

AN ACT concerning State government.

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

Section 5. The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act is amended by changing Sections 20-20, 20-50, 20-85, 20-90, 25-5, 25-10, 25-15, 25-20, 25-50, 25-70, 25-85, 25-90, 25-95, and 50-5 and by adding Sections 25-100 and 25-105 as follows:

(5 ILCS 430/20-20)

Sec. 20-20. Duties of the Executive Inspectors General. In addition to duties otherwise assigned by law, each Executive Inspector General shall have the following duties:

(1) To receive and investigate allegations of violations of this Act. An investigation may not be initiated more than one year after the most recent act of the alleged violation or of a series of alleged violations except where there is reasonable cause to believe that fraudulent concealment has occurred. To constitute fraudulent concealment sufficient to toll this limitations period, there must be an affirmative act or representation calculated to prevent discovery of the fact that a violation has occurred. The Executive Inspector General shall have the discretion to determine the appropriate means of investigation as permitted by law.

(2) To request information relating to an investigation from any person when the Executive Inspector General deems that information necessary in conducting an investigation.

(3) To issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses for the purposes of testimony and production of documents and other items for inspection and copying and to make service of those subpoenas and subpoenas issued under item (7) of Section 20-15.

(4) To submit reports as required by this Act.

(5) To file pleadings in the name of the Executive Inspector General with the Executive Ethics Commission, through the Attorney General, as provided in this Article if the Attorney General finds that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred.

(6) To assist and coordinate the ethics officers for State agencies under the jurisdiction of the Executive Inspector General and to work with those ethics officers.

(7) To participate in or conduct, when appropriate, multi-jurisdictional investigations.

(8) To request, as the Executive Inspector General deems appropriate, from ethics officers of State agencies under his or her jurisdiction, reports or information on (i) the content of a State agency's ethics training program and (ii) the percentage of new officers and employees who have completed ethics training.

(9) To review hiring and employment files of each State agency within the Executive Inspector General's jurisdiction to ensure compliance with *Rutan v. Republican Party of Illinois*, 497 U.S. 62 (1990), and with all applicable employment laws.

(10) To establish a policy that ensures the appropriate handling and correct recording of all investigations conducted by the Office, and to ensure that the policy is accessible via the Internet in order that those seeking to report those allegations are familiar with the process and that the subjects of those allegations are treated fairly.

(11) To post information to the Executive Inspector General's website explaining to complainants and subjects of an investigation the legal limitations on the Executive Inspector General's ability to provide information to them and a general overview of the investigation process.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/20-50)

Sec. 20-50. Investigation reports.

(a) If an Executive Inspector General, upon the conclusion of an investigation, determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the Executive Inspector General shall issue a summary report of the investigation. The report shall be delivered to the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority and to the head of each State

agency affected by or involved in the investigation, if appropriate. The appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head shall respond to the summary report within 20 days, in writing, to the Executive Inspector General. The response shall include a description of any corrective or disciplinary action to be imposed. If the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority does not respond within 20 days, or within an extended time period as agreed to by the Executive Inspector General, an Executive Inspector General may proceed under subsection (c) as if a response had been received.

(b) The summary report of the investigation shall include the following:

(1) A description of any allegations or other information received by the Executive Inspector General pertinent to the investigation.

(2) A description of any alleged misconduct discovered in the course of the investigation.

(3) Recommendations for any corrective or disciplinary action to be taken in response to any alleged misconduct described in the report, including but not limited to discharge.

(4) Other information the Executive Inspector General deems relevant to the investigation or resulting recommendations.

(c) Within 30 days after receiving a response from the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head

under subsection (a), the Executive Inspector General shall notify the Commission and the Attorney General if the Executive Inspector General believes that a complaint should be filed with the Commission. If the Executive Inspector General desires to file a complaint with the Commission, the Executive Inspector General shall submit the summary report and supporting documents to the Attorney General. If the Attorney General concludes that there is insufficient evidence that a violation has occurred, the Attorney General shall notify the Executive Inspector General and the Executive Inspector General shall deliver to the Executive Ethics Commission a copy of the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head. If the Attorney General determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the Executive Inspector General, represented by the Attorney General, may file with the Executive Ethics Commission a complaint. The complaint shall set forth the alleged violation and the grounds that exist to support the complaint. The complaint must be filed with the Commission within 18 months after the most recent act of the alleged violation or of a series of alleged violations except where there is reasonable cause to believe that fraudulent concealment has occurred. To constitute fraudulent concealment sufficient to toll this limitations period, there must be an affirmative act or representation calculated to prevent discovery of the fact that a violation has occurred. If a

complaint is not filed with the Commission within 6 months after notice by the Inspector General to the Commission and the Attorney General, then the Commission may set a meeting of the Commission at which the Attorney General shall appear and provide a status report to the Commission.

(c-5) Within 30 days after receiving a response from the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head under subsection (a), if the Executive Inspector General does not believe that a complaint should be filed, the Executive Inspector General shall deliver to the Executive Ethics Commission a statement setting forth the basis for the decision not to file a complaint and a copy of the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head. An Inspector General may also submit a redacted version of the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority if the Inspector General believes either contains information that, in the opinion of the Inspector General, should be redacted prior to releasing the report, may interfere with an ongoing investigation, or identifies an informant or complainant.

(c-10) If, after reviewing the documents, the Commission believes that further investigation is warranted, the Commission may request that the Executive Inspector General provide additional information or conduct further investigation. The Commission may also appoint a Special Executive Inspector General to investigate or refer the summary

report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority to the Attorney General for further investigation or review. If the Commission requests the Attorney General to investigate or review, the Commission must notify the Attorney General and the Inspector General. The Attorney General may not begin an investigation or review until receipt of notice from the Commission. If, after review, the Attorney General determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the Attorney General may file a complaint with the Executive Ethics Commission. If the Attorney General concludes that there is insufficient evidence that a violation has occurred, the Attorney General shall notify the Executive Ethics Commission and the appropriate Executive Inspector General.

(d) A copy of the complaint filed with the Executive Ethics Commission must be served on all respondents named in the complaint and on each respondent's ultimate jurisdictional authority in the same manner as process is served under the Code of Civil Procedure.

(e) A respondent may file objections to the complaint within 30 days after notice of the petition has been served on the respondent.

(f) The Commission shall meet, either in person or by telephone, at least 30 days after the complaint is served on all respondents in a closed session to review the sufficiency of the complaint. The Commission shall issue notice by

certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Executive Inspector General, Attorney General, and all respondents of the Commission's ruling on the sufficiency of the complaint. If the complaint is deemed to sufficiently allege a violation of this Act, then the Commission shall include a hearing date scheduled within 4 weeks after the date of the notice, unless all of the parties consent to a later date. If the complaint is deemed not to sufficiently allege a violation, then the Commission shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the Executive Inspector General, Attorney General, and all respondents of the decision to dismiss the complaint.

(g) On the scheduled date the Commission shall conduct a closed meeting, either in person or, if the parties consent, by telephone, on the complaint and allow all parties the opportunity to present testimony and evidence. All such proceedings shall be transcribed.

(h) Within an appropriate time limit set by rules of the Executive Ethics Commission, the Commission shall (i) dismiss the complaint, (ii) issue a recommendation of discipline to the respondent and the respondent's ultimate jurisdictional authority, (iii) impose an administrative fine upon the respondent, (iv) issue injunctive relief as described in Section 50-10, or (v) impose a combination of (ii) through (iv).

(i) The proceedings on any complaint filed with the Commission shall be conducted pursuant to rules promulgated by

the Commission.

(j) The Commission may designate hearing officers to conduct proceedings as determined by rule of the Commission.

(k) In all proceedings before the Commission, the standard of proof is by a preponderance of the evidence.

(l) Within 30 days after the issuance of a final administrative decision that concludes that a violation occurred, the Executive Ethics Commission shall make public the entire record of proceedings before the Commission, the decision, any recommendation, any discipline imposed, and the response from the agency head or ultimate jurisdictional authority to the Executive Ethics Commission.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/20-85)

Sec. 20-85. Monthly reports by Executive Inspector General. Each Executive Inspector General shall submit monthly reports to the appropriate executive branch constitutional officer, on dates determined by the executive branch constitutional officer, indicating:

(1) the total number of allegations received since the date of the last report and the total number of allegations received since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(2) the total number of investigations initiated since the date of the last report and the total number of

investigations initiated since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(3) the total number of investigations concluded since the date of the last report and the total number of investigations concluded since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(4) the total number of investigations pending as of the reporting date and the total number of investigations pending as of the reporting date by category of claim;

(5) the total number of complaints forwarded to the Attorney General since the date of the last report;

(6) the total number of actions filed with the Executive Ethics Commission since the date of the last report, and the total number of actions pending before the Executive Ethics Commission as of the reporting date, the total number of actions filed with the Executive Ethics Commission since the date of the last report by category of claim, and the total number of actions pending before the Executive Ethics Commission as of the reporting date by category of claim; and

(7) the total number of allegations referred to any law enforcement agency since the date of the last report; -

(8) the total number of allegations referred to another investigatory body since the date of the last report; and

(9) the cumulative number of each of the foregoing for the current calendar year.

For the purposes of this Section, "category of claim" shall include discrimination claims, harassment claims, sexual harassment claims, retaliation claims, gift ban claims, prohibited political activity claims, revolving door prohibition claims, and other, miscellaneous, or uncharacterized claims.

The monthly report shall be available on the websites of the Executive Inspector General and the constitutional officer.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/20-90)

Sec. 20-90. Confidentiality.

(a) The identity of any individual providing information or reporting any possible or alleged misconduct to an Executive Inspector General or the Executive Ethics Commission shall be kept confidential and may not be disclosed without the consent of that individual, unless the individual consents to disclosure of his or her name or disclosure of the individual's identity is otherwise required by law. The confidentiality granted by this subsection does not preclude the disclosure of the identity of a person in any capacity other than as the source of an allegation.

