



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3016

Introduced 1/28/2026, by Sen. Donald P. DeWitte

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

525 ILCS 35/5.5 new

Amends the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act. Provides that the Department of Natural Resources shall prioritize projects that incorporate construction, materials, designs, products, or technologies that increase accessibility and usability beyond the highest standards established under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or federal regulations promulgated under that Act. Requires the Department to adopt rules to establish this priority within its grant application review process under the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act. Effective immediately.

LRB104 18748 BDA 32191 b

1 AN ACT concerning conservation.

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

4 Section 5. The Open Space Lands Acquisition and
5 Development Act is amended by adding Section 5.5 as follows:

6 (525 ILCS 35/5.5 new)

7 Sec. 5.5. Accessibility; universal design elements. The
8 Department shall prioritize projects that incorporate
9 universal design elements. The Department shall adopt rules to
10 establish the priorities and scoring matrix under this Section
11 within its grant application review process under this Act. In
12 this Section, "universal design elements" includes, but is not
13 limited to, the following elements:

14 (1) poured-in-place rubber surfacing or synthetic turf
15 for enhanced mobility and continuously accessible
16 surfacing routes;

17 (2) multiple access points and routes suitable for
18 wheelchairs, including additional ramps for seamless entry
19 to play equipment;

20 (3) a variety of ground-level and elevated play
21 components accessible to individuals with diverse physical
22 abilities;

23 (4) inclusive swings and seating;

1 (5) a variety of single and multi-sensory play
2 elements, such as tactile panels and musical features;

3 (6) shaded areas to accommodate individuals with
4 sensory sensitivities; and

5 (7) any other construction, material, design, product,
6 or technology as set out in administrative rule.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
8 becoming law.