HB1584

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB1584

by Rep. Michael J. Madigan

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

775 ILCS 5/8-102	from Ch. 68, par. 8-102

Amends the Illinois Human Rights Act. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the powers and duties of the Human Rights Commission.

A BILL FOR

1   AN ACT concerning human rights.

2   **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**

3   **represented in the General Assembly:**

4   Section 5. The Illinois Human Rights Act is amended by

5   changing Section 8-102 as follows:

6   (775 ILCS 5/8-102) (from Ch. 68, par. 8-102)

7   Sec. 8-102. Powers and Duties. In addition to the ~~the~~ other

8   powers and duties prescribed in this Act, the Commission shall

9   have the following powers and duties:

10   (A) Meetings. To meet and function at any place within the

11   State.

12   (B) Offices. To establish and maintain offices in

13   Springfield and Chicago.

14   (C) Employees. To select and fix the compensation of such

15   technical advisors and employees as it may deem necessary

16   pursuant to the provisions of "The Personnel Code".

17   (D) Hearing Officers. To select and fix the compensation of

18   hearing officers who shall be attorneys duly licensed to

19   practice law in this State and full time employees of the

20   Commission.

21   A formal and unbiased training program for hearing officers

22   shall be implemented. The training program shall include the

23   following:

1   (1) substantive and procedural aspects of the hearing

2   officer position;

3   (2) current issues in human rights law and practice;

4   (3) lectures by specialists in substantive areas

5   related to human rights matters;

6   (4) orientation to each operational unit of the

7   Department and Commission;

8   (5) observation of experienced hearing officers

9   conducting hearings of cases, combined with the

10   opportunity to discuss evidence presented and rulings

11   made;

12   (6) the use of hypothetical cases requiring the hearing

13   officer to issue judgments as a means to evaluating

14   knowledge and writing ability;

15   (7) writing skills;

16   (8) computer skills, including but not limited to word

17   processing and document management.

18   A formal, unbiased and ongoing professional development

19 program including, but not limited to, the above-noted areas

20 shall be implemented to keep hearing officers informed of

21 recent developments and issues and to assist them in

22 maintaining and enhancing their professional competence.

23   (E) Rules and Regulations. To adopt, promulgate, amend, and

24 rescind rules and regulations not inconsistent with the

25 provisions of this Act pursuant to the Illinois Administrative

26 Procedure Act.

1   (F) Compulsory Process. To issue and authorize requests for

2   enforcement   of   subpoenas   and   other   compulsory   process

3   established by this Act.

4   (G) Decisions. Through a panel of three members designated

5   by the Chairperson on a random basis, to hear and decide by

6   majority vote complaints filed in conformity with this Act and

7   to approve proposed settlements.

8   (H) Rehearings. To order, by a vote of 6 members, rehearing

9   of its decisions by the entire Commission in conformity with

10   this Act.

11   (I) Judicial Enforcement. To authorize requests for

12   judicial enforcement of its orders in conformity with this Act.

13   (J) Opinions. To publish its decisions in timely fashion to

14   assure a consistent source of precedent.

15   (K) Public Grants; Private Gifts. To accept public grants

16   and private gifts as may be authorized.

17   (L) Interpreters. To appoint at the expense of the

18   Commission a qualified sign language interpreter whenever a

19   hearing impaired person is a party or witness at a public

20   hearing.

21   (M) Automated Processing Plan. To prepare an electronic

22   data processing and telecommunications plan jointly with the

23   Department in accordance with Section 7-112.

24   (N) The provisions of this amendatory Act of 1995 amending

25   subsection (G) of this Section apply to causes of action filed

26   on or after January 1, 1996.

1   (Source: P.A. 91-357, eff. 7-29-99.)