



**100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2017 and 2018**

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

**SC0027**

Introduced 3/14/2018, by Sen. Michael Connelly

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

ILCON Art. XV heading new  
ILCON Art. XV, Sec. 1 new  
ILCON Art. XV, Sec. 2 new

Proposes to create the Ethics Article of the Illinois Constitution. Provides for the creation of the Department of Governmental Ethics. Provides that the Department shall have jurisdiction over the Executive and Legislative Branches of the State government, together with all units of local government, school districts, public colleges, and public universities. Provides that the Department shall be led by a Director. Provides that the Department shall have a State Government Division with the authority to investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws relating to the duties and responsibilities of the agencies and other bodies, elected and appointed officers, and employees of the Executive and Legislative Branches of the State government. Provides that the Department shall have a Local Government Division, which shall have the authority to investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws relating to the duties and responsibilities of units of local government and the elected and appointed officers and employees of units of local government. Provides that the Department shall have an Education Division, which shall have the authority to investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws relating to the duties and responsibilities of school districts, public colleges, and public universities, and the elected and appointed officers and employees of school districts, public colleges, and public universities. Provides for the creation of the Governmental Ethics Commission. Provides that the Commission shall have authority over the Department of Governmental Ethics, shall receive reports from audits of the Department conducted by the Auditor General, shall approve the budget of the Department, and shall appoint the Director of the Department and such other officers as it may determine. The commission shall not be composed of a majority of members from any one political party. Directs the General Assembly to provide by law for the implementation of the provisions of the Article.



1 State Government Division, which shall have the authority to  
2 investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws  
3 relating to the duties and responsibilities of the agencies and  
4 other bodies, elected and appointed officers, and employees of  
5 the Executive and Legislative Branches of the State government,  
6 including, but not limited to: the preservation of, and the  
7 public's access to, information about, created by, or held by  
8 those agencies and other bodies, officers, and employees;  
9 transparency and accountability in finance and contracting by  
10 those agencies and other bodies; ethical standards applicable  
11 to those agencies and other bodies, officers, and employees;  
12 prohibitions on conflicts of interest applicable to those  
13 officers and employees; and prohibitions on employment by  
14 former officers and employees.

15 (c) The Department of Governmental Ethics shall have a  
16 Local Government Division, which shall have the authority to  
17 investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws  
18 relating to the duties and responsibilities of units of local  
19 government and the elected and appointed officers and employees  
20 of units of local government, including, but not limited to:  
21 the preservation of, and the public's access to, information  
22 about, created by, or held by those units of local government,  
23 officers, and employees; notice of public hearings and other  
24 meetings held by units of local government, including their  
25 governing bodies and any committees or other subdivisions  
26 thereof; transparency and accountability in finance and

1 contracting by units of local government; ethical standards  
2 applicable to those officers and employees; prohibitions on  
3 conflicts of interest applicable to those officers and  
4 employees; and prohibitions on employment by former officers  
5 and employees.

6 (d) The Department of Governmental Ethics shall have an  
7 Education Division, which shall have the authority to  
8 investigate, prosecute, and ensure compliance with laws  
9 relating to the duties and responsibilities of school  
10 districts, public colleges, and public universities and the  
11 elected and appointed officers and employees of school  
12 districts, public colleges, and public universities,  
13 including, but not limited to: the preservation of, and the  
14 public's access to, information about, created by, or held by  
15 those school districts, public colleges, and public  
16 universities officers and employees; notice of public hearings  
17 and other meetings held by school districts, public colleges,  
18 and public universities, including their governing bodies and  
19 any committees or other subdivisions thereof; transparency and  
20 accountability in finance and contracting by school districts,  
21 public colleges, and public universities; ethical standards  
22 applicable to those officers and employees; prohibitions on  
23 conflicts of interest applicable to those officers and  
24 employees; and prohibitions on employment by former officers  
25 and employees.

1 (ILCON Art. XV, Sec. 2 new)

2 SECTION 2. GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION

3 A Governmental Ethics Commission is created. The  
4 Commission shall have authority over the Department of  
5 Governmental Ethics, shall receive reports from audits of the  
6 Department conducted by the Auditor General, shall approve the  
7 budget of the Department, and shall appoint the Director of the  
8 Department and such other officers as it may determine. The  
9 General Assembly shall by law provide for the operation of the  
10 Commission and shall determine the size, manner of selection,  
11 and compensation of the Commission. The commission shall not be  
12 composed of a majority of members from any one political party.

13 SCHEDULE

14 This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being  
15 declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois  
16 Constitutional Amendment Act.