(b) Subject to the provisions of Section 20-52, commissioners, employees, and agents of the Executive Ethics Commission, the Executive Inspectors General, and employees

and agents of each Office of an Executive Inspector General, the Attorney General, and the employees and agents of the office of the Attorney General shall keep confidential and shall not disclose information exempted from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or by this Act, provided the identity of any individual providing information or reporting any possible or alleged misconduct to the Executive Inspector General for the Governor may be disclosed to an Inspector General appointed or employed by a Regional Transit Board in accordance with Section 75-10.

(c) In his or her discretion, an Executive Inspector General may notify complainants and subjects of an investigation with an update on the status of the respective investigation, including when the investigation is opened and closed.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09; 96-1528, eff. 7-1-11.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-5)

Sec. 25-5. Legislative Ethics Commission.

(a) The Legislative Ethics Commission is created.

(b) The Legislative Ethics Commission shall consist of 8 commissioners appointed 2 each by the President and Minority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

The terms of the initial commissioners shall commence upon qualification. Each appointing authority shall designate one

appointee who shall serve for a 2-year term running through June 30, 2005. Each appointing authority shall designate one appointee who shall serve for a 4-year term running through June 30, 2007. The initial appointments shall be made within 60 days after the effective date of this Act.

After the initial terms, commissioners shall serve for 4-year terms commencing on July 1 of the year of appointment and running through June 30 of the fourth following year. Commissioners may be reappointed to one or more subsequent terms.

Vacancies occurring other than at the end of a term shall be filled by the appointing authority only for the balance of the term of the commissioner whose office is vacant.

Terms shall run regardless of whether the position is filled.

(c) The appointing authorities shall appoint commissioners who have experience holding governmental office or employment and may appoint commissioners who are members of the General Assembly as well as commissioners from the general public. A commissioner who is a member of the General Assembly must recuse himself or herself from participating in any matter relating to any investigation or proceeding in which he or she is the subject or is a complainant. A person is not eligible to serve as a commissioner if that person (i) has been convicted of a felony or a crime of dishonesty or moral turpitude, (ii) is, or was within the preceding 12 months, engaged in

activities that require registration under the Lobbyist Registration Act, (iii) is a relative of the appointing authority, ~~or~~ (iv) is a State officer or employee other than a member of the General Assembly, or (v) is a candidate for statewide office, federal office, or judicial office.

(c-5) If a commissioner is required to recuse himself or herself from participating in a matter as provided in subsection (c), the recusal shall create a temporary vacancy for the limited purpose of consideration of the matter for which the commissioner recused himself or herself, and the appointing authority for the recusing commissioner shall make a temporary appointment to fill the vacancy for consideration of the matter for which the commissioner recused himself or herself.

(d) The Legislative Ethics Commission shall have jurisdiction over current and former members of the General Assembly regarding events occurring during a member's term of office and current and former all State employees regarding events occurring during any period of employment where the State employee's whose ultimate jurisdictional authority is (i) a legislative leader, (ii) the Senate Operations Commission, or (iii) the Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services. The jurisdiction of the Commission is limited to matters arising under this Act.

An officer or executive branch State employee serving on a legislative branch board or commission remains subject to the

jurisdiction of the Executive Ethics Commission and is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Legislative Ethics Commission.

(e) The Legislative Ethics Commission must meet, either in person or by other technological means, monthly or as often as necessary. At the first meeting of the Legislative Ethics Commission, the commissioners shall choose from their number a chairperson and other officers that they deem appropriate. The terms of officers shall be for 2 years commencing July 1 and running through June 30 of the second following year. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chairperson or any 3 commissioners. Official action by the Commission shall require the affirmative vote of 5 commissioners, and a quorum shall consist of 5 commissioners. Commissioners shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties.

(f) No commissioner, other than a commissioner who is a member of the General Assembly, or employee of the Legislative Ethics Commission may during his or her term of appointment or employment:

(1) become a candidate for any elective office;

(2) hold any other elected or appointed public office except for appointments on governmental advisory boards or study commissions or as otherwise expressly authorized by law;

(3) be actively involved in the affairs of any

political party or political organization; or

(4) advocate for the appointment of another person to an appointed or elected office or position or actively participate in any campaign for any elective office.

(f-5) No commissioner who is a member of the General Assembly may be a candidate for statewide office, federal office, or judicial office. If a commissioner who is a member of the General Assembly files petitions to be a candidate for a statewide office, federal office, or judicial office, he or she shall be deemed to have resigned from his or her position as a commissioner on the date his or her name is certified for the ballot by the State Board of Elections or local election authority and his or position as a commissioner shall be deemed vacant. Such person may not be reappointed to the Commission during any time he or she is a candidate for statewide office, federal office, or judicial office.

(g) An appointing authority may remove a commissioner only for cause.

(h) The Legislative Ethics Commission shall appoint an Executive Director subject to the approval of at least 3 of the 4 legislative leaders. The compensation of the Executive Director shall be as determined by the Commission. The Executive Director of the Legislative Ethics Commission may employ, subject to the approval of at least 3 of the 4 legislative leaders, and determine the compensation of staff, as appropriations permit.

(i) In consultation with the Legislative Inspector General, the Legislative Ethics Commission may develop comprehensive training for members and employees under its jurisdiction that includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, employment discrimination, and workplace civility. The training may be recommended to the ultimate jurisdictional authorities and may be approved by the Commission to satisfy the sexual harassment training required under Section 5-10.5 or be provided in addition to the annual sexual harassment training required under Section 5-10.5. The Commission may seek input from governmental agencies or private entities for guidance in developing such training.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-10)

Sec. 25-10. Office of Legislative Inspector General.

(a) The independent Office of the Legislative Inspector General is created. The Office shall be under the direction and supervision of the Legislative Inspector General and shall be a fully independent office with its own appropriation.

(b) The Legislative Inspector General shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability. The Legislative Ethics Commission shall diligently search out qualified candidates for Legislative Inspector General and shall make recommendations to the General Assembly. The Legislative

Inspector General may serve in a full-time, part-time, or contractual capacity.

The Legislative Inspector General shall be appointed by a joint resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which may specify the date on which the appointment takes effect. A joint resolution, or other document as may be specified by the Joint Rules of the General Assembly, appointing the Legislative Inspector General must be certified by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate as having been adopted by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house, respectively, and be filed with the Secretary of State. The appointment of the Legislative Inspector General takes effect on the day the appointment is completed by the General Assembly, unless the appointment specifies a later date on which it is to become effective.

The Legislative Inspector General shall have the following qualifications:

- (1) has not been convicted of any felony under the laws of this State, another state, or the United States;
- (2) has earned a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education; and
- (3) has 5 or more years of cumulative service (A) with a federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, at least 2 years of which have been in a progressive investigatory capacity; (B) as a federal, State, or local prosecutor; (C)

as a senior manager or executive of a federal, State, or local agency; (D) as a member, an officer, or a State or federal judge; or (E) representing any combination of (A) through (D).

The Legislative Inspector General may not be a relative of a commissioner.

The term of the initial Legislative Inspector General shall commence upon qualification and shall run through June 30, 2008.

After the initial term, the Legislative Inspector General shall serve for 5-year terms commencing on July 1 of the year of appointment and running through June 30 of the fifth following year. The Legislative Inspector General may be reappointed to one or more subsequent terms. Terms shall run regardless of whether the position is filled.

(b-5) A vacancy occurring other than at the end of a term shall be filled in the same manner as an appointment only for the balance of the term of the Legislative Inspector General whose office is vacant. Within 7 days of the Office becoming vacant or receipt of a Legislative Inspector General's prospective resignation, the vacancy shall be publicly posted on the Commission's website, along with a description of the requirements for the position and where applicants may apply.

Within 45 days of the vacancy, If the Office is vacant, or if a Legislative Inspector General resigns, the Commission shall designate an Acting Legislative Inspector General who

shall serve until the vacancy is filled. The Commission shall file the designation in writing with the Secretary of State.

Within 60 days prior to the end of the term of the Legislative Inspector General or within 30 days of the occurrence of a vacancy in the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, the Legislative Ethics Commission shall establish a four-member search committee within the Commission for the purpose of conducting a search for qualified candidates to serve as Legislative Inspector General. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the House, Senate President, and Minority Leader of the Senate shall each appoint one member to the search committee. A member of the search committee shall be either a retired judge or former prosecutor and may not be a member or employee of the General Assembly or a registered lobbyist. If the Legislative Ethics Commission wishes to recommend that the Legislative Inspector General be re-appointed, a search committee does not need to be appointed.

The search committee shall conduct a search for qualified candidates, accept applications, and conduct interviews. The search committee shall recommend up to 3 candidates for Legislative Inspector General to the Legislative Ethics Commission. The search committee shall be disbanded upon an appointment of the Legislative Inspector General. Members of the search committee are not entitled to compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.

Within 30 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly, the Legislative Ethics Commission shall create a search committee in the manner provided for in this subsection to recommend up to 3 candidates for Legislative Inspector General to the Legislative Ethics Commission by October 31, 2018.

If a vacancy exists and the Commission has not appointed an Acting Legislative Inspector General, either the staff of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, or if there is no staff, the Executive Director, shall advise the Commission of all open investigations and any new allegations or complaints received in the Office of the Inspector General. These reports shall not include the name of any person identified in the allegation or complaint, including, but not limited to, the subject of and the person filing the allegation or complaint. Notification shall be made to the Commission on a weekly basis unless the Commission approves of a different reporting schedule.

If the Office of the Inspector General is vacant for 6 months or more beginning on or after January 1, 2019, and the Legislative Ethics Commission has not appointed an Acting Legislative Inspector General, all complaints made to the Legislative Inspector General or the Legislative Ethics Commission shall be directed to the Inspector General for the Auditor General, and he or she shall have the authority to act as provided in subsection (c) of this Section and Section 25-20

of this Act, and shall be subject to all laws and rules governing a Legislative Inspector General or Acting Legislative Inspector General. The authority for the Inspector General of the Auditor General under this paragraph shall terminate upon appointment of a Legislative Inspector General or an Acting Legislative Inspector General.

