



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB0164

by Rep. Thomas M. Bennett

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

735 ILCS 5/2-101	from Ch. 110, par. 2-101
735 ILCS 5/2-102	from Ch. 110, par. 2-102
735 ILCS 5/2-103	from Ch. 110, par. 2-103
735 ILCS 5/2-110 new	
735 ILCS 5/2-1107.1	from Ch. 110, par. 2-1107.1
735 ILCS 5/2-1117	from Ch. 110, par. 2-1117
735 ILCS 5/2-1205.2 new	

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Deletes a provision authorizing an action to be commenced in any county if all defendants are nonresidents of this State. Limits venue for actions against corporations, partnerships, and insurance companies. Provides that in actions in which no party is a resident of this State and over which another forum has jurisdiction, the court shall, upon motion, dismiss the action subject to specified conditions. Provides that joint and several liability attaches when a defendant is found to be 50%, rather than 25%, at fault. Limits amounts recovered for medical care, treatment, or services and caretaking expenses to the amounts actually paid for those expenses regardless of the amounts initially billed.

LRB101 04110 LNS 49118 b

1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

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

4 Section 5. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by  
5 changing Sections 2-101, 2-102, 2-103, 2-1107.1, and 2-1117 and  
6 by adding Sections 2-110 and 2-1205.2 as follows:

7 (735 ILCS 5/2-101) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-101)

8 Sec. 2-101. Generally. Except as otherwise provided in this  
9 Act, every action must be commenced (1) in the county of  
10 residence of any defendant who is joined in good faith and with  
11 probable cause for the purpose of obtaining a judgment against  
12 him or her and not solely for the purpose of fixing venue in  
13 that county, or (2) in the county in which the transaction or  
14 some part thereof occurred out of which the cause of action  
15 arose.

16 If a check, draft, money order, or other instrument for the  
17 payment of child support payable to or delivered to the State  
18 Disbursement Unit established under Section 10-26 of the  
19 Illinois Public Aid Code is returned by the bank or depository  
20 for any reason, venue for the enforcement of any criminal  
21 proceedings or civil cause of action for recovery and attorney  
22 fees shall be in the county where the principal office of the  
23 State Disbursement Unit is located.

1 ~~If all defendants are nonresidents of the State, an action~~  
2 ~~may be commenced in any county.~~

3 If the corporate limits of a city, village or town extend  
4 into more than one county, then the venue of an action or  
5 proceeding instituted by that municipality to enforce any fine,  
6 imprisonment, penalty or forfeiture for violation of any  
7 ordinance of that municipality, regardless of the county in  
8 which the violation was committed or occurred, may be in the  
9 appropriate court (i) in the county wherein the office of the  
10 clerk of the municipality is located or (ii) in any county in  
11 which at least 35% of the territory within the municipality's  
12 corporate limits is located.

13 The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of  
14 the 101st General Assembly apply to actions filed on or after  
15 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General  
16 Assembly.

17 (Source: P.A. 91-212, eff. 7-20-99.)

18 (735 ILCS 5/2-102) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-102)

19 Sec. 2-102. Residence of corporations, voluntary  
20 unincorporated associations and partnerships defined. For  
21 purposes of venue, the following definitions apply:

22 (a) Any private corporation or railroad or bridge company,  
23 organized under the laws of this State, and any foreign  
24 corporation authorized to transact business in this State is a  
25 resident of any county in which it has its registered office or

1 other office or, if on due inquiry no office can be found in  
2 this State, any county in which it is doing business. A foreign  
3 corporation not authorized to transact business in this State  
4 is a nonresident of this State.

5 (b) A partnership sued in its firm name is a resident of  
6 any county ~~in which any partner resides or~~ in which the  
7 partnership has an office or, if on due inquiry no office can  
8 be found in this State, any county in which it is doing  
9 business. A partnership sued in its firm name, of which all  
10 partners are nonresidents of this State and which does not have  
11 an office or do business in this State, is a nonresident of  
12 this State.

