



Sen. Steve Stadelman

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10000HB2527sam001

LRB100 10670 MLM 26877 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 2527

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 2527 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 3-15.12a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/3-15.12a new)

7 Sec. 3-15.12a. Alternate route to high school diploma for
8 adult learners.

9 (a) The purpose of this amendatory Act of the 100th General
10 Assembly is to provide eligible applicants that have been or
11 are unable to establish agreements with a secondary or unit
12 school district in the area in which the applicant is located
13 with a process for attaining the authority to award high school
14 diplomas to adult learners.

15 (a-5) In this Section:

16 "Adult learner" means a person ineligible for reenrollment

1 under subsection (b) of Section 26-2 of this Code and 34 CFR
2 300.102.

3 "Board" means the Illinois Community College Board.

4 "Eligible applicant" means a community college established
5 and operating under the authority of the Public Community
6 College Act; a non-profit entity in partnership with a regional
7 superintendent of schools; the chief administrator of an
8 intermediate service center that has the authority, under rules
9 adopted by the State Board of Education, to issue a high school
10 diploma; or a school district organized under Article 34 of
11 this Code. In order to be an eligible applicant, an entity
12 under this definition, other than a school district organized
13 under Article 34 of this Code, must provide evidence or other
14 documentation that it is or has been unable to establish an
15 agreement with a secondary or unit school district in which the
16 eligible applicant is located to provide a program in which
17 students who successfully complete the program can receive a
18 high school diploma from their school district of residence.

19 "Executive Director" means the Executive Director of the
20 Illinois Community College Board.

21 "High school diploma program for adult learners" means a
22 program approved to operate under this Section that provides a
23 program of alterative study to adult learners leading to the
24 issuance of a high school diploma.

25 (b) An eligible applicant is authorized to design a high
26 school diploma program for adult learners, to be approved by

1 the Board prior to implementation. An approved program shall
2 include, without limitation, all of the following:

3 (1) An administrative structure, program activities,
4 program staff, a budget, and a specific curriculum that is
5 consistent with Illinois Learning Standards, as well as
6 Illinois content standards for adults, but may be different
7 from a regular school program in terms of location, length
8 of school day, program sequence, multidisciplinary
9 courses, pace, instructional activities, or any
10 combination of these.

11 (2) Issuance of a high school diploma only if an adult
12 learner meets all minimum requirements under this Code and
13 its implementing rules for receipt of a high school
14 diploma.

15 (3) Specific academic, behavioral, and emotional
16 support services to be offered to adult learners enrolled
17 in the program.

18 (4) Career and technical education courses that lead to
19 industry certifications in high growth and in-demand
20 industry sectors or dual credit courses from a regionally
21 accredited post-secondary educational institution
22 consistent with the Dual Credit Quality Act. The program
23 may include partnering with a community college district to
24 provide career and technical education courses that lead to
25 industry certifications.

26 (5) Specific program outcomes and goals and metrics to

1 be used by the program to determine success.

2 (6) The requirement that all instructional staff must
3 hold an educator license valid for the high school grades
4 issued under Article 21B of this Code.

5 (7) Any other requirements adopted by rule by the
6 Board.

7 (c) Eligible applicants shall apply for approval of a high
8 school diploma program for adult learners to the Board on forms
9 prescribed by the Board.

10 (1) Initial approval shall be for a period not to
11 exceed 2 school years.

12 (2) Renewal of approval shall be for a period not to
13 exceed 4 school years and shall be contingent upon at least
14 specific documented outcomes of student progression,
15 graduation rates, and earning of industry-recognized
16 credentials.

17 (3) Program approval may be given only if the Executive
18 Director determines that the eligible applicant has
19 provided assurance through evidence of other documentation
20 that it will meet the requirements of subsection (b) of
21 this Section and any rules adopted by the Board.

22 (4) Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the
23 contrary, a non-profit eligible applicant shall provide
24 the following to the Board:

25 (A) documentation that the non-profit entity will
26 fulfill the requirements of subsection (b) of this

1 Section;

2 (B) evidence that the non-profit entity has the
3 capacity to fulfill the requirements of this Section;

4 (C) a description of the coordination and
5 oversight that the eligible entity will provide in the
6 administration of the program by the non-profit
7 entity;

8 (D) evidence that the non-profit entity has a
9 history of providing services to adults 18 years of age
10 or older whose educational and training opportunities
11 have been limited by educational disadvantages,
12 disabilities, and challenges.

13 (5) If an eligible applicant that has been approved
14 fails to meet any of the requirements of subsection (b) of
15 this Section and any rules adopted by the Board, the
16 Executive Director shall immediately initiate a process to
17 revoke the eligible applicant's approval to provide the
18 program, pursuant to rules adopted by the Board. If the
19 eligible applicant's approval is revoked, it shall be
20 liable to adult learners who participated in the program
21 for any damages they incur.

22 (d) The Board may adopt any rules necessary to implement
23 this Section.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law."