Terms shall run regardless of whether the position is filled.

(c) The Legislative Inspector General shall have jurisdiction over the current and former members of the General Assembly regarding events occurring during a member's term of office and current and former all State employees regarding events occurring during any period of employment where the State employee's whose ultimate jurisdictional authority is (i) a legislative leader, (ii) the Senate Operations Commission, or (iii) the Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services.

The jurisdiction of each Legislative Inspector General is to investigate allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, misconduct, nonfeasance, misfeasance, malfeasance, or violations of this Act or violations of other related laws and rules.

(d) The compensation of the Legislative Inspector General shall be the greater of an amount (i) determined by the Commission or (ii) by joint resolution of the General Assembly passed by a majority of members elected in each chamber.

Subject to Section 25-45 of this Act, the Legislative Inspector General has full authority to organize the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, including the employment and determination of the compensation of staff, such as deputies, assistants, and other employees, as appropriations permit. Employment of staff is subject to the approval of at least 3 of the 4 legislative leaders.

(e) No Legislative Inspector General or employee of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General may, during his or her term of appointment or employment:

- (1) become a candidate for any elective office;
- (2) hold any other elected or appointed public office except for appointments on governmental advisory boards or study commissions or as otherwise expressly authorized by law;
- (3) be actively involved in the affairs of any political party or political organization; or
- (4) actively participate in any campaign for any elective office.

A full-time Legislative Inspector General shall not engage in the practice of law or any other business, employment, or vocation.

In this subsection an appointed public office means a position authorized by law that is filled by an appointing authority as provided by law and does not include employment by hiring in the ordinary course of business.

(e-1) No Legislative Inspector General or employee of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General may, for one year after the termination of his or her appointment or employment:

- (1) become a candidate for any elective office;
- (2) hold any elected public office; or
- (3) hold any appointed State, county, or local judicial office.

(e-2) The requirements of item (3) of subsection (e-1) may be waived by the Legislative Ethics Commission.

(f) The Commission may remove the Legislative Inspector General only for cause. At the time of the removal, the Commission must report to the General Assembly the justification for the removal.

(Source: P.A. 98-631, eff. 5-29-14.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-15)

Sec. 25-15. Duties of the Legislative Ethics Commission. In addition to duties otherwise assigned by law, the Legislative Ethics Commission shall have the following duties:

- (1) To promulgate rules governing the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers and governing the investigations of the Legislative Inspector General. The rules shall be available on the Commission's website and any proposed changes to the rules must be made available to the public on the Commission's website no less than 7 days before the adoption of the changes. Any person shall be

given an opportunity to provide written or oral testimony before the Commission in support of or opposition to proposed rules.

(2) To conduct administrative hearings and rule on matters brought before the Commission only upon the receipt of pleadings filed by the Legislative Inspector General and not upon its own prerogative, but may appoint special Legislative Inspectors General as provided in Section 25-21. Any other allegations of misconduct received by the Commission from a person other than the Legislative Inspector General shall be referred to the Office of the Legislative Inspector General.

(3) To prepare and publish manuals and guides and, working with the Office of the Attorney General, oversee training of employees under its jurisdiction that explains their duties.

(4) To prepare public information materials to facilitate compliance, implementation, and enforcement of this Act.

(5) To submit reports as required by this Act.

(6) To the extent authorized by this Act, to make rulings, issue recommendations, and impose administrative fines, if appropriate, in connection with the implementation and interpretation of this Act. The powers and duties of the Commission are limited to matters clearly within the purview of this Act.

(7) To issue subpoenas with respect to matters pending before the Commission, subject to the provisions of this Article and in the discretion of the Commission, to compel the attendance of witnesses for purposes of testimony and the production of documents and other items for inspection and copying.

(8) To appoint special Legislative Inspectors General as provided in Section 25-21.

(9) To conspicuously display on the Commission's website the procedures for reporting a violation of this Act, including how to report violations via email or online.

(10) To conspicuously display on the Commission's website any vacancies within the Office of the Legislative Inspector General.

(11) To appoint an Acting Legislative Inspector General in the event of a vacancy in the Office of the Legislative Inspector General.

(Source: P.A. 100-554, eff. 11-16-17.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-20)

Sec. 25-20. Duties of the Legislative Inspector General. In addition to duties otherwise assigned by law, the Legislative Inspector General shall have the following duties:

(1) To receive and investigate allegations of violations of this Act. Except as otherwise provided in

paragraph (1.5), an investigation may not be initiated more than one year after the most recent act of the alleged violation or of a series of alleged violations except where there is reasonable cause to believe that fraudulent concealment has occurred. To constitute fraudulent concealment sufficient to toll this limitations period, there must be an affirmative act or representation calculated to prevent discovery of the fact that a violation has occurred. The Legislative Inspector General shall have the discretion to determine the appropriate means of investigation as permitted by law.

(1.5) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Legislative Inspector General, whether appointed by the Legislative Ethics Commission or the General Assembly, may initiate an investigation based on information provided to the Office of the Legislative Inspector General or the Legislative Ethics Commission during the period from December 1, 2014 through November 3, 2017. Any investigation initiated under this paragraph (1.5) must be initiated within one year after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Legislative Inspector General, through the Attorney General, shall have the authority to file a complaint related to any founded violations that occurred during the period December 1, 2014 through November 3, 2017 to the Legislative Ethics

Commission, and the Commission shall have jurisdiction to conduct administrative hearings related to any pleadings filed by the Legislative Inspector General, provided the complaint is filed with the Commission no later than 6 months after the summary report is provided to the Attorney General in accordance with subsection (c) of Section 25-50.

(2) To request information relating to an investigation from any person when the Legislative Inspector General deems that information necessary in conducting an investigation.

(3) To issue subpoenas, with the advance approval of the Commission, to compel the attendance of witnesses for the purposes of testimony and production of documents and other items for inspection and copying and to make service of those subpoenas and subpoenas issued under item (7) of Section 25-15.

(4) To submit reports as required by this Act.

(5) To file pleadings in the name of the Legislative Inspector General with the Legislative Ethics Commission, through the Attorney General, as provided in this Article if the Attorney General finds that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred.

(6) To assist and coordinate the ethics officers for State agencies under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Inspector General and to work with those ethics officers.

(7) To participate in or conduct, when appropriate,

multi-jurisdictional investigations.

(8) To request, as the Legislative Inspector General deems appropriate, from ethics officers of State agencies under his or her jurisdiction, reports or information on (i) the content of a State agency's ethics training program and (ii) the percentage of new officers and employees who have completed ethics training.

(9) To establish a policy that ensures the appropriate handling and correct recording of all investigations of allegations and to ensure that the policy is accessible via the Internet in order that those seeking to report those allegations are familiar with the process and that the subjects of those allegations are treated fairly.

(10) To post information to the Legislative Inspector General's website explaining to complainants and subjects of an investigation the legal limitations on the Legislative Inspector General's ability to provide information to them and a general overview of the investigation process.

(Source: P.A. 100-553, eff. 11-16-17.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-50)

Sec. 25-50. Investigation reports.

(a) If the Legislative Inspector General, upon the conclusion of an investigation, determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the

Legislative Inspector General shall issue a summary report of the investigation. The report shall be delivered to the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority, and to the head of each State agency affected by or involved in the investigation, if appropriate, and the member, if any, that is the subject of the report. The appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head and the member, if any, that is the subject of the report shall respond to the summary report within 20 days, in writing, to the Legislative Inspector General. If the ultimate jurisdictional authority is the subject of the report, he or she may only respond to the summary report in his or her capacity as the subject of the report and shall not respond in his or her capacity as the ultimate jurisdictional authority. The response shall include a description of any corrective or disciplinary action to be imposed. If the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or the member that is the subject of the report does not respond within 20 days, or within an extended time as agreed to by the Legislative Inspector General, the Legislative Inspector General may proceed under subsection (c) as if a response had been received. A member receiving and responding to a report under this Section shall be deemed to be acting in his or her official capacity.

(b) The summary report of the investigation shall include the following:

(1) A description of any allegations or other

information received by the Legislative Inspector General pertinent to the investigation.

(2) A description of any alleged misconduct discovered in the course of the investigation.

(3) Recommendations for any corrective or disciplinary action to be taken in response to any alleged misconduct described in the report, including but not limited to discharge.

(4) Other information the Legislative Inspector General deems relevant to the investigation or resulting recommendations.

(c) Within 30 days after receiving a response from the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head under subsection (a), the Legislative Inspector General shall notify the Commission and the Attorney General if the Legislative Inspector General believes that a complaint should be filed with the Commission. If the Legislative Inspector General desires to file a complaint with the Commission, the Legislative Inspector General shall submit the summary report and supporting documents to the Attorney General. If the Attorney General concludes that there is insufficient evidence that a violation has occurred, the Attorney General shall notify the Legislative Inspector General and the Legislative Inspector General shall deliver to the Legislative Ethics Commission a copy of the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head. If the

Attorney General determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the Legislative Inspector General, represented by the Attorney General, may file with the Legislative Ethics Commission a complaint. The complaint shall set forth the alleged violation and the grounds that exist to support the complaint. Except as provided under subsection (1.5) of Section 20, the The complaint must be filed with the Commission within 18 months after the most recent act of the alleged violation or of a series of alleged violations except where there is reasonable cause to believe that fraudulent concealment has occurred. To constitute fraudulent concealment sufficient to toll this limitations period, there must be an affirmative act or representation calculated to prevent discovery of the fact that a violation has occurred. If a complaint is not filed with the Commission within 6 months after notice by the Inspector General to the Commission and the Attorney General, then the Commission may set a meeting of the Commission at which the Attorney General shall appear and provide a status report to the Commission.

