

HB2534



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB2534

by Rep. Rita Mayfield

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 1315/15

Amends the Illinois Youthbuild Act. Directs the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Department of Human Services (instead of only the Secretary of Human Services) to make grants to applicants for the purpose of carrying out Youthbuild programs. Effective immediately.

LRB101 10455 KTG 55561 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 5. The Illinois Youthbuild Act is amended by
5 changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1315/15)

7 Sec. 15. Program requirements. The Department of Juvenile
8 Justice, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity,
9 the Department of Corrections, the Department of
10 Transportation, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the
11 Department of Human Services ~~Secretary~~ shall, subject to
12 appropriation, make grants to applicants for the purpose of
13 carrying out Youthbuild programs as approved under this
14 Section. All programs funded pursuant to the provisions of this
15 Section shall reflect strong youth and community involvement.
16 In addition, funding provided under this Section shall be used
17 by each Youthbuild program to provide, at a minimum, the
18 following services:

19 (a) Acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and
20 rehabilitation, or construction of housing and related
21 facilities to be used for the purpose of providing home
22 ownership for disadvantaged persons, residential housing
23 for homeless individuals, and low-income and very

1 low-income families, or transitional housing for persons
2 who are homeless, have disabilities, are ill, are
3 deinstitutionalized, or have special needs, and
4 rehabilitation or construction of community facilities
5 owned by not-for-profit or public agencies.

6 (b) Integrated education and job skills training
7 services and activities which are evenly divided within the
8 program, with 50% of students' time spent in
9 classroom-based instruction, counseling, and leadership
10 development instruction and 50% of their time spent in
11 experiential training on the construction site. The
12 programs shall include, at a minimum, the following
13 elements:

14 (1) An education component which includes basic
15 skills instruction, secondary education services, and
16 other activities designed to lead to the attainment of
17 a high school diploma or its equivalent. The curriculum
18 for this component shall include math, language arts,
19 vocational education, life skills training, social
20 studies related to the cultural and community history
21 of the students, leadership skills, and other topics at
22 the discretion of the programs. Bilingual services
23 shall be available for individuals with
24 limited-English proficiency. The desired minimum
25 teacher to student ratio shall be one teacher for every
26 18 students.

1 (2) A work experience and skills training
2 component program that includes the construction and
3 rehabilitation activities described in subsection (a).
4 The process of construction must be coupled with skills
5 training and with close on-site supervision by
6 experienced trainers. The curriculum for this
7 component shall contain a set of locally agreed upon
8 skills and competencies that are systematically
9 taught, with a student's mastery assessed individually
10 on a regular, ongoing basis. Safety skills shall be
11 taught at the outset. The desired trainer to student
12 ratio shall be one trainer for every 7 students. The
13 work experience and skills training component shall be
14 coordinated to the maximum extent feasible with
15 preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.

16 (3) Assistance in attaining post secondary
17 education and required financial aid shall be made
18 available to participants prior to graduation.

19 (c) Counseling services designed to assist
20 participants to positively participate in society, which
21 should include all of the following if necessary: outreach,
22 assessment, and orientation; individual and peer
23 counseling; life skills training, drug and alcohol abuse
24 education and prevention; and referral to appropriate drug
25 rehabilitation, medical, mental health, legal, housing,
26 and other services and resources in the community. The

1 desired counselor to participant ratio shall be one
2 counselor for every 28 students.

3 (d) Leadership development training that provides
4 participants with meaningful opportunities to develop
5 leadership skills such as decision making, problem
6 solving, and negotiating. The program must also encourage
7 participants to develop strong peer group ties that support
8 their mutual pursuit of skills and values.

9 All programs must establish a youth council in which
10 participants are afforded opportunities to develop public
11 speaking and negotiating skills, and management and policy
12 making participation in specific aspects of the program.

13 (e) Stipends and wages. A training subsidy, living
14 allowance, or stipend that will be no less than minimum
15 wage must be provided to program participants for the time
16 spent at the worksite in construction training. For those
17 participants who receive public assistance, this training
18 subsidy, living allowance, or stipend will not affect their
19 housing benefits, medical benefits, child care benefits or
20 food stamp benefits. Stipends and wages may be distributed
21 in a manner that offers incentives for good performance.

22 (f) Full time participation in a Youthbuild program
23 shall be offered for a period of not less than 6 months and
24 not more than 24 months.

25 (g) A concentrated effort shall be made to find
26 construction, construction-related, and nonconstruction

1 jobs for all graduates of the program who have performed
2 well. The skills training curriculum shall provide
3 participants with basic preparation for seeking and
4 maintaining a job. Follow-up counseling and assistance in
5 job-seeking shall also be provided to participants for at
6 least 12 months following graduation from the program.

7 (h) All programs serving 28 trainees or more are
8 required to have a full-time director responsible for the
9 coordination of all aspects of the Youthbuild program.

10 (Source: P.A. 95-524, eff. 8-28-07.)

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