

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Bicentennial Office and Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. August 26, 2018 will mark the 200th
7 anniversary of the adoption of the Illinois Constitution of
8 1818 at the Kaskaskia Convention, and December 3, 2018 will
9 mark the 200th anniversary of the admission of Illinois to the
10 Union as a state. The bicentennial of our statehood is an
11 opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many cultural,
12 economic, academic, and political contributions that Illinois
13 and its residents have made to the nation and the world. The
14 bicentennial is also an opportunity to invite the world to
15 Illinois and to showcase our core assets, including our
16 community of global leaders; diverse and well-educated
17 workforce; prominent institutions for technology, innovation,
18 and higher education; exceptional quality of life with abundant
19 outdoor recreation, magnificent arts and culture, endless
20 nightlife and entertainment, and world-class dining and
21 hotels; central and modern infrastructure; and fertile
22 farmland and abundant fresh water.

23 Executive Order 7 (2014) established a 77-member State

1 Bicentennial Commission empowered to hire personnel to plan the
2 State's bicentennial celebration program. Illinoisans should
3 expect that membership on their Bicentennial Commission not be
4 merely symbolic, but should see that commissioners work with
5 and for them to advance their vision of Illinois' past and
6 future. A Bicentennial Commission representing the diversity
7 and ingenuity of our State should play an active role advising
8 the State with the planning of the bicentennial, but a
9 Commission of 77 members is unworkable for achieving that goal.
10 Both the Governor and the General Assembly recognize the
11 importance of the bicentennial celebration as a way to honor
12 the citizens and the history of our great State, and set a
13 course for success over our next 200 years. The Governor and
14 the General Assembly also believe that the various State
15 agencies should work together with the Commission and the
16 State's citizens and businesses to share their vision and
17 projects to mark the 200th anniversary. To that end, the Office
18 of the Illinois Bicentennial and the Bicentennial Commission
19 are needed to properly develop and implement the celebration
20 festivities of Illinois' bicentennial year.

21 Section 10. Office of the Illinois Bicentennial.

22 (a) There is hereby created the Governor's Office of the
23 Illinois Bicentennial, or the "Bicentennial Office", which
24 shall be headed by an Executive Director, who shall be
25 appointed by the Governor. The Office of the Governor shall

1 provide administrative support to the Bicentennial Office as
2 appropriate.

3 (b) The Bicentennial Office shall have the following duties
4 and functions:

5 (1) The Bicentennial Office shall develop and
6 implement a Statewide program to celebrate the
7 bicentennial of the adoption of Illinois' first
8 constitution and its admission to the Union as a state and
9 showcase Illinois' hard-working citizens and world-class
10 assets.

11 (2) The Bicentennial Office shall work collaboratively
12 with members of the public, State agencies, units of local
13 government, and public and private organizations to
14 identify significant achievements in Illinois history to
15 highlight through celebration.

16 (3) The Bicentennial Office shall seek opportunities
17 to promote the successes to come in Illinois' next 200
18 years.

19 (4) The Bicentennial Office shall promote coordination
20 among State agencies involved in the bicentennial
21 celebration; develop partnerships with the non-profit and
22 private sectors to create new funding sources for the
23 celebration; and work with units of local government also
24 developing local bicentennial celebrations. It shall
25 develop strategic goals to ensure the celebration of the
26 bicentennial is successful while using taxpayer funds or

1 funds donated by private individuals or entities in a
2 responsible and transparent manner.

3 (5) The Bicentennial Office shall promote and market
4 the bicentennial celebration to Illinois citizens and also
5 work to attract tourists to Illinois to learn about this
6 State's history and accomplishments.

7 (6) The Bicentennial Office shall provide periodic
8 reports to the Governor and the public on the strategic
9 goals set by the Bicentennial Office and its progress in
10 meeting its goals.

11 (7) The Bicentennial Office may solicit and access
12 donations of labor, services, or other things of value from
13 any public or private agency or person, in compliance with
14 all applicable State and federal law, including the State
15 Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

16 (8) The Bicentennial Office shall prepare events
17 around the State for each State holiday, except general
18 election day.