13 (c) A voluntary unincorporated association sued in its own  
14 name is a resident of any county in which the association has  
15 an office or, if on due inquiry no office can be found, in  
16 which any officer of the association resides. A voluntary  
17 unincorporated association sued in its own name, of which all  
18 its members are nonresidents of this State and which does not  
19 have an office or do business in this State, is a nonresident  
20 of this State.

21 The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of  
22 the 101st General Assembly apply to actions filed on or after  
23 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General  
24 Assembly.

25 (Source: P.A. 83-901.)

1 (735 ILCS 5/2-103) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-103)

2 Sec. 2-103. Public corporations - Local actions - Libel  
3 ~~Libel - Insurance companies.~~

4 (a) Actions must be brought against a public, municipal,  
5 governmental or quasi-municipal corporation in the county in  
6 which its principal office is located or in the county in which  
7 the transaction or some part thereof occurred out of which the  
8 cause of action arose. Except as otherwise provided in Section  
9 7-102 of this Code, if the cause of action is related to an  
10 airport owned by a unit of local government or the property or  
11 aircraft operations thereof, however, including an action  
12 challenging the constitutionality of this amendatory Act of the  
13 93rd General Assembly, the action must be brought in the county  
14 in which the unit of local government's principal office is  
15 located. Actions to recover damage to real estate which may be  
16 overflowed or otherwise damaged by reason of any act of the  
17 corporation may be brought in the county where the real estate  
18 or some part of it is situated, or in the county where the  
19 corporation is located, at the option of the party claiming to  
20 be injured. Except as otherwise provided in Section 7-102 of  
21 this Code, any cause of action that is related to an airport  
22 owned by a unit of local government, and that is pending on or  
23 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd  
24 General Assembly in a county other than the county in which the  
25 unit of local government's principal office is located, shall  
26 be transferred, upon motion of any party under Section 2-106 of

1 this Code, to the county in which the unit of local  
2 government's principal office is located.

3 (b) Any action to quiet title to real estate, or to  
4 partition or recover possession thereof or to foreclose a  
5 mortgage or other lien thereon, must be brought in the county  
6 in which the real estate or some part of it is situated.

7 (c) Any action which is made local by any statute must be  
8 brought in the county designated in the statute.

9 (d) Every action against any owner, publisher, editor,  
10 author or printer of a newspaper or magazine of general  
11 circulation for libel contained in that newspaper or magazine  
12 may be commenced only in the county in which the defendant  
13 resides or has his, her or its principal office or in which the  
14 article was composed or printed, except when the defendant  
15 resides or the article was printed without this State, in  
16 either of which cases the action may be commenced in any county  
17 in which the libel was circulated or published.

18 (e) (Blank). ~~Actions against any insurance company~~  
19 ~~incorporated under the law of this State or doing business in~~  
20 ~~this State may also be brought in any county in which the~~  
21 ~~plaintiff or one of the plaintiffs may reside.~~

22 (f) The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act  
23 of the 101st General Assembly apply to actions filed on or  
24 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st  
25 General Assembly.

26 (Source: P.A. 93-450, eff. 8-6-03.)

1 (735 ILCS 5/2-110 new)

2 Sec. 2-110. Motion to dismiss for inconvenient venue.

3 (a) In any action in which none of the parties is a  
4 resident of this State and over which another forum has  
5 jurisdiction, the court shall on motion dismiss the action on  
6 the conditions set forth in subsection (b) unless the cause of  
7 action primarily arose in this State or the interests of  
8 justice require that the action proceed in this State. The  
9 court in its discretion may award costs and reasonable  
10 attorney's fees in connection with the dismissal.

11 (b) Dismissal of the action shall be on condition that: (i)  
12 if the plaintiff elects to file the action in another forum  
13 within 6 months after the dismissal order, the defendant shall  
14 accept service of process from that court; and (ii) if the  
15 statute of limitations has run in the other forum, the  
16 defendant shall waive that defense. If the defendant refuses to  
17 abide by these conditions, the action shall be reinstated for  
18 further proceedings in the court in which the dismissal was  
19 granted. If the court in the other forum refuses to accept  
20 jurisdiction, the plaintiff may, within 30 days after the final  
21 order refusing jurisdiction, reinstate the action in the court  
22 in which the dismissal was granted.

