



Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

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10100HB2759ham001

LRB101 07221 AXK 57766 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 2759

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 2759 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The University of Illinois Act is amended by
5 adding Section 105 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 305/105 new)

7 Sec. 105. Water rates report.

8 (a) Subject to appropriation, no later than December 1,
9 2020, the Government Finance Research Center at the University
10 of Illinois at Chicago, in coordination with an
11 intergovernmental advisory committee, must issue a report
12 evaluating the setting of water rates throughout the Lake
13 Michigan service area of northeastern Illinois and, no later
14 than December 1, 2021, for the remainder of Illinois. The
15 report must provide recommendations for policy and regulatory
16 needs at the State and local level based on its findings. The

1 report shall, at a minimum, address all of the following areas:

2 (1) The components of a water bill.

3 (2) Reasons for increases in water rates.

4 (3) The definition of affordability throughout the
5 State and any variances to that definition.

6 (4) Evidence of rate-setting that utilizes
7 inappropriate practices.

8 (5) The extent to which State or local policies drive
9 cost increases or variations in rate-settings.

10 (6) Challenges within economically disadvantaged
11 communities in setting water rates.

12 (7) Opportunities for increased intergovernmental
13 coordination for setting equitable water rates.

14 (b) In developing the report under this Section, the
15 Government Finance Research Center shall form an advisory
16 committee, which shall be composed of all of the following
17 members:

18 (1) The Director of the Environmental Protection
19 Agency, or his or her designee.

20 (2) The Director of Natural Resources, or his or her
21 designee.

22 (3) The Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity,
23 or his or her designee.

24 (4) The Attorney General, or his or her designee.

25 (5) At least 2 members who are representatives of
26 private water utilities operating in Illinois, appointed

1 by the Director of Public Health.

2 (6) At least 4 members who are representatives of
3 municipal water utilities, appointed by the Director of
4 Public Health.

5 (7) One member who is a representative of an
6 environmental justice advocacy organization, appointed by
7 the Director of Public Health.

8 (8) One member who is a representative of a consumer
9 advocacy organization, appointed by the Director of Public
10 Health.

11 (9) One member who is a representative of an
12 environmental planning organization that serves
13 northeastern Illinois, appointed by the Director of Public
14 Health.

15 (10) The Director of the Illinois State Water Survey,
16 or his or her designee.

17 (11) The Chairperson of the Illinois Commerce
18 Commission, or his or her designee.

19 (c) After all members are appointed, the committee shall
20 hold its first meeting at the call of the Director of the
21 Government Finance Research Center, at which meeting the
22 members shall select a chairperson from among themselves. After
23 its first meeting, the committee shall meet at the call of the
24 chairperson. Members of the committee shall serve without
25 compensation but may be reimbursed for their reasonable and
26 necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties. The

1 Department of Public Health shall provide administrative and
2 other support to the committee.

3 (d) No later than 60 days after the effective date of this
4 amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly, the Department of
5 Public Health must provide an opportunity for public comment on
6 the questions to be addressed in the report, the metrics to be
7 used, and the recommendations that need to be issued.

8 (e) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2022.

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
10 becoming law.".