(c-5) Within 30 days after receiving a response from the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head under subsection (a), if the Legislative Inspector General does not believe that a complaint should be filed, the Legislative Inspector General shall deliver to the Legislative Ethics Commission a statement setting forth the basis for the decision not to file a complaint and a copy of the summary report and

response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority or agency head. The Inspector General may also submit a redacted version of the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority if the Inspector General believes either contains information that, in the opinion of the Inspector General, should be redacted prior to releasing the report, may interfere with an ongoing investigation, or identifies an informant or complainant.

(c-10) If, after reviewing the documents, the Commission believes that further investigation is warranted, the Commission may request that the Legislative Inspector General provide additional information or conduct further investigation. The Commission may also refer the summary report and response from the ultimate jurisdictional authority to the Attorney General for further investigation or review. If the Commission requests the Attorney General to investigate or review, the Commission must notify the Attorney General and the Legislative Inspector General. The Attorney General may not begin an investigation or review until receipt of notice from the Commission. If, after review, the Attorney General determines that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, then the Attorney General may file a complaint with the Legislative Ethics Commission. If the Attorney General concludes that there is insufficient evidence that a violation has occurred, the Attorney General shall notify the Legislative Ethics Commission and the appropriate

Legislative Inspector General.

(d) A copy of the complaint filed with the Legislative Ethics Commission must be served on all respondents named in the complaint and on each respondent's ultimate jurisdictional authority in the same manner as process is served under the Code of Civil Procedure.

(e) A respondent may file objections to the complaint within 30 days after notice of the petition has been served on the respondent.

(f) The Commission shall meet, at least 30 days after the complaint is served on all respondents either in person or by telephone, in a closed session to review the sufficiency of the complaint. The Commission shall issue notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Legislative Inspector General, the Attorney General, and all respondents of the Commission's ruling on the sufficiency of the complaint. If the complaint is deemed to sufficiently allege a violation of this Act, then the Commission shall include a hearing date scheduled within 4 weeks after the date of the notice, unless all of the parties consent to a later date. If the complaint is deemed not to sufficiently allege a violation, then the Commission shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the Legislative Inspector General, the Attorney General, and all respondents the decision to dismiss the complaint.

(g) On the scheduled date the Commission shall conduct a closed meeting, either in person or, if the parties consent, by

telephone, on the complaint and allow all parties the opportunity to present testimony and evidence. All such proceedings shall be transcribed.

(h) Within an appropriate time limit set by rules of the Legislative Ethics Commission, the Commission shall (i) dismiss the complaint, (ii) issue a recommendation of discipline to the respondent and the respondent's ultimate jurisdictional authority, (iii) impose an administrative fine upon the respondent, (iv) issue injunctive relief as described in Section 50-10, or (v) impose a combination of (ii) through (iv).

(i) The proceedings on any complaint filed with the Commission shall be conducted pursuant to rules promulgated by the Commission.

(j) The Commission may designate hearing officers to conduct proceedings as determined by rule of the Commission.

(k) In all proceedings before the Commission, the standard of proof is by a preponderance of the evidence.

(l) Within 30 days after the issuance of a final administrative decision that concludes that a violation occurred, the Legislative Ethics Commission shall make public the entire record of proceedings before the Commission, the decision, any recommendation, any discipline imposed, and the response from the agency head or ultimate jurisdictional authority to the Legislative Ethics Commission.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-70)

Sec. 25-70. Cooperation in investigations. It is the duty of every officer and employee under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Inspector General, including any inspector general serving in any State agency under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Inspector General, to cooperate with the Legislative Inspector General and the Attorney General in any investigation undertaken pursuant to this Act. Failure to cooperate includes, but is not limited to, intentional omissions and knowing false statements. Failure to cooperate with an investigation of the Legislative Inspector General or the Attorney General is grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal. Nothing in this Section limits or alters a person's existing rights or privileges under State or federal law.

(Source: P.A. 93-617, eff. 12-9-03.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-85)

Sec. 25-85. Quarterly reports by the Legislative Inspector General. The Legislative Inspector General shall submit quarterly reports of claims within his or her jurisdiction filed with the Office of the Legislative Inspector General to the General Assembly and the Legislative Ethics Commission, on dates determined by the Legislative Ethics Commission, indicating:

(1) the total number of allegations received since the date of the last report and the total number of allegations received since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(2) the total number of investigations initiated since the date of the last report and the total number of investigations initiated since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(3) the total number of investigations concluded since the date of the last report and the total number of investigations concluded since the date of the last report by category of claim;

(4) the total number of investigations pending as of the reporting date and the total number of investigations pending as of the reporting date by category of claim;

(5) the total number of complaints forwarded to the Attorney General since the date of the last report; and

(6) the total number of actions filed with the Legislative Ethics Commission since the date of the last report, and the total number of actions pending before the Legislative Ethics Commission as of the reporting date, the total number of actions filed with the Legislative Ethics Commission since the date of the last report by category of claim, and the total number of actions pending before the Legislative Ethics Commission as of the reporting date by category of claim;

(7) the number of allegations referred to any law enforcement agency since the date of the last report;

(8) the total number of allegations referred to another investigatory body since the date of the last report; and

(9) the cumulative number of each of the foregoing for the current calendar year.

For the purposes of this Section, "category of claim" shall include discrimination claims, harassment claims, sexual harassment claims, retaliation claims, gift ban claims, prohibited political activity claims, revolving door prohibition claims, and other, miscellaneous, or uncharacterized claims.

The quarterly report shall be available on the website of the Legislative Inspector General.

(Source: P.A. 93-617, eff. 12-9-03.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-90)

Sec. 25-90. Confidentiality.

(a) The identity of any individual providing information or reporting any possible or alleged misconduct to the Legislative Inspector General or the Legislative Ethics Commission shall be kept confidential and may not be disclosed without the consent of that individual, unless the individual consents to disclosure of his or her name or disclosure of the individual's identity is otherwise required by law. The confidentiality granted by this subsection does not preclude the disclosure of

the identity of a person in any capacity other than as the source of an allegation.

(b) Subject to the provisions of Section 25-50(c), commissioners, employees, and agents of the Legislative Ethics Commission, the Legislative Inspector General, and employees and agents of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General shall keep confidential and shall not disclose information exempted from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or by this Act.

(c) In his or her discretion, the Legislative Inspector General may notify complainants and subjects of an investigation with an update on the status of the respective investigation, including when the investigation is opened and closed.

(Source: P.A. 93-617, eff. 12-9-03.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-95)

Sec. 25-95. Exemptions.

(a) Documents generated by an ethics officer under this Act, except Section 5-50, are exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

(a-5) Requests from ethics officers, members, and State employees to the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, a Special Legislative Inspector General, the Legislative Ethics Commission, an ethics officer, or a person designated by a legislative leader for guidance on matters involving the

interpretation or application of this Act or rules promulgated under this Act are exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Guidance provided to an ethics officer, member, or State employee at the request of an ethics officer, member, or State employee by the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, a Special Legislative Inspector General, the Legislative Ethics Commission, an ethics officer, or a person designated by a legislative leader on matters involving the interpretation or application of this Act or rules promulgated under this Act is exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

(b) Summary investigation reports released by the Legislative Ethics Commission as provided in Section 25-52 are public records. Otherwise, any allegations and related documents submitted to the Legislative Inspector General and any pleadings and related documents brought before the Legislative Ethics Commission are exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act so long as the Legislative Ethics Commission does not make a finding of a violation of this Act. If the Legislative Ethics Commission finds that a violation has occurred, the entire record of proceedings before the Commission, the decision and recommendation, and the mandatory report from the agency head or ultimate jurisdictional authority to the Legislative Ethics Commission are not exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act but information contained therein that is

exempt from the Freedom of Information Act must be redacted before disclosure as provided in Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act.

(c) Meetings of the Commission are exempt from the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

(d) Unless otherwise provided in this Act, all investigatory files and reports of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General, other than quarterly monthly reports under Section 25-85, are confidential, are exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, and shall not be divulged to any person or agency, except as necessary (i) to the appropriate law enforcement authority if the matter is referred pursuant to this Act, (ii) to the ultimate jurisdictional authority, ~~or~~ (iii) to the Legislative Ethics Commission, or (iv) to the Executive Director of the Legislative Ethics Commission to the extent necessary to advise the Commission of all open investigations and any new allegations or complaints received in the Office of the Inspector General when there is a vacancy in the Office of Inspector General pursuant to subparagraph (b-5) of Section 25-10.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

(5 ILCS 430/25-100 new)

Sec. 25-100. Reports.

(a) Within 30 days of the effective date of this amendatory

Act of the 100th General Assembly, for the period beginning November 4, 2017 until the date of the report, the Legislative Ethics Commission shall issue a report to the General Assembly containing the following information: (i) the total number of summary reports that the Inspector General requested be published; (ii) the total number of summary reports that the Inspector General closed without a request to be published; (iii) the total number of summary reports that the Commission agreed to publish; (iv) the total number of summary reports that the Commission did not agree to publish; (v) the total number of investigations that the Inspector General requested to open; and (vi) the total number of investigations that the Commission did not allow the Inspector General to open.

(b) The Legislative Ethics Commission shall issue a quarterly report to the General Assembly within 30 days after the end of each quarter containing the following information for the preceding quarter: (i) the total number of summary reports that the Inspector General requested be published; (ii) the total number of summary reports that the Inspector General closed without a request to be published; (iii) the total number of summary reports that the Commission agreed to publish; (iv) the total number of summary reports that the Commission did not agree to publish; (v) the total number of investigations that the Inspector General requested to open; and (vi) the total number of investigations that the Commission did not allow the Inspector General to open.

(c) The reports to the General Assembly under this Section shall be provided to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate in electronic form only, in the manner that the Clerk and the Secretary shall direct.

