



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB5541

by Rep. Tony McCombie

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 48/10
110 ILCS 48/13-1 new
110 ILCS 48/35
110 ILCS 48/90
110 ILCS 48/13 rep.

Amends the Grow Your Own Teacher Education Act. Transfers the powers and duties under the Act from the Board of Higher Education to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. Replaces the requirement that the Board of Higher Education must contract annually for an independent evaluation of program implementation with the requirement that the Illinois Student Assistance Commission monitor and evaluate the implementation of the program. Provides that the Illinois Student Assistance Commission may elect to contract for an independent evaluation with an outside entity.

LRB101 19091 CMG 68551 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning higher education.

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

4 Section 5. The Grow Your Own Teacher Education Act is
5 amended by changing Sections 10, 35, and 90 and by adding
6 Section 13-1 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 48/10)

8 Sec. 10. Definitions. In this Act:

9 "Accredited teacher preparation program" means a
10 regionally accredited, Illinois approved teacher education
11 program authorized to prepare individuals to fulfill all of the
12 requirements to receive an Illinois initial teaching
13 certificate.

14 "Cohort" means a group of teacher education candidates who
15 are enrolled in and share experiences in the same program and
16 are linked by their desire to become Illinois teachers in
17 hard-to-staff schools and by their need for the services and
18 supports offered by the Initiative. A cohort may include a high
19 school student enrolled in a dual credit course offered by a
20 participating institution of higher education.

21 "Commission" means the Illinois Student Assistance
22 Commission.

23 "Community organization" means a nonprofit organization

1 that has a demonstrated capacity to train, develop, and
2 organize parents and community leaders into a constituency that
3 will hold the school and the school district accountable for
4 achieving high academic standards; in addition to
5 organizations with a geographic focus, "community
6 organization" includes general parent organizations,
7 organizations of special education or bilingual education
8 parents, and school employee unions.

9 "Developmental classes" means classes in basic skill
10 areas, such as mathematics and language arts that are
11 prerequisite to, but not counted towards, degree requirements
12 of a teacher preparation program.

13 "Dual credit course" has the meaning given to that term
14 under the Dual Credit Quality Act.

15 "Eligible school" means an early childhood program
16 licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services in
17 which no less than 40% of the children it serves are receiving
18 subsidized care under the Department of Human Services' Child
19 Care Assistance Program, a Head Start or Early Head Start
20 Program, a Preschool for All Program, or a prevention
21 initiative or a public elementary, middle, or secondary school
22 in this State that serves a substantial percentage of
23 low-income students and that is either hard to staff or has
24 hard-to-staff teaching positions.

25 "Hard-to-staff school" means an early childhood program
26 licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services in

1 which no less than 40% of the children it serves are receiving
2 subsidized care under the Department of Human Services' Child
3 Care Assistance Program, a Head Start or Early Head Start
4 Program, a Preschool for All Program, or a prevention
5 initiative or a public elementary, middle, or secondary school
6 in this State that, based on data compiled by the State Board
7 of Education in conjunction with the Board of Higher Education,
8 serves a substantial percentage of low-income students, as
9 defined by the Board of Higher Education.

10 "Hard-to-staff teaching position" means a teaching
11 category (such as special education, bilingual education,
12 mathematics, or science) in which statewide data compiled by
13 the State Board of Education in conjunction with the Board of
14 Higher Education indicates a multi-year pattern of substantial
15 teacher shortage or that has been identified as a critical need
16 by the local school board.

17 "Initiative" means the Grow Your Own Teacher Education
18 Initiative created under this Act.

19 "Para educator" means an individual with a history of
20 demonstrated accomplishments in school staff positions (such
21 as teacher assistants, school-community liaisons, school
22 clerks, and security aides) in schools that meet the definition
23 of a hard-to-staff school under this Section.

24 "Parent and community leader" means an individual who has
25 or had a child enrolled in a school or schools that meet the
26 definition of a hard-to-staff school under this Section and who

1 has a history of active involvement in the school or who has a
2 history of working to improve schools serving a substantial
3 percentage of low-income students, including membership in a
4 community organization.

