

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 2-3.182 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.182 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.182. State Education Equity Committee.

8 (a) The General Assembly finds that this State has an
9 urgent and collective responsibility to achieve educational
10 equity by ensuring that all policies, programs, and practices
11 affirm the strengths that each and every child brings with
12 diverse backgrounds and life experiences and by delivering the
13 comprehensive support, programs, and educational opportunities
14 children need to succeed.

15 (b) The State Education Equity Committee is created within
16 the State Board of Education to strive toward ensuring equity
17 in education for all children from birth through grade 12.

18 (c) The Committee shall consist of the State
19 Superintendent of Education or the State Superintendent's
20 designee, who shall serve as chairperson, and one member from
21 each of the following organizations appointed by the State
22 Superintendent:

23 (1) At least 2 educators who each represent a

1 different statewide professional teachers' organization.

2 (2) A professional teachers' organization located in a
3 city having a population exceeding 500,000.

4 (3) A statewide association representing school
5 administrators.

6 (4) A statewide association representing regional
7 superintendents of schools.

8 (5) A statewide association representing school board
9 members.

10 (6) A statewide association representing school
11 principals.

12 (7) A school district serving a community with a
13 population of 500,000 or more.

14 (8) A parent-led organization.

15 (9) A student-led organization.

16 (10) One community organization that works to foster
17 safe and healthy environments through advocacy for
18 immigrant families and ensuring equitable opportunities
19 for educational advancement and economic development.

20 (11) An organization that works for economic,
21 educational, and social progress for African Americans and
22 promotes strong sustainable communities through advocacy,
23 collaboration, and innovation.

24 (12) One statewide organization whose focus is to
25 narrow or close the achievement gap between students of
26 color and their peers.

1 (13) An organization that advocates for healthier
2 school environments in this State.

3 (14) One statewide organization that advocates for
4 partnerships among schools, families, and the community,
5 provides access to support, and removes barriers to
6 learning and development, using schools as hubs.

7 (15) One organization that advocates for the health
8 and safety of Illinois youth and families by providing
9 capacity building services.

10 (16) An organization dedicated to advocating for
11 public policies to prevent homelessness.

12 (17) Other appropriate State agencies as determined by
13 the State Superintendent.

14 Members appointed to the Committee must reflect, as much
15 as possible, the racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity of
16 this State.

17 (d) Members appointed by the State Superintendent shall
18 serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for
19 reasonable and necessary expenses, including travel, from
20 funds appropriated to the State Board of Education for that
21 purpose, subject to the rules of the appropriate travel
22 control board.

23 (e) The Committee shall meet at the call of the
24 chairperson, but shall meet no less than 3 times a year.

25 (f) The Committee shall recognize that, while progress has
26 been made, much remains to be done to address systemic

1 inequities and ensure each and every child is equipped to
2 reach the child's fullest potential and shall:

3 (1) guide its work through the principles of equity,
4 equality, collaboration, and community;

5 (2) focus its work around the overarching goals of
6 student learning, learning conditions, and elevating
7 educators, all underpinned by equity;

8 (3) identify evidence-based practices or policies
9 around these goals to build on this State's progress of
10 ensuring educational equity for all its students in all
11 aspects of birth through grade 12 education; and

12 (4) seek input and feedback on identified
13 evidence-based practices or policies from stakeholders,
14 including, but not limited to, parents, students, and
15 educators that reflect the rich diversity of Illinois
16 students.

17 (g) The Committee shall submit its recommendations to the
18 General Assembly and the State Board of Education no later
19 than January 31, 2022. By no later December 15, 2023 and each
20 year thereafter, the Committee shall report to the General
21 Assembly and the State Board of Education about the additional
22 progress that has been made to achieve educational equity.

23 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.168 rep.)

24 Section 10. The School Code is amended by repealing
25 Section 2-3.168.

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.