(5 ILCS 430/25-105 new)

Sec. 25-105. Investigation of sexual harassment.
Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Legislative Inspector General may investigate any allegation or complaint of sexual harassment without the approval of the Legislative Ethics Commission. At each Legislative Ethics Commission meeting, the Legislative Inspector General shall inform the Commission of each investigation opened under this Section since the last meeting of the Commission.

(5 ILCS 430/50-5)

Sec. 50-5. Penalties.

(a) A person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor if that person intentionally violates any provision of Section 5-15, 5-30, 5-40, or 5-45 or Article 15.

(a-1) An ethics commission may levy an administrative fine for a violation of Section 5-45 of this Act of up to 3 times the total annual compensation that would have been obtained in violation of Section 5-45.

(b) A person who intentionally violates any provision of Section 5-20, 5-35, 5-50, or 5-55 is guilty of a business

offense subject to a fine of at least \$1,001 and up to \$5,000.

(c) A person who intentionally violates any provision of Article 10 is guilty of a business offense and subject to a fine of at least \$1,001 and up to \$5,000.

(d) Any person who intentionally makes a false report alleging a violation of any provision of this Act to an ethics commission, an inspector general, the State Police, a State's Attorney, the Attorney General, or any other law enforcement official is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(e) An ethics commission may levy an administrative fine of up to \$5,000 against any person who violates this Act, who intentionally obstructs or interferes with an investigation conducted under this Act by an inspector general, or who intentionally makes a false, frivolous, or bad faith allegation.

(f) In addition to any other penalty that may apply, whether criminal or civil, a State employee who intentionally violates any provision of Section 5-5, 5-15, 5-20, 5-30, 5-35, 5-45, or 5-50, Article 10, Article 15, or Section 20-90 or 25-90 is subject to discipline or discharge by the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority.

(g) Any person who violates Section 5-65 is subject to a fine of up to \$5,000 per offense, and is subject to discipline or discharge by the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority. Each violation of Section 5-65 is a separate offense. Any penalty imposed by an ethics commission shall be

separate and distinct from any fines or penalties imposed by a court of law or a State or federal agency.

(h) Any natural person or lobbying entity who intentionally violates Section 4.7, ~~or~~ paragraph (d) of Section 5, ~~or~~ subsection (a-5) of Section 11 of the Lobbyist Registration Act is guilty of a business offense and shall be subject to a fine of up to \$5,000. The Executive Ethics Commission, after the adjudication of a violation of Section 4.7 of the Lobbyist Registration Act for which an investigation was initiated by the Inspector General appointed by the Secretary of State under Section 14 of the Secretary of State Act, is authorized to strike or suspend the registration under the Lobbyist Registration Act of any person or lobbying entity for which that person is employed for a period of up to 3 years. In addition to any other fine or penalty which may be imposed, the Executive Ethics Commission may also levy an administrative fine of up to \$5,000 for a violation specified under this subsection (h). Any penalty imposed by an ethics commission shall be separate and distinct from any fines or penalties imposed by a court of law or by the Secretary of State under the Lobbyist Registration Act.

(Source: P.A. 100-554, eff. 11-16-17.)

Section 10. The Election Code is amended by adding Section 7-8.03 as follows:

(10 ILCS 5/7-8.03 new)

Sec. 7-8.03. State central committees; discrimination and harassment policies. No later than 90 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly, each State central committee of an established statewide political party shall establish and maintain a policy that includes, at a minimum: (i) a prohibition on discrimination and harassment; (ii) details on how an individual can report an allegation of discrimination or harassment; (iii) a prohibition on retaliation for reporting discrimination or harassment allegations; and (iv) the consequences of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment and the consequences for knowingly making a false report.

A State central committee, or its appropriate designee, shall notify the Board of the adoption of the required policies.

The requirements of this Section shall not prohibit a political committee from considering political affiliation, as permitted by law and the United States Constitution, when hiring or retaining a person as an employee, consultant, independent contractor, or volunteer.

Section 15. The Secretary of State Act is amended by changing Section 14 as follows:

(15 ILCS 305/14)

Sec. 14. Inspector General.

(a) The Secretary of State must, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint an Inspector General for the purpose of detection, deterrence, and prevention of fraud, corruption, mismanagement, gross or aggravated misconduct, or misconduct that may be criminal in nature in the Office of the Secretary of State. The Inspector General shall serve a 5-year term. If no successor is appointed and qualified upon the expiration of the Inspector General's term, the Office of Inspector General is deemed vacant and the powers and duties under this Section may be exercised only by an appointed and qualified interim Inspector General until a successor Inspector General is appointed and qualified. If the General Assembly is not in session when a vacancy in the Office of Inspector General occurs, the Secretary of State may appoint an interim Inspector General whose term shall expire 2 weeks after the next regularly scheduled session day of the Senate.

(b) The Inspector General shall have the following qualifications:

- (1) has not been convicted of any felony under the laws of this State, another State, or the United States;
- (2) has earned a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education; and
- (3) has either (A) 5 or more years of service with a federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, at least 2 years of which have been in a progressive investigatory

capacity; (B) 5 or more years of service as a federal, State, or local prosecutor; or (C) 5 or more years of service as a senior manager or executive of a federal, State, or local agency.

(c) The Inspector General may review, coordinate, and recommend methods and procedures to increase the integrity of the Office of the Secretary of State. The duties of the Inspector General shall supplement and not supplant the duties of the Chief Auditor for the Secretary of State's Office or any other Inspector General that may be authorized by law. The Inspector General must report directly to the Secretary of State.

(d) In addition to the authority otherwise provided by this Section, but only when investigating the Office of the Secretary of State, its employees, or their actions for fraud, corruption, mismanagement, gross or aggravated misconduct, or misconduct that may be criminal in nature, the Inspector General is authorized:

(1) To have access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other materials available that relate to programs and operations with respect to which the Inspector General has responsibilities under this Section.

(2) To make any investigations and reports relating to the administration of the programs and operations of the Office of the Secretary of State that are, in the judgment

of the Inspector General, necessary or desirable.

(3) To request any information or assistance that may be necessary for carrying out the duties and responsibilities provided by this Section from any local, State, or federal governmental agency or unit thereof.

(4) To require by subpoena the appearance of witnesses and the production of all information, documents, reports, answers, records, accounts, papers, and other data and documentary evidence necessary in the performance of the functions assigned by this Section, with the exception of subsection (c) and with the exception of records of a labor organization authorized and recognized under the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act to be the exclusive bargaining representative of employees of the Secretary of State, including, but not limited to, records of representation of employees and the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements. A subpoena may be issued under this paragraph

(4) only by the Inspector General and not by members of the Inspector General's staff. A person duly subpoenaed for testimony, documents, or other items who neglects or refuses to testify or produce documents or other items under the requirements of the subpoena shall be subject to punishment as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, unless (i) the testimony, documents, or other items are covered by the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege or right recognized by law or (ii) the

testimony, documents, or other items concern the representation of employees and the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements by a labor organization authorized and recognized under the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act to be the exclusive bargaining representative of employees of the Secretary of State. Nothing in this Section limits a person's right to protection against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution or Article I, Section 10, of the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

(5) To have direct and prompt access to the Secretary of State for any purpose pertaining to the performance of functions and responsibilities under this Section.

(d-5) In addition to the authority otherwise provided by this Section, the Secretary of State Inspector General shall have jurisdiction to investigate complaints and allegations of wrongdoing by any person or entity related to the Lobbyist Registration Act. When investigating those complaints and allegations, the Inspector General is authorized:

(1) To have access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other materials available that relate to programs and operations with respect to which the Inspector General has responsibilities under this Section.

(2) To request any information or assistance that may be necessary for carrying out the duties and

responsibilities provided by this Section from any local, State, or federal governmental agency or unit thereof.

(3) To require by subpoena the appearance of witnesses and the production of all information, documents, reports, answers, records, accounts, papers, and other data and documentary evidence necessary in the performance of the functions assigned by this Section. A subpoena may be issued under this paragraph (3) only by the Inspector General and not by members of the Inspector General's staff. A person duly subpoenaed for testimony, documents, or other items who neglects or refuses to testify or produce documents or other items under the requirements of the subpoena shall be subject to punishment as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, unless the testimony, documents, or other items are covered by the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege or right recognized by law. Nothing in this Section limits a person's right to protection against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution or Section 10 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

(4) To have direct and prompt access to the Secretary of State for any purpose pertaining to the performance of functions and responsibilities under this Section.

(5) As provided in subsection (d) of Section 5 of the Lobbyist Registration Act, to review allegations that an

individual required to be registered under the Lobbyist Registration Act has engaged in one or more acts of sexual harassment. Upon completion of that review, the Inspector General shall submit a summary of the review to the Executive Ethics Commission. The Inspector General is authorized to file pleadings with the Executive Ethics Commission, through the Attorney General, if the Attorney General finds that reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation regarding acts of sexual harassment has occurred. The Secretary shall adopt rules setting forth the procedures for the review of such allegations.

(e) The Inspector General may receive and investigate complaints or information concerning the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations; mismanagement; abuse of authority; or substantial and specific danger to the public health and safety. Any person who knowingly files a false complaint or files a complaint with reckless disregard for the truth or the falsity of the facts underlying the complaint may be subject to discipline as set forth in the rules of the Department of Personnel of the Secretary of State or the Inspector General may refer the matter to a State's Attorney or the Attorney General.

The Inspector General may not, after receipt of a complaint or information, disclose the identity of the source without the consent of the source, unless the Inspector General determines that disclosure of the identity is reasonable and necessary for

the furtherance of the investigation.

Any employee who has the authority to recommend or approve any personnel action or to direct others to recommend or approve any personnel action may not, with respect to that authority, take or threaten to take any action against any employee as a reprisal for making a complaint or disclosing information to the Inspector General, unless the complaint was made or the information disclosed with the knowledge that it was false or with willful disregard for its truth or falsity.

