



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB2855

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Rep. Amy Grant

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Entrepreneur-in-Residence Act. Creates the Entrepreneur-in-Residence Pilot Program. Provides for the appointment, term of service, and compensation of entrepreneurs-in-residence. Requires the Director or Secretary of specified State agencies to appoint entrepreneurs-in-residence, and issue a report on the Program to the General Assembly and the Governor by January 1, 2026. Provides for the duties of appointed entrepreneurs-in-residence. Provides that an entrepreneur-in-residence shall report directly to his or her appointing authority. Repeals the Act on January 1, 2028. Defines terms. Effective immediately.

LRB102 12772 RJF 18111 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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 Entrepreneur-in-Residence Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of the Program created  
7 under this Act is to strengthen coordination between State  
8 government and the private sector on issues relevant to  
9 entrepreneurs and small business concerns, and to make State  
10 government programs and operations simpler, easier to access,  
11 more efficient, and more responsive to the needs of and issues  
12 related to small business concerns and entrepreneurs.

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

14 "Appointing authority" means the Governor, the Speaker of  
15 the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the  
16 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Minority  
17 Leader of the Senate, or the Director or Secretary of the  
18 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the  
19 Department of Transportation, the Department of Human  
20 Services, the Department of Public Health, or the Department  
21 of Central Management Services.

22 "Entrepreneur-in-residence" or

1 "entrepreneurs-in-residence" means an individual or  
2 individuals appointed to a position under this Act.

3 "Program" means the Entrepreneur-in-Residence Pilot  
4 Program.

5 Section 15. The Entrepreneur-in-Residence Pilot Program.

6 (a) Except as provided under subsection (b), as many as 10  
7 individuals may be appointed to serve as  
8 entrepreneurs-in-residence with State agencies, appointed 2  
9 each by the Governor, the Speaker of the House of  
10 Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Minority  
11 Leader of the House of Representatives, and the Minority  
12 Leader of the Senate. These appointees shall have demonstrated  
13 success in working with small business concerns and  
14 entrepreneurs, or have successfully developed, invented, or  
15 created a product and brought that product to the marketplace.  
16 Entrepreneurs-in-residence appointed under this subsection (a)  
17 shall serve for a period of 2 years. A State agency shall  
18 cooperate with any entrepreneur-in-residence appointed to  
19 serve it as necessary to facilitate this Program. A person  
20 appointed as an entrepreneur-in-residence under this  
21 subsection (a) shall not be appointed to one of the State  
22 agencies listed in subsection (b).

23 (b) Additionally, the Director or Secretary of the  
24 following State agencies shall each appoint one  
25 entrepreneur-in-residence for their respective State agency:

1           (1) the Department of Commerce and Economic  
2           Opportunity;

3           (2) the Department of Transportation;

4           (3) the Department of Human Services;

5           (4) the Department of Public Health; and

6           (5) the Department of Central Management Services.

7           Entrepreneurs-in-residence appointed under this  
8           subsection (b) shall serve for a period of 5 years, beginning  
9           January 1, 2022 and ending January 1, 2027, and have the same  
10          qualifications as appointees under subsection (a).

11          (c) The Director or Secretary of a State agency under  
12          subsection (b) shall, by January 1, 2026, issue a report to the  
13          General Assembly and the Governor outlining findings and  
14          recommendations, including, but not limited to, the successes  
15          of the Program, recommendations to improve the Program, and  
16          any other information that the Director or Secretary may deem  
17          necessary and relevant. For the purposes of this Section,  
18          success of the Program shall be measured by the number of  
19          interactions, new businesses created, the size of the new  
20          businesses, and how the new businesses have grown since their  
21          inception.

22          (d) Entrepreneurs-in-residence appointed under this Act  
23          shall serve without compensation, but may, at the discretion  
24          of the appointing authority, receive reasonable and necessary  
25          expenses incurred in the discharge of his or her duties.

26          (e) An entrepreneur-in-residence appointed under this Act

1 shall perform the following duties:

2 (1) assist the State agency in improving outreach to  
3 small business concerns and entrepreneurs;

4 (2) provide recommendations on inefficient or  
5 duplicative programs;

6 (3) provide recommendations to the appointing  
7 authority on methods to improve Program efficiency at the  
8 State agency;

9 (4) provide recommendations to the appointing  
10 authority on new initiatives that may be instituted at the  
11 State agency;

12 (5) facilitate meetings and forums to educate small  
13 business concerns and entrepreneurs on programs or  
14 initiatives of the State agency;

15 (6) facilitate in-service sessions with employees of  
16 the State agency on needs and issues of interest to  
17 entrepreneurs and small business concerns; and

18 (7) provide technical assistance or mentorship to  
19 small business concerns and entrepreneurs in accessing  
20 programs at the State agency.

21 (f) An entrepreneur-in-residence shall report directly to  
22 his or her appointing authority.

23 Section 20. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,  
24 2028.

25 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.