be  
13 positioned so that the operable parts and clear floor or  
14 ground space are on the same side as the access aisle.

15 Section 25. Clear floor or ground space. Chargers shall  
16 provide a clear floor or ground space. Clear floor or ground  
17 spaces must meet ADA requirements for ground and floor  
18 surfaces, including criteria for firmness, stability, and slip  
19 resistance. The clear floor or ground space must be free of  
20 changes in level and not sloped more than 1:48. Grass, curbs,  
21 wheel stops, and bollards shall not be located within the  
22 clear floor or ground space. Clear floor or ground space at  
23 chargers must be a minimum of 30 inches by 48 inches.  
24 Additional space may be required where the clear floor or  
25 ground space is confined on 3 sides and obstructed for more

1 than half the depth. Chargers shall be installed at the same  
2 level as the vehicle charging space and access aisle so that  
3 the clear floor or ground space can be placed as close as  
4 possible to the charger. If chargers must be installed on a  
5 curb, such as at on-street parking, the charger must be placed  
6 as close to the edge of the face of the curb as possible and no  
7 farther than 10 inches away from the face of the curb.

8 Section 30. Operable parts within reach range. A  
9 reasonable number of chargers, as determined by the  
10 Department, shall comply with Section 309 of the Americans  
11 with Disabilities Act operable parts requirements, including  
12 technical requirements for clear floor or ground space, reach  
13 ranges, and operation. Operable parts on chargers shall  
14 include, but are not limited to, the connector, card readers,  
15 electronic user interfaces, and switches and buttons,  
16 including the emergency start or stop button. All operable  
17 parts shall also meet the ADA requirements for an unobstructed  
18 side reach and be no higher than 48 inches above the clear  
19 floor or ground space and no farther than 10 inches away. An  
20 exception for a fuel dispenser shall not be used. Operable  
21 parts shall be placed at a reasonable height, as determined by  
22 the Department, but not less than a minimum of 15-inches from  
23 the base of the charger.

24 Section 35. Connectors; charging cables. Connectors must

1 allow operation with one hand and no tight grasping, pinching,  
2 or twisting of the wrist, and they must require no more than 5  
3 pounds of force to operate.

4 Lightweight charging cables, including, but not limited  
5 to, AC Level 2 and DCFCs shall be of sufficient length, as  
6 determined by the Department, to charge a vehicle with various  
7 charging inlet locations. Heavier and shorter DCFC cables  
8 shall be able to charge a vehicle positioned at least 5-feet  
9 away and shall be installed so that users can access the  
10 vehicle charging inlet, access aisle, and charger. Charging  
11 cables shall not block or obstruct accessible routes when  
12 stored or when connected to vehicles.

13 Section 40. Accessible communication features; user  
14 interface.

15 (a) All chargers that are procured or maintained within  
16 the State must comply with the technical requirements for  
17 hardware under Section 508 federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

18 (b) Display screens shall:

19 (1) be visible from a point located 40 inches above  
20 the clear floor or ground;

21 (2) avoid bright and rapid flashing lights;

22 (3) include at least one mode with text characters in  
23 a sans serif font and have an adjustable text size or a  
24 minimum character height of 3/16 inch;

25 (4) enable speech output that includes:

1 (A) an option for display screens to provide  
2 speech output that is capable of full and independent  
3 use by individuals with vision impairments;

4 (B) coordination with information displayed on the  
5 display screen;

6 (C) capabilities that allow for pausing and  
7 repeating; and

8 (D) volume controls; and

9 (5) include Braille instructions for initiating the  
10 speech output function.

11 (c) Input controls shall include:

12 (1) a label on keys and visual controls with high  
13 contrast;

14 (2) a control that is tactically discernible;

15 (3) a QWERTY layout when alphabetical keys are  
16 provided;

17 (4) a 2-second delay before input of a key is  
18 repeated; and

19 (5) a visual, auditory, or tactile alert that notifies  
20 the user when a timed response is required and gives the  
21 user an opportunity to indicate more time is needed.