(f) The Inspector General must adopt rules, in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, establishing minimum requirements for initiating, conducting, and completing investigations. The rules must establish criteria for determining, based upon the nature of the allegation, the appropriate method of investigation, which may include, but is not limited to, site visits, telephone contacts, personal interviews, or requests for written responses. The rules must also clarify how the Office of the Inspector General shall interact with other local, State, and federal law enforcement investigations.

Any employee of the Secretary of State subject to investigation or inquiry by the Inspector General or any agent or representative of the Inspector General concerning misconduct that is criminal in nature shall have the right to be notified of the right to remain silent during the investigation or inquiry and the right to be represented in the

investigation or inquiry by an attorney or a representative of a labor organization that is the exclusive collective bargaining representative of employees of the Secretary of State. Any investigation or inquiry by the Inspector General or any agent or representative of the Inspector General must be conducted with an awareness of the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement that applies to the employees of the Secretary of State and with an awareness of the rights of the employees as set forth in State and federal law and applicable judicial decisions. Any recommendations for discipline or any action taken against any employee by the Inspector General or any representative or agent of the Inspector General must comply with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement that applies to the employee.

(g) On or before January 1 of each year, the Inspector General shall report to the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives on the types of investigations and the activities undertaken by the Office of the Inspector General during the previous calendar year.

(Source: P.A. 100-554, eff. 11-16-17.)

Section 20. The Legislative Information System Act is amended by adding Section 9 as follows:

(25 ILCS 145/9 new)

Sec. 9. Information regarding discrimination and harassment. The System shall establish a page for electronic public access on the General Assembly's website that provides information regarding discrimination and harassment, including, but not limited to:

(1) the name and contact information for the ethics officer for each caucus;

(2) the name and contact information for the Legislative Inspector General and information on how to file a complaint;

(3) a direct link to the website of the Department of Human Rights for harassment and discrimination and the Department's hotline phone number; and

(4) the name and contact information for the chief of staff for each legislative caucus leader.

A direct link to the page required by this Section shall be included on the front page of the General Assembly's website.

Section 25. The Lobbyist Registration Act is amended by changing Section 11 as follows:

(25 ILCS 170/11) (from Ch. 63, par. 181)

Sec. 11. Enforcement.

(a) The Secretary of State Inspector General appointed under Section 14 of the Secretary of State Act shall initiate investigations of violations of this Act upon receipt of

credible evidence of a violation. If, upon conclusion of an investigation, the Inspector General reasonably believes a violation of this Act has occurred, the Inspector General shall provide the alleged violator with written notification of the alleged violation. Within 30 calendar days after receipt of the notification, the alleged violator shall submit a written response to the Inspector General. The response shall indicate whether the alleged violator (i) disputes the alleged violation, including any facts that reasonably prove the alleged violation did not violate the Act, or (ii) agrees to take action to correct the alleged violation within 30 calendar days, including a description of the action the alleged violator has taken or will take to correct the alleged violation. If the alleged violator disputes the alleged violation or fails to respond to the notification of the alleged violation, the Inspector General shall transmit the evidence to the appropriate State's Attorney or Attorney General. If the alleged violator agrees to take action to correct the alleged violation, the Inspector General shall make available to the public the notification from the Inspector General and the response from the alleged violator and shall not transmit the evidence to the appropriate State's Attorney or Attorney General. Nothing in this Act requires the Inspector General to notify an alleged violator of an ongoing investigation or to notify the alleged violator of a referral of any evidence to a law enforcement agency, a State's

Attorney, or the Attorney General pursuant to subsection (c).

(a-5) Failure to cooperate in an investigation initiated by the Secretary of State Inspector General appointed under Section 14 of the Secretary of State Act is a separate and punishable offense for which the Secretary of State Inspector General, through the Attorney General, shall file pleadings with the Executive Ethics Commission, which has the discretion to strike or suspend the registration of any person, or lobbying entity for which that person is employed, registered under this Act. Nothing in this Section limits or alters a person's existing rights or protections under State or federal law.

(b) Any violation of this Act may be prosecuted in the county where the offense is committed or in Sangamon County. In addition to the State's Attorney of the appropriate county, the Attorney General of Illinois also is authorized to prosecute any violation of this Act.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Inspector General may at any time refer evidence of a violation of State or federal law, in addition to a violation of this Act, to the appropriate law enforcement agency, State's Attorney, or Attorney General.

(Source: P.A. 96-555, eff. 1-1-10; 96-1358, eff. 7-28-10.)

Section 30. The Illinois Human Rights Act is amended by changing Sections 2-102, 2-107, and 7A-102 as follows:

(775 ILCS 5/2-102) (from Ch. 68, par. 2-102)

Sec. 2-102. Civil Rights Violations - Employment. It is a civil rights violation:

(A) Employers. For any employer to refuse to hire, to segregate, or to act with respect to recruitment, hiring, promotion, renewal of employment, selection for training or apprenticeship, discharge, discipline, tenure or terms, privileges or conditions of employment on the basis of unlawful discrimination or citizenship status.

(A-5) Language. For an employer to impose a restriction that has the effect of prohibiting a language from being spoken by an employee in communications that are unrelated to the employee's duties.

For the purposes of this subdivision (A-5), "language" means a person's native tongue, such as Polish, Spanish, or Chinese. "Language" does not include such things as slang, jargon, profanity, or vulgarity.

(B) Employment Agency. For any employment agency to fail or refuse to classify properly, accept applications and register for employment referral or apprenticeship referral, refer for employment, or refer for apprenticeship on the basis of unlawful discrimination or citizenship status or to accept from any person any job order, requisition or request for referral of applicants for employment or apprenticeship which makes or has the effect of making unlawful discrimination or

discrimination on the basis of citizenship status a condition of referral.

(C) Labor Organization. For any labor organization to limit, segregate or classify its membership, or to limit employment opportunities, selection and training for apprenticeship in any trade or craft, or otherwise to take, or fail to take, any action which affects adversely any person's status as an employee or as an applicant for employment or as an apprentice, or as an applicant for apprenticeships, or wages, tenure, hours of employment or apprenticeship conditions on the basis of unlawful discrimination or citizenship status.

(D) Sexual Harassment. For any employer, employee, agent of any employer, employment agency or labor organization to engage in sexual harassment; provided, that an employer shall be responsible for sexual harassment of the employer's employees by nonemployees or nonmanagerial and nonsupervisory employees only if the employer becomes aware of the conduct and fails to take reasonable corrective measures.

(E) Public Employers. For any public employer to refuse to permit a public employee under its jurisdiction who takes time off from work in order to practice his or her religious beliefs to engage in work, during hours other than such employee's regular working hours, consistent with the operational needs of the employer and in order to compensate for work time lost for such religious reasons. Any employee who elects such deferred

work shall be compensated at the wage rate which he or she would have earned during the originally scheduled work period. The employer may require that an employee who plans to take time off from work in order to practice his or her religious beliefs provide the employer with a notice of his or her intention to be absent from work not exceeding 5 days prior to the date of absence.

(E-5) Religious discrimination. For any employer to impose upon a person as a condition of obtaining or retaining employment, including opportunities for promotion, advancement, or transfer, any terms or conditions that would require such person to violate or forgo a sincerely held practice of his or her religion including, but not limited to, the wearing of any attire, clothing, or facial hair in accordance with the requirements of his or her religion, unless, after engaging in a bona fide effort, the employer demonstrates that it is unable to reasonably accommodate the employee's or prospective employee's sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business.

Nothing in this Section prohibits an employer from enacting a dress code or grooming policy that may include restrictions on attire, clothing, or facial hair to maintain workplace safety or food sanitation.

(F) Training and Apprenticeship Programs. For any employer, employment agency or labor organization to

discriminate against a person on the basis of age in the selection, referral for or conduct of apprenticeship or training programs.

(G) Immigration-Related Practices.

(1) for an employer to request for purposes of satisfying the requirements of Section 1324a(b) of Title 8 of the United States Code, as now or hereafter amended, more or different documents than are required under such Section or to refuse to honor documents tendered that on their face reasonably appear to be genuine; or

(2) for an employer participating in the E-Verify Program, as authorized by 8 U.S.C. 1324a, Notes, Pilot Programs for Employment Eligibility Confirmation (enacted by PL 104-208, div. C title IV, subtitle A) to refuse to hire, to segregate, or to act with respect to recruitment, hiring, promotion, renewal of employment, selection for training or apprenticeship, discharge, discipline, tenure or terms, privileges or conditions of employment without following the procedures under the E-Verify Program.

(H) (Blank).

(I) Pregnancy. For an employer to refuse to hire, to segregate, or to act with respect to recruitment, hiring, promotion, renewal of employment, selection for training or apprenticeship, discharge, discipline, tenure or terms, privileges or conditions of employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions related

to pregnancy or childbirth. Women affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth shall be treated the same for all employment-related purposes, including receipt of benefits under fringe benefit programs, as other persons not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work, regardless of the source of the inability to work or employment classification or status.

(J) Pregnancy; reasonable accommodations.

(1) If after a job applicant or employee, including a part-time, full-time, or probationary employee, requests a reasonable accommodation, for an employer to not make reasonable accommodations for any medical or common condition of a job applicant or employee related to pregnancy or childbirth, unless the employer can demonstrate that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the ordinary operation of the business of the employer. The employer may request documentation from the employee's health care provider concerning the need for the requested reasonable accommodation or accommodations to the same extent documentation is requested for conditions related to disability if the employer's request for documentation is job-related and consistent with business necessity. The employer may require only the medical justification for the requested accommodation or accommodations, a description of the reasonable

accommodation or accommodations medically advisable, the date the reasonable accommodation or accommodations became medically advisable, and the probable duration of the reasonable accommodation or accommodations. It is the duty of the individual seeking a reasonable accommodation or accommodations to submit to the employer any documentation that is requested in accordance with this paragraph. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, the employer may require documentation by the employee's health care provider to determine compliance with other laws. The employee and employer shall engage in a timely, good faith, and meaningful exchange to determine effective reasonable accommodations.