19 (9) The Bicentennial Office may hire staff to
20 facilitate its duties, functions, and goals under this Act.

21 (c) The Bicentennial Office shall be dissolved on December
22 31, 2018. Upon such dissolution, all personnel records,
23 documents, books, correspondence, and other property, both
24 real and personal, of the Bicentennial Office shall become
25 property of the Office of the Governor or shall be transferred
26 to the State Archives.

1 Section 15. Illinois Bicentennial Commission.

2 (a) There is hereby created the Illinois Bicentennial
3 Commission. The Commission shall advise and assist the
4 Bicentennial Office in planning and implementing the State's
5 bicentennial celebration. The Bicentennial Office and certain
6 State agencies, including the Department of Commerce and
7 Economic Opportunity, the Department of Natural Resources, the
8 Department of Agriculture, and the Historic Preservation
9 Agency, including the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and
10 Museum, shall provide administrative and technical assistance
11 to the Commission.

12 (b) The Commission shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) no more than 40 members appointed by the Governor,
14 not including non-voting member appointees;

15 (2) one member appointed by the President of the
16 Senate;

17 (3) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
18 Senate;

19 (4) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives;

21 (5) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
22 House of Representatives;

23 (6) one member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

24 (7) one member appointed by the Attorney General;

25 (8) one member appointed by the Secretary of State;

1 (9) one member appointed by the Comptroller;
2 (10) one member appointed by the Treasurer;
3 (11) one member appointed by the Mayor of the City of
4 Chicago;

5 (12) one member appointed by the Mayor of the City of
6 Springfield; and

7 (13) non-voting members appointed by the Governor as
8 representatives of public and private agencies and
9 organizations partnering with the Commission.

10 (c) Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation
11 or reimbursement for serving as members. The chairperson or
12 co-chairpersons of the Commission shall be designated by the
13 Governor, and the Commission shall meet at the call of the
14 chairperson or co-chairpersons. A majority of the appointed and
15 serving members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for
16 the transaction of business. The Commission is subject to, and
17 shall comply with, the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of
18 Information Act. The Commission shall be an advisory body to
19 the Bicentennial Office that shall not make binding
20 recommendations or determinations.

21 (d) The Commission may solicit and accept donations of
22 labor, services, or other things of value from any public or
23 private agency or person in compliance with all applicable
24 State and federal law, including the State Officials and
25 Employees Ethics Act.

26 (e) The Commission shall be dissolved on December 31, 2018.

1 Upon such dissolution, all personnel records, documents,
2 books, correspondence, and other property, both real and
3 personal, of the Commission shall become property of the Office
4 of the Governor or shall be transferred to the State Archives.

5 Section 20. Revocation of Executive Order 7 (2014);
6 transfer provisions.

7 (a) Executive Order 7 (2014) is revoked and rescinded.

8 (b) The State Bicentennial Commission established by
9 Executive Order 7 (2014) is abolished.

10 (c) All records, property, and other associated items in
11 any way pertaining to the functions of the State Bicentennial
12 Commission shall be delivered and transferred to the
13 Bicentennial Office established under this Act.

14 (d) The unexpended balances of any appropriations or funds,
15 grants, donations, or other moneys available for use by the
16 State Bicentennial Commission shall be transferred to the
17 Bicentennial Office for use by such office, and shall be
18 expended for similar purposes for which the appropriations,
19 funds, grants, or other moneys were originally made or given to
20 the State Bicentennial Commission.

21 (e) Any employee of the State Bicentennial Commission is
22 transferred to the Bicentennial Office. The status and rights
23 of any such employee, the State, and its agencies under the
24 Personnel Code shall not be affected by such transfer.

1 Section 25. Savings clause. This Act does not contravene,
2 and shall not be construed to contravene, any federal or State
3 law or any collective bargaining agreement. This Act shall not
4 affect any act undertaken, ratified, or cancelled, or any right
5 occurring or established or any action or proceeding commenced
6 in an administrative, civil, or criminal case before this Act
7 takes effect, but these actions or proceedings may be
8 prosecuted and continued by the Department.

9 Section 30. Repeal. This Act is repealed January 1, 2020.

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