



Rep. William Davis

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1826

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 1826 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Afterschool Youth Development Project Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose and findings. The General Assembly
7 declares that it is the policy of this State to provide all
8 young people between the ages of 6 and 19 with access to
9 quality afterschool programs through a State commitment to
10 sufficient and sustainable funding for programs that promote
11 positive youth development. The need for this policy is based
12 on a series of facts:

13 The General Assembly finds that youth who are engaged in
14 quality afterschool activities are more likely to succeed in
15 academics, employment, and civic affairs than youth who do not
16 participate in afterschool activities. Youth with high levels

1 of participation in quality afterschool programs miss fewer
2 days of school, have lower drop-out rates, and higher rates of
3 graduation.

4 The General Assembly also finds that youth in Illinois face
5 greater barriers to success than ever before:

6 (1) Statewide demand for quality afterschool
7 activities far outpaces the current supply, with shortfall
8 estimates between 60 and 70 percent.

9 (2) Illinois youth spend fewer hours in school than in
10 most other states and approximately 45% of all children in
11 grades K-12 are either responsible for themselves or are in
12 the care of a sibling during after school hours.

13 (3) On school days, the hours between 3:00 P.M. and
14 6:00 P.M. are the peak hours for juvenile crime and
15 experimentation with drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, and sex.

16 The General Assembly also finds that the State of Illinois,
17 having demonstrated national leadership in advancing toward
18 universal early childhood education, must also expand youth
19 development programming in order to realize the full, continued
20 benefits of public investment in Illinois' young people.

21 The policy established by this Act will be developed
22 through an afterschool demonstration program the results of
23 which will be used to establish standards and policies to
24 design and fund a statewide system of quality afterschool
25 programs accessible to all youth between the ages of 6 and 19
26 that promote positive outcomes in such areas as education,

1 employment, and civic success.

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

3 "Afterschool program" means positive youth development
4 activities provided to youth between the ages of 6 and 19
5 during the hours before or after school, during summer recess
6 from school, or during the weekends. These activities may
7 include, but are not limited to, the following activity areas:
8 academic support; arts, music, sports, cultural enrichment,
9 and other recreation; health promotion and diseases
10 prevention; life skills and work and career development; and
11 youth leadership development. For the purposes of this Act,
12 "afterschool program" also means a program funded under the
13 Afterschool Demonstration Program.

14 "Demonstration" or "Demonstration Program" means the
15 Afterschool Demonstration Program as established under this
16 Act.

17 "Council" means the Illinois Youth Development Council.

18 "Community advisory group" means a group of key local
19 stakeholders convened to help ensure effective program
20 delivery through increased collaboration. This group is
21 required as a condition of participating in the demonstration
22 period.

23 Section 15. Illinois Youth Development Council.

24 (a) Creation. In order to effectively achieve the policy

1 established in this Act, the Illinois Youth Development Council
2 shall be created. The purpose of the Council is to provide
3 oversight and coordination to the State's public funds
4 currently invested to support positive youth development
5 programs and activities and to set system-wide policies and
6 priorities to accomplish the following 5 major objectives: (i)
7 Set afterschool program expansion priorities, such as
8 addressing gaps in programming for specific ages and
9 populations; (ii) Create outcome measures and require all
10 afterschool programs to be evaluated to ensure that outcomes
11 are being met; (iii) Oversee the establishment of a statewide
12 program improvement system that provides technical assistance
13 and capacity building to increase program participation and
14 quality system-wide; (iv) Monitor and assess afterschool
15 program quality through outcome measures; and (v) Establish
16 State policy to support the attainment of outcomes. The Council
17 shall be created within the Department of Human Services.

18 (b) Governance. The Illinois Youth Development Council
19 shall reflect the regional, racial, socio-economic, and
20 cultural diversity of the State to ensure representation of the
21 needs of all Illinois youth. The Council shall be composed of
22 no less than 28 and no more than 32 members. The Council may
23 establish a defined length of term for membership on the
24 Council.

25 (1) Membership. The Council shall include
26 representation from both public and private organizations

1 comprised of the following:

2 (A) Four members of the General Assembly: one
3 appointed by the President of the Senate, one appointed
4 by the Minority Leader of the Senate, one appointed by
5 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one
6 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
7 Representatives.

8 (B) The chief administrators of the following
9 State agencies: the Department of Human Services; the
10 Illinois State Board of Education; the Department of
11 Children and Family Services; the Department of Public
12 Health; the Department of Juvenile Justice; the
13 Department of Healthcare and Family Services; the
14 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity; the
15 Illinois Board of Higher Education; and the Illinois
16 Community College Board.

17 (C) The Chair of the Illinois Workforce Investment
18 Board and the Executive Director of the Illinois
19 Violence Prevention Authority.

20 The following Council members shall be appointed by the
21 Governor:

22 (D) Two officials from a unit of local government.

23 (E) At least 3 representatives of direct youth
24 service providers and faith-based providers.

25 (F) Three young people between the ages of 16 and
26 24.

1 (G) Two parents of children between the ages of 6
2 and 19.

3 (H) One academic researcher in the field of youth
4 development.

5 (I) Additional public members that include local
6 government stakeholders and nongovernmental
7 stakeholders with an interest in youth development and
8 afterschool programs, including representation from
9 the following private sector fields and
10 constituencies: child and youth advocacy; children and
11 youth with special needs; child and adolescent health;
12 business; and law enforcement.

13 Persons may be nominated by organizations representing
14 the fields outlined in this Section. The Governor shall
15 designate one of the Council members who is a nongovernment
16 stakeholder to serve as co-chairperson. The Council shall
17 create a sub-committee of additional direct youth service
18 providers as well as other sub-committees as deemed
19 necessary.

20 (2) Youth Advisory Group. To ensure that the Council is
21 responsive to the needs and priorities of Illinois' young
22 people, the Council shall establish an independent Youth
23 Advisory Group, which shall be composed of a diverse body
24 of 15 youths between the ages of 14 and 19 from across the
25 State. Members that surpass the age of 19 while serving on
26 the Youth Advisory Group may complete the term of the

1 appointment. The Youth Advisory Group shall be charged
2 with: (i) presenting recommendations to the Council 4 times
3 per year on issues related to afterschool and youth
4 development programming and policy; and (ii) reviewing key
5 programmatic, funding, and policy decisions made by the
6 Council. To develop priorities and recommendations, the
7 Youth Advisory Group may engage students from across the
8 State via focus groups, on-line surveys, and other means.
9 The Youth Advisory Group shall be administered by the
10 Department of Human Services and facilitated by an
11 independent, established youth organization with expertise
12 in youth civic engagement.

13 (c) Activities. The major objectives of the Council shall
14 be accomplished through the following activities:

15 (1) Publishing an annual plan that sets system goals
16 for Illinois' afterschool funding that include key
17 indicators, performance standards, and outcome measures
18 and that outlines funding evaluation and reporting
19 requirements.

20 (2) Developing and maintaining a system and processes
21 to collect and report consistent program and outcome data
22 on all afterschool programs funded by State and local
23 government.

24 (3) Developing linkages between afterschool data
25 systems and other statewide youth program outcome data
26 systems (e.g. schools, post-secondary education, juvenile

1 justice, etc.).

2 (4) Developing procedures for implementing an
3 evaluation of the statewide system of program providers,
4 including programs established by this Act.

5 (5) Reviewing evaluation results and data reports to
6 inform future investments and allocations and to shape
7 State policy.

8 (6) Developing technical assistance and
9 capacity-building infrastructure and ensuring appropriate
10 workforce development strategies across agencies for those
11 who will be working in afterschool programs.

12 (7) Reviewing and making public recommendations to the
13 Governor and the General Assembly with respect to the
14 budgets for State youth services to ensure the adequacy of
15 those budgets and alignment to system goals outlined in the
16 plan described in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

17 (8) Developing and overseeing execution of a research
18 agenda to inform future program planning.

19 (9) Providing strategic advice to other State
20 agencies, the Illinois General Assembly, and Illinois'
21 Constitutional Officers on afterschool-related activities
22 statewide.

23 (10) Approving awards of grants to demonstration
24 projects as outlined in Section 20 of this Act.

25 (d) Accountability. The Council shall annually report to
26 the Governor and the General Assembly on the Council's progress

1 towards its goals and objectives. The Department of Human
2 Services shall provide resources to the Council, including
3 administrative services and data collection and shall be
4 responsible for conducting procurement processes required by
5 the Act. The Department may contract with vendors to provide
6 all or a portion of any necessary resources.

7 Section 20. Afterschool Demonstration Program.

8 (a) Program. The Department of Human Services, in
9 coordination with the Council, shall establish and administer a
10 3-year statewide, quality Afterschool Demonstration Program
11 with an evaluation and outcome-based expansion model. The
12 ultimate goal of the Demonstration shall be to develop and
13 evaluate the costs, impact, and quality outcomes of afterschool
14 programs in order to establish an effective expansion toward
15 universal access.

16 (b) Eligible activity areas. Afterschool programs created
17 under the Demonstration Program shall serve youths in Illinois
18 by promoting one or more of the following:

19 (1) Academic support activities, including but not
20 limited to remediation, tutoring, homework assistance,
21 advocacy with teachers, college preparatory guidance,
22 college tours, application assistance, and college
23 counseling.

24 (2) Arts, music, sports, recreation, and cultural
25 enrichment, including structured, ongoing activities such

1 as theatre groups, development of exhibits, graphic
2 design, cultural activities, and sports and athletic
3 teams.

4 (3) Health promotion and disease prevention, including
5 activities and tools for increasing knowledge and practice
6 of healthy behavior, drug, alcohol, tobacco and pregnancy
7 prevention, conflict resolution, and violence prevention.

8 (4) Life skills and work and career development
9 activities that prepare youth for a successful transition
10 to the workplace, including career awareness, job fairs,
11 career exploration, job shadowing, work readiness skills,
12 interview skills, resume building and work experience, and
13 paid internships and summer jobs.

14 (5) Youth leadership development activities aimed at
15 increasing youths' communication skills and ability to
16 help a group make decisions, to facilitate or lead a group
17 discussion, and to initiate and direct projects involving
18 other people including civic engagement, service learning,
19 and other activities that promote youth leadership.

20 (c) Eligible entities. Currently funded or new entities,
21 including but not limited to the following, shall be eligible
22 to apply for funding:

23 (1) Schools or school districts.

24 (2) Community-based organizations.

25 (3) Faith-based organizations.

26 (4) Park districts.

1 (5) Libraries.

2 (6) Cultural institutions.

3 (d) Program criteria. New or existing applicants shall
4 demonstrate the capacity to achieve the goals of this Act and
5 meet the deadlines set forth by the Council through:

6 (1) The promotion of the development of those items
7 outlined in subsection (b) of this Section.

8 (2) Evidence of community need and collaboration
9 to avoid duplicating or supplanting existing services,
10 which shall be shown through the creation of or
11 reliance on an appropriate, existing community
12 advisory group composed of a diverse makeup of members
13 that may include, but is not limited to, educators,
14 afterschool providers, local government officials,
15 local business owners, parents, and youth.

16 (3) Cost-effective methods that will maximize the
17 impact of the total dollar amount of the award.

18 (e) Expansion. Three years from the award of the first
19 dollars, initial findings of an outcome evaluation of the
20 Demonstration, conducted by an independent evaluator as
21 described in subsection (d) of Section 25 of this Act, shall be
22 reported to the Council, the Governor, and the General Assembly
23 with a hearing scheduled before the appropriate committees of
24 the House and Senate for the purpose of establishing an
25 effective expansion toward universal access. A positive
26 outcome evaluation, whereby performance outcomes determined by

1 the Council are met, shall trigger a phased-in expansion toward
2 full implementation.

3 Section 25. Effectiveness of afterschool programs.

4 (a) Program standards. Research has shown that
5 high-performing youth programs demonstrate shared features of
6 program quality. The Council shall establish a universal
7 framework of youth development program standards that commonly
8 define measurable indicators of program quality across the
9 diverse array of eligible demonstration program activities.

10 (b) Evaluation and monitoring. Afterschool programs shall
11 be held accountable to universal program quality standards as
12 adopted by the Council. Data informing performance against
13 these standards shall be monitored and collected by the
14 Department of Human Services. Each afterschool program, in
15 coordination with the corresponding community advisory group,
16 shall also assess needs and gaps relative to addressing outcome
17 goals.

18 (c) Capacity-building supports. A statewide program
19 quality improvement system shall be established by the Council
20 utilizing a qualified third party to provide assessment,
21 coaching, technical assistance, and system and professional
22 development. Provided supports shall first target those
23 afterschool programs created under the Demonstration with the
24 ultimate goal of expansion to support the larger statewide
25 system of youth development program providers.

1 (d) Demonstration outcome evaluation. An evaluation of the
2 Demonstration shall be conducted by a third-party evaluator or
3 evaluators selected through a competitive request for
4 proposals (RFP) process. The purpose of the evaluation is to
5 determine how well the Demonstration Program meets the cost,
6 impact, and quality outcome goals established by the Council.
7 Initial findings shall be reported to the Council, the
8 Governor, and the General Assembly within 3 years from the
9 award of the first dollars and shall be the primary determining
10 evidence to trigger expansion as described in subsection (e) of
11 Section 20 of this Act.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
13 becoming law.".