(2) For an employer to deny employment opportunities or benefits to or take adverse action against an otherwise qualified job applicant or employee, including a part-time, full-time, or probationary employee, if the denial or adverse action is based on the need of the employer to make reasonable accommodations to the known medical or common conditions related to the pregnancy or childbirth of the applicant or employee.

(3) For an employer to require a job applicant or employee, including a part-time, full-time, or probationary employee, affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth to accept an accommodation when the applicant or

employee did not request an accommodation and the applicant or employee chooses not to accept the employer's accommodation.

(4) For an employer to require an employee, including a part-time, full-time, or probationary employee, to take leave under any leave law or policy of the employer if another reasonable accommodation can be provided to the known medical or common conditions related to the pregnancy or childbirth of an employee. No employer shall fail or refuse to reinstate the employee affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth to her original job or to an equivalent position with equivalent pay and accumulated seniority, retirement, fringe benefits, and other applicable service credits upon her signifying her intent to return or when her need for reasonable accommodation ceases, unless the employer can demonstrate that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the ordinary operation of the business of the employer.

For the purposes of this subdivision (J), "reasonable accommodations" means reasonable modifications or adjustments to the job application process or work environment, or to the manner or circumstances under which the position desired or held is customarily performed, that enable an applicant or employee affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth to be

considered for the position the applicant desires or to perform the essential functions of that position, and may include, but is not limited to: more frequent or longer bathroom breaks, breaks for increased water intake, and breaks for periodic rest; private non-bathroom space for expressing breast milk and breastfeeding; seating; assistance with manual labor; light duty; temporary transfer to a less strenuous or hazardous position; the provision of an accessible worksite; acquisition or modification of equipment; job restructuring; a part-time or modified work schedule; appropriate adjustment or modifications of examinations, training materials, or policies; reassignment to a vacant position; time off to recover from conditions related to childbirth; and leave necessitated by pregnancy, childbirth, or medical or common conditions resulting from pregnancy or childbirth.

For the purposes of this subdivision (J), "undue hardship" means an action that is prohibitively expensive or disruptive when considered in light of the following factors: (i) the nature and cost of the accommodation needed; (ii) the overall financial resources of the facility or facilities involved in the provision of the reasonable accommodation, the number of persons employed at the facility, the effect on expenses and resources, or the impact otherwise of the accommodation upon the operation of the facility; (iii) the overall financial resources of the employer, the overall size of the business of the employer with respect to the number of its employees, and

the number, type, and location of its facilities; and (iv) the type of operation or operations of the employer, including the composition, structure, and functions of the workforce of the employer, the geographic separateness, administrative, or fiscal relationship of the facility or facilities in question to the employer. The employer has the burden of proving undue hardship. The fact that the employer provides or would be required to provide a similar accommodation to similarly situated employees creates a rebuttable presumption that the accommodation does not impose an undue hardship on the employer.

No employer is required by this subdivision (J) to create additional employment that the employer would not otherwise have created, unless the employer does so or would do so for other classes of employees who need accommodation. The employer is not required to discharge any employee, transfer any employee with more seniority, or promote any employee who is not qualified to perform the job, unless the employer does so or would do so to accommodate other classes of employees who need it.

(K) Notice.

(1) For an employer to fail to post or keep posted in a conspicuous location on the premises of the employer where notices to employees are customarily posted, or fail to include in any employee handbook information concerning an employee's rights under this Article, a notice, to be

prepared or approved by the Department, summarizing the requirements of this Article and information pertaining to the filing of a charge, including the right to be free from unlawful discrimination, the right to be free from sexual harassment, and the right to certain reasonable accommodations. The Department shall make the documents required under this paragraph available for retrieval from the Department's website.

(2) Upon notification of a violation of paragraph (1) of this subdivision (K), the Department may launch a preliminary investigation. If the Department finds a violation, the Department may issue a notice to show cause giving the employer 30 days to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, the Department may initiate a charge of a civil rights violation.

(Source: P.A. 100-100, eff. 8-11-17.)

(775 ILCS 5/2-107)

Sec. 2-107. Helpline Hotline to Report Sexual Harassment and Discrimination.

(a) The Department shall, no later than 3 months after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly, establish and maintain a sexual harassment and discrimination helpline hotline. The Department shall help persons who contact the Department through the helpline hotline find necessary resources, including counseling services, and

assist in the filing of sexual harassment and discrimination complaints with the Department or other applicable agencies. The Department may recommend individual seek private counsel, but shall not make recommendations for legal representation. The helpline hotline shall provide the means through which persons may anonymously report sexual harassment and discrimination in both private and public places of employment. In the case of a report of sexual harassment and discrimination by a person subject to Article 20 or 25 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the Department shall, with the permission of the reporting individual, report the allegations to the Executive Inspector General or Legislative Inspector General for further investigation.

(b) The Department shall advertise the helpline hotline on its website and in materials related to sexual harassment and discrimination, including posters made available to the public, and encourage reporting by both those who are subject to sexual harassment and discrimination and those who have witnessed it.

(c) All communications received by the Department via the helpline hotline or Internet communication shall remain confidential and shall be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

(d) As used in this Section, "helpline" "hotline" means a toll-free telephone with voicemail capabilities and an Internet website through which persons may report instances of

sexual harassment and discrimination.

(e) The Department shall annually evaluate the helpline and report to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate in electronic form only, in the manner that the Clerk and the Secretary shall direct, the following information: (i) the total number of calls received, including messages left during non-business hours; (ii) the number of calls reporting sexual discrimination claims; (iii) the number of calls reporting harassment claims; (iv) the number of calls reporting sexual harassment claims; (v) the number of calls that were referred to each Executive Inspector General; and (vi) the number of calls that were referred to the Legislative Inspector General.

(Source: P.A. 100-554, eff. 11-16-17.)

(775 ILCS 5/7A-102) (from Ch. 68, par. 7A-102)

Sec. 7A-102. Procedures.

(A) Charge.

(1) Within 300 calendar ~~180~~ days after the date that a civil rights violation allegedly has been committed, a charge in writing under oath or affirmation may be filed with the Department by an aggrieved party or issued by the Department itself under the signature of the Director.

(2) The charge shall be in such detail as to substantially apprise any party properly concerned as to the time, place, and facts surrounding the alleged civil

rights violation.

(3) Charges deemed filed with the Department pursuant to subsection (A-1) of this Section shall be deemed to be in compliance with this subsection.

(A-1) Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Charges.

(1) If a charge is filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) within 300 calendar ~~180~~ days after the date of the alleged civil rights violation, the charge shall be deemed filed with the Department on the date filed with the EEOC. If the EEOC is the governmental agency designated to investigate the charge first, the Department shall take no action until the EEOC makes a determination on the charge and after the complainant notifies the Department of the EEOC's determination. In such cases, after receiving notice from the EEOC that a charge was filed, the Department shall notify the parties that (i) a charge has been received by the EEOC and has been sent to the Department for dual filing purposes; (ii) the EEOC is the governmental agency responsible for investigating the charge and that the investigation shall be conducted pursuant to the rules and procedures adopted by the EEOC; (iii) it will take no action on the charge until the EEOC issues its determination; (iv) the complainant must submit a copy of the EEOC's determination within 30 days after service of the determination by the EEOC on complainant; and (v) that the time period to

investigate the charge contained in subsection (G) of this Section is tolled from the date on which the charge is filed with the EEOC until the EEOC issues its determination.

(2) If the EEOC finds reasonable cause to believe that there has been a violation of federal law and if the Department is timely notified of the EEOC's findings by complainant, the Department shall notify complainant that the Department has adopted the EEOC's determination of reasonable cause and that complainant has the right, within 90 days after receipt of the Department's notice, to either file his or her own complaint with the Illinois Human Rights Commission or commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court or other appropriate court of competent jurisdiction. The Department's notice to complainant that the Department has adopted the EEOC's determination of reasonable cause shall constitute the Department's Report for purposes of subparagraph (D) of this Section.

(3) For those charges alleging violations within the jurisdiction of both the EEOC and the Department and for which the EEOC either (i) does not issue a determination, but does issue the complainant a notice of a right to sue, including when the right to sue is issued at the request of the complainant, or (ii) determines that it is unable to establish that illegal discrimination has occurred and

issues the complainant a right to sue notice, and if the Department is timely notified of the EEOC's determination by complainant, the Department shall notify the parties that the Department will adopt the EEOC's determination as a dismissal for lack of substantial evidence unless the complainant requests in writing within 35 days after receipt of the Department's notice that the Department review the EEOC's determination.

(a) If the complainant does not file a written request with the Department to review the EEOC's determination within 35 days after receipt of the Department's notice, the Department shall notify complainant that the decision of the EEOC has been adopted by the Department as a dismissal for lack of substantial evidence and that the complainant has the right, within 90 days after receipt of the Department's notice, to commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court or other appropriate court of competent jurisdiction. The Department's notice to complainant that the Department has adopted the EEOC's determination shall constitute the Department's report for purposes of subparagraph (D) of this Section.

(b) If the complainant does file a written request with the Department to review the EEOC's determination, the Department shall review the EEOC's determination and any evidence obtained by the EEOC

during its investigation. If, after reviewing the EEOC's determination and any evidence obtained by the EEOC, the Department determines there is no need for further investigation of the charge, the Department shall issue a report and the Director shall determine whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed pursuant to subsection (D) of Section 7A-102. If, after reviewing the EEOC's determination and any evidence obtained by the EEOC, the Department determines there is a need for further investigation of the charge, the Department may conduct any further investigation it deems necessary. After reviewing the EEOC's determination, the evidence obtained by the EEOC, and any additional investigation conducted by the Department, the Department shall issue a report and the Director shall determine whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed pursuant to subsection (D) of Section 7A-102 of this Act.