23 (c) This Section applies to actions filed on or after the  
24 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General  
25 Assembly. Motions authorized by this Section are in addition

1 to, and not in place of, a motion otherwise available to a  
2 party or the court or under any other statute or rule or the  
3 common law.

4 (735 ILCS 5/2-1107.1) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-1107.1)

5 (Text of Section WITHOUT the changes made by P.A. 89-7,  
6 which has been held unconstitutional)

7 Sec. 2-1107.1. Jury instruction in tort actions. In all  
8 actions on account of bodily injury or death or physical damage  
9 to property based on negligence, or product liability based on  
10 strict tort liability, the court shall instruct the jury in  
11 writing that: (a) the defendant shall be found not liable if  
12 the jury finds that the contributory fault of the plaintiff is  
13 more than 50% of the proximate cause of the injury or damage  
14 for which recovery is sought; and (b) if the defendant is found  
15 liable, (i) the defendant is jointly and severally liable for  
16 the plaintiff's past and future medical and medically related  
17 expenses regardless of the fault attributed to the defendant  
18 and (ii) the defendant is jointly and severally liable for the  
19 plaintiff's other damages if the jury finds that the fault of  
20 the defendant is 50% or more of the proximate cause.

21 The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of  
22 the 101st General Assembly apply to actions filed on or after  
23 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General  
24 Assembly.

25 (Source: P.A. 84-1431.)



1 (735 ILCS 5/2-1117) (from Ch. 110, par. 2-1117)

2 Sec. 2-1117. Joint liability. Except as provided in Section  
3 2-1118, in actions on account of bodily injury or death or  
4 physical damage to property, based on negligence, or product  
5 liability based on strict tort liability, all defendants found  
6 liable are jointly and severally liable for plaintiff's past  
7 and future medical and medically related expenses. Any  
8 defendant whose fault, as determined by the trier of fact, is  
9 less than 50% ~~25%~~ of the total fault of all tortfeasors,  
10 including but not limited to the plaintiff's employer,  
11 nonparties, entities that have settled, or any other person  
12 that the trier of fact finds was at fault and a proximate cause  
13 of the injury or damage for which recovery is sought by  
14 ~~attributable to~~ the plaintiff, the defendants sued by the  
15 plaintiff, and any third party defendant except the plaintiff's  
16 employer, shall be severally liable for all other damages. Any  
17 defendant whose fault, as determined by the trier of fact, is  
18 50% ~~25%~~ or greater of the total fault of all tortfeasors,  
19 including but not limited to plaintiff's employer, nonparties,  
20 entities that have settled, or any other person that the trier  
21 of fact finds was at fault and a proximate cause of the injury  
22 or damage for which recovery is sought by the plaintiff  
23 ~~attributable to the plaintiff, the defendants sued by the~~  
24 ~~plaintiff, and any third party defendants except the~~  
25 ~~plaintiff's employer,~~ shall be jointly and severally liable for

1 all other damages.

2 The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of  
3 the 101st General Assembly apply to actions filed on or after  
4 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General  
5 Assembly.

6 (Source: P.A. 93-10, eff. 6-4-03; 93-12, eff. 6-4-03.)

7 (735 ILCS 5/2-1205.2 new)

8 Sec. 2-1205.2. Recovery of medical expenses. In actions on  
9 account of bodily injury or death in which recovery is sought  
10 for the reasonable expense of necessary medical care,  
11 treatment, or services, including but not limited to medical,  
12 hospital, nursing, or caretaking expenses, the amount  
13 recovered shall be not more than the amount actually paid or  
14 the amount expected to be actually paid for such expenses,  
15 regardless of the amount initially billed for such expenses.  
16 The court may hear evidence of the amount actually paid or the  
17 amount expected to be paid for such services. This Section  
18 applies to actions filed on or after the effective date of this  
19 amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly.