



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB5573

Introduced 2/15/2012, by Rep. Joe Sosnowski

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/22-71 new

Amends the School Code. Creates the Tuition Voucher Program Task Force to study the feasibility of a statewide tuition voucher program. Requires the State Board of Education to provide administrative and other support to the task force. Requires the task force to file a report with the Governor and the General Assembly. Sets forth topics that the report must include. Provides that upon filing its report, the task force is dissolved.

LRB097 16425 NHT 61588 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 22-71 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/22-71 new)

7 Sec. 22-71. Tuition Voucher Program Task Force.

8 (a) The Tuition Voucher Program Task Force is created to
9 study the feasibility of a statewide tuition voucher program.
10 The task force shall consist of all of the following members:

11 (1) Two members of the public appointed by the
12 Governor.

13 (2) Two members of the General Assembly appointed by
14 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

15 (3) Two members of the General Assembly appointed by
16 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

17 (4) Two members of the General Assembly appointed by
18 the President of the Senate.

19 (5) Two members of the General Assembly appointed by
20 the Minority Leader of the Senate.

21 (6) One representative of a statewide professional
22 teachers organization appointed by the head of that
23 organization.

1 (7) One representative of a different statewide
2 professional teachers organization appointed by the head
3 of that organization.

4 (8) Two representatives of a statewide school
5 management alliance organization.

6 (9) One representative of the State Board of Education.

7 The members of the task force shall serve without
8 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for their reasonable and
9 necessary expenses from appropriations to the State Board of
10 Education for that purpose. Reimbursement for travel expenses
11 shall be subject to the rules of the appropriate travel control
12 board.

13 The members of the task force shall meet initially at the
14 call of the Governor, shall select one member as chairperson at
15 its initial meeting, and shall thereafter meet at the call of
16 the chairperson.

17 The State Board of Education shall provide administrative
18 and other support to the task force.

19 (b) The Tuition Voucher Program Task Force shall file a
20 report on the feasibility of a statewide tuition voucher
21 program with the Governor and the General Assembly as provided
22 in Section 3.1 of the General Assembly Organization Act. The
23 following topics must be included without limitation in the
24 report:

25 (1) Eligible students, either in grades kindergarten
26 through 7 or in grades kindergarten through 12.

1 (2) Education expenses and what are the reasonable
2 costs incurred by a student in attending a nonpublic
3 school, such as for books, tuition, fees, and extra
4 curricular activities.

5 (3) What qualifies as a nonpublic school to be eligible
6 for a tuition voucher program and whether the school must
7 consent to participate in the tuition voucher program.

8 (4) Application processes and application date
9 limitations as prescribed in Senate Bill 2494 of the 97th
10 General Assembly.

11 (5) The amount of a voucher as prescribed in Senate
12 Bill 2494 of the 97th General Assembly.

13 (6) Assessments of students using vouchers as
14 prescribed in Senate Bill 2494 of the 97th General
15 Assembly.

16 (7) Possible fiscal impacts of a tuition voucher
17 program.

18 Upon filing its report with the Governor and the General
19 Assembly, the Tuition Voucher Program Task Force is dissolved.