 (4) Pursuant to this Section, if the EEOC dismisses the charge or a portion of the charge of discrimination because, under federal law, the EEOC lacks jurisdiction over the charge, and if, under this Act, the Department has jurisdiction over the charge of discrimination, the Department shall investigate the charge or portion of the

charge dismissed by the EEOC for lack of jurisdiction pursuant to subsections (A), (A-1), (B), (B-1), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), and (K) of Section 7A-102 of this Act.

(5) The time limit set out in subsection (G) of this Section is tolled from the date on which the charge is filed with the EEOC to the date on which the EEOC issues its determination.

(B) Notice and Response to Charge. The Department shall, within 10 days of the date on which the charge was filed, serve a copy of the charge on the respondent. This period shall not be construed to be jurisdictional. The charging party and the respondent may each file a position statement and other materials with the Department regarding the charge of alleged discrimination within 60 days of receipt of the notice of the charge. The position statements and other materials filed shall remain confidential unless otherwise agreed to by the party providing the information and shall not be served on or made available to the other party during pendency of a charge with the Department. The Department may require the respondent to file a response to the allegations contained in the charge. Upon the Department's request, the respondent shall file a response to the charge within 60 days and shall serve a copy of its response on the complainant or his or her representative. Notwithstanding any request from the Department, the respondent may elect to file a response to the charge within 60

days of receipt of notice of the charge, provided the respondent serves a copy of its response on the complainant or his or her representative. All allegations contained in the charge not denied by the respondent within 60 days of the Department's request for a response may be deemed admitted, unless the respondent states that it is without sufficient information to form a belief with respect to such allegation. The Department may issue a notice of default directed to any respondent who fails to file a response to a charge within 60 days of receipt of the Department's request, unless the respondent can demonstrate good cause as to why such notice should not issue. The term "good cause" shall be defined by rule promulgated by the Department. Within 30 days of receipt of the respondent's response, the complainant may file a reply to said response and shall serve a copy of said reply on the respondent or his or her representative. A party shall have the right to supplement his or her response or reply at any time that the investigation of the charge is pending. The Department shall, within 10 days of the date on which the charge was filed, and again no later than 335 days thereafter, send by certified or registered mail written notice to the complainant and to the respondent informing the complainant of the complainant's right to either file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission or commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court under subparagraph (2) of paragraph (G), including in such notice the dates within which the complainant

may exercise this right. In the notice the Department shall notify the complainant that the charge of civil rights violation will be dismissed with prejudice and with no right to further proceed if a written complaint is not timely filed with the Commission or with the appropriate circuit court by the complainant pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (G) or by the Department pursuant to subparagraph (1) of paragraph (G).

(B-1) Mediation. The complainant and respondent may agree to voluntarily submit the charge to mediation without waiving any rights that are otherwise available to either party pursuant to this Act and without incurring any obligation to accept the result of the mediation process. Nothing occurring in mediation shall be disclosed by the Department or admissible in evidence in any subsequent proceeding unless the complainant and the respondent agree in writing that such disclosure be made.

(C) Investigation.

(1) The Department shall conduct an investigation sufficient to determine whether the allegations set forth in the charge are supported by substantial evidence.

(2) The Director or his or her designated representatives shall have authority to request any member of the Commission to issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of a witness or the production for examination of any books, records or documents whatsoever.

(3) If any witness whose testimony is required for any

investigation resides outside the State, or through illness or any other good cause as determined by the Director is unable to be interviewed by the investigator or appear at a fact finding conference, his or her testimony or deposition may be taken, within or without the State, in the same manner as is provided for in the taking of depositions in civil cases in circuit courts.

(4) Upon reasonable notice to the complainant and the respondent, the Department shall conduct a fact finding conference, unless prior to 365 days after the date on which the charge was filed the Director has determined whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed, the charge has been dismissed for lack of jurisdiction, or the parties voluntarily and in writing agree to waive the fact finding conference. Any party's failure to attend the conference without good cause shall result in dismissal or default. The term "good cause" shall be defined by rule promulgated by the Department. A notice of dismissal or default shall be issued by the Director. The notice of default issued by the Director shall notify the respondent that a request for review may be filed in writing with the Commission within 30 days of receipt of notice of default. The notice of dismissal issued by the Director shall give the complainant notice of his or her right to seek review of the dismissal before the Human Rights Commission or commence a civil

action in the appropriate circuit court. If the complainant chooses to have the Human Rights Commission review the dismissal order, he or she shall file a request for review with the Commission within 90 days after receipt of the Director's notice. If the complainant chooses to file a request for review with the Commission, he or she may not later commence a civil action in a circuit court. If the complainant chooses to commence a civil action in a circuit court, he or she must do so within 90 days after receipt of the Director's notice.

(D) Report.

(1) Each charge shall be the subject of a report to the Director. The report shall be a confidential document subject to review by the Director, authorized Department employees, the parties, and, where indicated by this Act, members of the Commission or their designated hearing officers.

(2) Upon review of the report, the Director shall determine whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed. The determination of substantial evidence is limited to determining the need for further consideration of the charge pursuant to this Act and includes, but is not limited to, findings of fact and conclusions, as well as the reasons for the determinations on all material issues. Substantial evidence is evidence which a reasonable mind

accepts as sufficient to support a particular conclusion and which consists of more than a mere scintilla but may be somewhat less than a preponderance.

(3) If the Director determines that there is no substantial evidence, the charge shall be dismissed by order of the Director and the Director shall give the complainant notice of his or her right to seek review of the dismissal order before the Commission or commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court. If the complainant chooses to have the Human Rights Commission review the dismissal order, he or she shall file a request for review with the Commission within 90 days after receipt of the Director's notice. If the complainant chooses to file a request for review with the Commission, he or she may not later commence a civil action in a circuit court. If the complainant chooses to commence a civil action in a circuit court, he or she must do so within 90 days after receipt of the Director's notice.

(4) If the Director determines that there is substantial evidence, he or she shall notify the complainant and respondent of that determination. The Director shall also notify the parties that the complainant has the right to either commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court or request that the Department of Human Rights file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on his or her behalf. Any such complaint shall

be filed within 90 days after receipt of the Director's notice. If the complainant chooses to have the Department file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on his or her behalf, the complainant must, within 30 days after receipt of the Director's notice, request in writing that the Department file the complaint. If the complainant timely requests that the Department file the complaint, the Department shall file the complaint on his or her behalf. If the complainant fails to timely request that the Department file the complaint, the complainant may file his or her complaint with the Commission or commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court. If the complainant files a complaint with the Human Rights Commission, the complainant shall give notice to the Department of the filing of the complaint with the Human Rights Commission.

(E) Conciliation.

(1) When there is a finding of substantial evidence, the Department may designate a Department employee who is an attorney licensed to practice in Illinois to endeavor to eliminate the effect of the alleged civil rights violation and to prevent its repetition by means of conference and conciliation.

(2) When the Department determines that a formal conciliation conference is necessary, the complainant and respondent shall be notified of the time and place of the conference by registered or certified mail at least 10 days

prior thereto and either or both parties shall appear at the conference in person or by attorney.

(3) The place fixed for the conference shall be within 35 miles of the place where the civil rights violation is alleged to have been committed.

(4) Nothing occurring at the conference shall be disclosed by the Department unless the complainant and respondent agree in writing that such disclosure be made.

(5) The Department's efforts to conciliate the matter shall not stay or extend the time for filing the complaint with the Commission or the circuit court.

(F) Complaint.

(1) When the complainant requests that the Department file a complaint with the Commission on his or her behalf, the Department shall prepare a written complaint, under oath or affirmation, stating the nature of the civil rights violation substantially as alleged in the charge previously filed and the relief sought on behalf of the aggrieved party. The Department shall file the complaint with the Commission.

(2) If the complainant chooses to commence a civil action in a circuit court, he or she must do so in the circuit court in the county wherein the civil rights violation was allegedly committed. The form of the complaint in any such civil action shall be in accordance with the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure.

(G) Time Limit.

(1) When a charge of a civil rights violation has been properly filed, the Department, within 365 days thereof or within any extension of that period agreed to in writing by all parties, shall issue its report as required by subparagraph (D). Any such report shall be duly served upon both the complainant and the respondent.

(2) If the Department has not issued its report within 365 days after the charge is filed, or any such longer period agreed to in writing by all the parties, the complainant shall have 90 days to either file his or her own complaint with the Human Rights Commission or commence a civil action in the appropriate circuit court. If the complainant files a complaint with the Commission, the form of the complaint shall be in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (F)(1). If the complainant commences a civil action in a circuit court, the form of the complaint shall be in accordance with the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure. The aggrieved party shall notify the Department that a complaint has been filed and shall serve a copy of the complaint on the Department on the same date that the complaint is filed with the Commission or in circuit court. If the complainant files a complaint with the Commission, he or she may not later commence a civil action in circuit court.

(3) If an aggrieved party files a complaint with the

Human Rights Commission or commences a civil action in circuit court pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, or if the time period for filing a complaint has expired, the Department shall immediately cease its investigation and dismiss the charge of civil rights violation. Any final order entered by the Commission under this Section is appealable in accordance with paragraph (B)(1) of Section 8-111. Failure to immediately cease an investigation and dismiss the charge of civil rights violation as provided in this paragraph (3) constitutes grounds for entry of an order by the circuit court permanently enjoining the investigation. The Department may also be liable for any costs and other damages incurred by the respondent as a result of the action of the Department.

(4) The Department shall stay any administrative proceedings under this Section after the filing of a civil action by or on behalf of the aggrieved party under any federal or State law seeking relief with respect to the alleged civil rights violation.

(H) This amendatory Act of 1995 applies to causes of action filed on or after January 1, 1996.

(I) This amendatory Act of 1996 applies to causes of action filed on or after January 1, 1996.

(J) The changes made to this Section by Public Act 95-243 apply to charges filed on or after the effective date of those changes.

(K) The changes made to this Section by this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly apply to charges filed on or after the effective date of those changes.

(Source: P.A. 100-492, eff. 9-8-17.)

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