22 (d) If the charger requires the user to have an NFC  
23 keychain card or other physical token that requires a  
24 particular orientation for its use, then the card or token  
25 must provide a tactically discernible orientation.

1 Section 45. Contactless payment systems; customer service.

2 (a) Registration and payment card readers shall be  
3 compatible with contactless payment systems, shall be  
4 tactically discernible, and shall provide visual and audible  
5 feedback.

6 (b) Charging station operators shall provide customer  
7 service, help support, or other mechanisms to report outages,  
8 malfunctions, obstructed chargers, and other issues.

9 Section 50. Electric vehicle charging station location  
10 within a site. A charging station must connect to an  
11 accessible route that leads to an accessible entrance of the  
12 building or facilities on the same site. Additionally, the  
13 accessible chargers shall be on the shortest accessible route  
14 to the accessible entrance relative to other chargers at the  
15 same charging station.

16 Charging stations in parking garages must provide an  
17 accessible route that connects to the accessible pedestrian  
18 entrance of the parking garage. Additionally, a minimum  
19 vertical clearance of 98 inches must be maintained throughout  
20 the vehicular route to the accessible vehicle charging space  
21 and access aisle.

22 Sites with charging stations as the primary purpose shall  
23 include accessible routes that connect to any amenities on the  
24 site and, if provided, a sidewalk in the public right-of-way.

25 Charging stations added to existing sites must comply with

1 the ADA and ABA requirements for alterations and additions. In  
2 alterations, compliance with the ADA and ABA standards is  
3 required to the maximum extent feasible. If charging stations  
4 are added to an existing site, they must connect to an  
5 accessible route and a reasonable number of chargers, as  
6 determined by the Department, must comply with Section 309 of  
7 the Americans with Disabilities Act and have a clear floor or  
8 ground space and operable parts within reach range.

9 Section 55. Electric vehicles charging stations at  
10 residential facilities. Shared or common-use chargers located  
11 at residential facilities in the State must be accessible.  
12 Chargers that are designated to specific residential units  
13 shall provide the appropriate accessibility features. When  
14 residential facilities designate parking spaces to each  
15 residential unit, the parking space for the mobility  
16 accessible unit must be an accessible parking space. A charger  
17 provided for a mobility accessible residential unit must have  
18 a charging space with accessible mobility features. A charger  
19 provided for a communication accessible residential unit must  
20 have a charger with accessible communication features.

21 Section 60. Enforcement. The Attorney General shall have  
22 the authority to enforce this Act. The Attorney General may  
23 investigate any complaint or reported violation of this Act  
24 and, if necessary to ensure compliance, may do any or all of

1 the following:

2 (1) Conduct an investigation to determine if a  
3 violation of this Act exists. This includes the power to:

4 (A) require an individual or entity to file a  
5 statement or report in writing under oath or  
6 otherwise, as to all information the Attorney General  
7 may consider;

8 (B) examine under oath any person alleged to have  
9 participated in or with knowledge of the violations;  
10 and

11 (C) issue subpoenas or conduct hearings in aid of  
12 any investigation.

13 (2) Bring an action for an injunction to halt  
14 construction or alteration of any electric vehicle  
15 charging station or to require compliance with this Act by  
16 any electric vehicle charging station that has been or is  
17 being constructed or altered in violation of this Act.

18 (3) Bring an action for mandamus.

19 (4) Bring an action for penalties as follows: any  
20 owner of an electric vehicle charging station in violation  
21 of this Act is subject to civil penalties in a sum not to  
22 exceed \$250 per day, and each day the owner is in violation  
23 of this Act constitutes a separate offense.

24 (5) Bring an action for any other appropriate relief,  
25 including, but not limited to, in lieu of a civil action,  
26 the entry of an assurance of voluntary compliance with the

1 individual or entity deemed to have violated this Act.

2 Section 65. Rules. The Department shall adopt rules to  
3 implement and administer this Act.