5 "Program" means a Grow Your Own Teacher preparation program
6 established by a consortium under this Act.

7 "Schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income
8 students" means schools that maintain any of grades
9 pre-kindergarten through 8, in which at least 35% of the
10 students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches
11 and schools that maintain any of grades 9 through 12, in which
12 at least 25% of the students are eligible to receive free or
13 reduced price lunches.

14 (Source: P.A. 101-122, eff. 7-26-19.)

15 (110 ILCS 48/13-1 new)

16 Sec. 13-1. Transfer of powers and duties to Illinois
17 Student Assistance Commission. On July 1, 2020, all powers and
18 duties of the Board of Higher Education under this Act are to
19 be transferred to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.
20 The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Student
21 Assistance Commission shall assist in transferring these
22 duties; however, no rules shall be adopted regarding candidate
23 eligibility that are more restrictive than Section 20.

24 (110 ILCS 48/35)

1 Sec. 35. Annual ~~Independent~~ program evaluation.

2 (a) Annually, at a time determined by the Commission in
3 consultation with Grow Your Own Illinois (GYO-IL), GYO-IL shall
4 submit a report to assist the Commission in monitoring
5 GYO-IL's, and each of its participating consortia, performance
6 and grant activities. The report shall describe the following:

7 (1) GYO-IL's anticipated expenditures for the next
8 fiscal year;

9 (2) the number of qualified students receiving grant
10 assistance at each institution of higher learning during
11 the previous fiscal year;

12 (3) the total monetary value of grant funds paid to
13 each institution of higher learning at which a qualified
14 student was enrolled during the previous fiscal year;

15 (4) the number of grant recipients who completed a
16 baccalaureate degree during the previous fiscal year;

17 (5) the number of grant recipients who fulfilled their
18 teaching obligation by completing 5 years of service in
19 hard-to-staff schools or hard-to-staff teaching positions
20 during the previous fiscal year;

21 (6) the number of grant recipients who failed to
22 fulfill their teaching obligation during the previous
23 fiscal year;

24 (7) the number of grant recipients granted a waiver or
25 deferral to waive the 5 years of service requirement
26 described in subsection (a) of Section 25 during the

1 previous fiscal year; and

2 (8) other information that the Commission may
3 reasonably request.

4 (b) The Commission may elect to contract for an independent
5 evaluation of program implementation with an outside entity if
6 the Commission so chooses. The independent evaluation must
7 consider and collect all of the information outlined in this
8 Section.

9 (c) The Auditor General shall prepare an annual audit of
10 the operations and finances of the Grow Your Own Illinois and
11 each consortium that received any State funds in the previous
12 fiscal year. This audit shall be provided to the Governor, the
13 General Assembly, and the Commission.

14 ~~The Board of Higher Education shall contract for an independent~~
15 ~~evaluation of program implementation by each of its~~
16 ~~participating consortia and of the impact of each program,~~
17 ~~including the extent of candidate persistence in program~~
18 ~~enrollment, acceptance as an education major in a 4 year~~
19 ~~institution of higher education, completion of a bachelor's~~
20 ~~degree in teaching, obtaining a teaching position in a target~~
21 ~~school or similar school, subsequent effectiveness as a~~
22 ~~teacher, and persistence in teaching in a target school or~~
23 ~~similar school. The evaluation shall assess the Initiative's~~
24 ~~overall effectiveness and shall identify particular program~~
25 ~~strategies that are especially effective.~~

26 (Source: P.A. 98-1036, eff. 1-1-15.)

1 (110 ILCS 48/90)

2 Sec. 90. Rules. The Commission ~~Board of Higher Education~~
3 may adopt any rules necessary to carry out its responsibilities
4 under this Act.

5 (Source: P.A. 98-1036, eff. 1-1-15.)

6 (110 ILCS 48/13 rep.)

7 Section 10. The Grow Your Own Teacher Education Act is
8 amended by repealing Section 13.