

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 5. The Department of Human Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 10-75 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1305/10-75 new)

7 Sec. 10-75. Homelessness supports in Illinois.

8 (a) The Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (Office) is
9 created within the Department of Human Services to facilitate
10 the implementation of a strategic plan and initiatives aimed
11 at decreasing homelessness and unnecessary
12 institutionalization in Illinois, improving health and human
13 services outcomes for people who experience homelessness, and
14 strengthening the safety nets that contribute to housing
15 stability. The Office shall be led by the State Homelessness
16 Chief Officer who shall report to the Secretary of the
17 Department. The Chief Officer shall also chair the Interagency
18 Task Force on Homelessness, co-chair the Community Advisory
19 Council on Homelessness, and lead the State's comprehensive
20 efforts related to homelessness prevention. The Chief Officer
21 shall serve as a policymaker and spokesperson on homelessness
22 prevention, including coordinating the multi-agency effort
23 through legislation, rules, and budgets and communicating with

1 the General Assembly and federal and local leaders on these
2 critical issues.

3 (b) The Interagency Task Force on Homelessness is created
4 within the Department of Human Services to facilitate and
5 implement initiatives related to decreasing homelessness and
6 unnecessary institutionalization in this State, improve health
7 and human services outcomes for people who experience
8 homelessness, and strengthen the safety nets that contribute
9 to housing stability. The Task Force shall:

10 (1) Implement the State Plan which is aimed at
11 addressing homelessness and unnecessary
12 institutionalization with the goals of achieving
13 functional zero homelessness, improving health and human
14 services outcomes for people experiencing homelessness,
15 and strengthening the safety nets that contribute to
16 housing stability.

17 (2) Recommend policy, regulatory, and resource changes
18 necessary to accomplish goals and objectives laid out in
19 the State Plan.

20 (3) Serve within State government and in the State at
21 large as an advocate for people experiencing homelessness.

22 (4) Provide leadership for and collaborate with those
23 developing and implementing local plans to end
24 homelessness in Illinois, including, but not limited to,
25 the Community Advisory Council and its members.

26 (5) Recommend the resources needed for successful

1 implementation and oversee that implementation.

2 (6) Recommend and promote effective interagency
3 collaboration and system integration to converge related
4 efforts, including coordination with the Illinois Youth
5 Homelessness Prevention Subcommittee, the Illinois
6 Commission on the Elimination of Poverty, and the Illinois
7 Commission to End Hunger on drafting policy
8 recommendations related to the intersection of
9 homelessness and poverty.

10 (7) Recommend needed policy, regulatory, and resource
11 distribution changes; make oversight recommendations that
12 will ensure accountability, results, and sustained
13 success; and develop specific proposals and
14 recommendations for action to provide to the Governor and
15 the General Assembly.

16 (d) The Task Force may solicit feedback from stakeholders,
17 customers, and advocates to inform Task Force recommendations
18 as necessary.

19 (e) On or before December 1, 2024, and each year
20 thereafter, the Task Force shall submit a report to the
21 Governor and General Assembly regarding the Task Force's work
22 during the year prior, any new recommendations developed by
23 the Task Force, any recommendations made by the Community
24 Advisory Council on Homelessness, and any key outcomes and
25 measures related to homelessness.

26 (f) The Task Force shall include the following members

1 appointed by the Governor:

2 (1) The Chief Homelessness Officer, who shall serve as
3 Chair.

4 (2) The Secretary of Human Services, or his or her
5 designee.

6 (3) The Executive Director of the Illinois Housing
7 Development Authority, or his or her designee.

8 (4) The Director of Healthcare and Family Services, or
9 his or her designee.

10 (5) The Superintendent of the State Board of
11 Education, or his or her designee.

12 (6) The Executive Director of the Board of Higher
13 Education, or his or her designee.

14 (7) The Executive Director of the Illinois Community
15 College Board, or his or her designee.

16 (8) The Director of Corrections, or his or her
17 designee.

18 (9) The Director of Veterans' Affairs, or his or her
19 designee.

20 (10) The Director of Children and Family Services, or
21 his or her designee.

22 (11) The Director of Public Health, or his or her
23 designee.

24 (12) The Director of Aging, or his or her designee.

25 (13) The Director of Juvenile Justice, or his or her
26 designee.

