

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Indian American Advisory Council Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Indian" means a person descended from any of the
8 countries of the subcontinent that are not primarily Muslim in
9 character, including India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

10 "Council" means the Illinois Indian American Advisory
11 Council created by this Act.

12 Section 10. Illinois Indian American Advisory Council.
13 There is hereby created the Illinois Indian American Advisory
14 Council. The purpose of the Council is to advise the Governor
15 and the General Assembly on policy issues impacting Indian
16 Americans and immigrants; to advance the role and civic
17 participation of Indian Americans in this State; to enhance
18 trade and cooperation between Indian-majority countries and
19 this State; and, in cooperation with State agencies, boards,
20 and commissions, to build relationships with and disseminate
21 information to Indian American and immigrant communities
22 across this State.

1 Section 15. Council members.

2 (a) The Council shall consist of 21 voting members. The
3 Governor shall appoint one voting member, who shall act as the
4 chairperson of the Council and serve as the representative of
5 the Office of the Governor. The Governor, the President of the
6 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
7 Minority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the
8 House of Representatives shall each appoint 4 members of the
9 public to the Council, who shall also serve as voting members.

10 (b) Appointing authorities shall ensure, to the maximum
11 extent practicable, that the Council is diverse with respect
12 to race, ethnicity, age, gender, and geography.

13 (c) Appointments to the Council shall be persons of
14 recognized ability and experience in one or more of the
15 following areas: higher education, business, international
16 trade, law, social services, human services, immigration,
17 refugee services, community development, or health care.

18 (d) Appointed members of the Council shall serve 2-year
19 terms. A member shall serve until his or her successor shall be
20 appointed. Members of the Council shall not be entitled to
21 compensation for their services as members.

22 (e) The following officials shall serve as ex officio,
23 nonvoting members of the Council: the Deputy Director of the
24 Office of Trade and Investment within the Department of
25 Commerce and Economic Opportunity, or his or her designee, and

1 the Chief of the Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Services
2 within the Department of Human Services, or his or her
3 designee.

4 The following State agencies shall also each appoint a
5 liaison to serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the
6 Council: the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity,
7 the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, the
8 Department of Human Services, the Department on Aging, the
9 Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of
10 Healthcare and Family Services, the Department of Public
11 Health, the Department of Central Management Services, the
12 Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Board of
13 Higher Education, and the Illinois Community College Board.

14 (f) The Council may establish committees that address
15 certain issues, including, but not limited to, communications,
16 economic development, and legislative affairs.

17 (g) The Office of the Governor shall provide
18 administrative and technical support to the Council, including
19 a staff member to serve as ethics officer.

20 Section 20. Meetings. The Council shall meet at least once
21 per each calendar quarter. In addition, the Council may hold
22 up to 2 public hearings annually to assist in the development
23 of policy recommendations to the Governor and the General
24 Assembly. All meetings of the Council shall be conducted in
25 accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Eleven members of the

1 Council shall constitute a quorum.

2 Section 25. Reports.

3 (a) The Council shall issue semi-annual reports on its
4 policy recommendations to the Governor and the General
5 Assembly by June 30th and December 31st of each year.

6 (b) The reports on policy recommendations shall focus on,
7 but are not limited to, the following: (i) policy issues
8 impacting Indian Americans and immigrants; (ii) advancement of
9 the role and civic participation of Indian Americans in this
10 State; (iii) enhancement of trade and cooperation between
11 Indian-majority countries and this State; and (iv) building
12 relationships with and disseminating information to, in
13 cooperation with State agencies, boards, and commissions,
14 Indian American and immigrant communities across this State.