1 (14) The Director of Commerce and Economic
2 Opportunity, or his or her designee.

3 (15) The Director of Employment Security, or his or
4 her designee.

5 (16) The Director of the Illinois State Police, or his
6 or her designee.

7 (17) The Executive Director of the Illinois Criminal
8 Justice Authority, or his or her designee.

9 (18) The Director of the Office of Management and
10 Budget, or his or her designee.

11 (g) The Task Force shall also include the following
12 members:

13 (1) One member appointed by the President of the
14 Senate.

15 (2) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
16 Senate.

17 (3) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House
18 of Representatives.

19 (4) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
20 House of Representatives.

21 (h) The Chair of the Task Force may appoint additional
22 representatives from State agencies as needed.

23 (i) The Task Force shall meet at the call of the chair, at
24 least 4 times per year. Members shall serve without
25 compensation.

26 (j) The Task Force may establish subcommittees to address

1 specific issues or populations and may collaborate with
2 individuals with relevant expertise who are not members of the
3 Task Force to assist the subcommittee in carrying out its
4 duties.

5 (k) The Department of Human Services shall provide
6 administrative support to the Task Force.

7 (l) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to contravene
8 any federal or State law or regulation. Unless specifically
9 referenced in this Act, nothing in this Act shall affect or
10 alter the existing statutory powers of any State agency or be
11 construed as a reassignment or reorganization of any State
12 agency.

13 (m) Community Advisory Council. The Community Advisory
14 Council on Homelessness is created within the Department of
15 Human Services to make recommendations to the Interagency Task
16 Force on Homelessness regarding homelessness and unnecessary
17 institutionalization with the goals of achieving functional
18 zero homelessness, improving health and human services
19 outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and
20 strengthening the safety nets that contribute to housing
21 stability.

22 (1) The Advisory Council shall be co-chaired by the
23 Chief Homelessness Officer and a member of the Advisory
24 Council designated by the Governor. The Advisory Council
25 shall consist of all of the following members appointed by
26 the Governor. Members appointed to the Advisory Council

1 must reflect the racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity
2 of this State. The Chief may include any State agency
3 staff that they deem necessary as ex officio, nonvoting
4 members of the Community Advisory Council.

5 (A) Three members with lived experience of
6 homelessness or housing insecurity, which may include,
7 but are not limited to, formerly incarcerated persons,
8 veterans, and youth (16 to 25 years old).

9 (B) One member representing individuals with
10 disabilities.

11 (C) Two members representing the philanthropic
12 private funding sector.

13 (D) One member representing a statewide behavioral
14 health advocacy organization.

15 (E) One member representing a statewide housing
16 advocacy organization.

17 (F) At least 2 members representing local
18 Continuums of Care.

19 (G) At least 3 members representing local units of
20 government (municipal, county, or township).

21 (H) One member representing an organization that
22 supports victims of domestic violence.

23 (I) A minimum of 4 members representing providers
24 of the homeless response system inclusive of, but not
25 limited to, emergency supportive housing, rapid
26 rehousing, permanent supportive housing, homeless

1 youth programs, and homeless prevention.

2 (J) Two members, who may or may not meet the
3 qualification requirements for the other appointees.

4 The Advisory Council shall meet at least 4 times per year.

5 (2) Members shall serve without compensation, but
6 public members may be reimbursed for reasonable and
7 necessary travel expenses connected to Task Force
8 business. Persons with lived experience of homelessness
9 and housing insecurity, who are not otherwise compensated
10 by employers to attend the Community Advisory Council,
11 shall receive compensation for each quarterly Council
12 meeting attended.

13 (3) The meetings of the Advisory Council shall be
14 conducted in accordance with the provisions of Section 2
15 of the Open Meetings Act. The Department of Human Services
16 shall provide staff and administrative support to assist
17 the Advisory Council in carrying out its duties.

18 (4) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to
19 contravene any federal or State law or regulation. Unless
20 specifically referenced in this Act, nothing in this Act
21 shall affect or alter the existing statutory powers of any
22 State agency or be construed as a reassignment or
23 reorganization of any State agency.

24 (5) On or before November 15, 2023, and each year
25 thereafter, the Advisory Council shall submit
26 recommendations to the Interagency Task Force on

1 Homelessness.

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.