

# SB0295



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB0295

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Sen. Cristina Castro

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 70/95-501

Amends the Intergenerational Poverty Act. Provides that the Commission on Poverty Elimination and Economic Security shall have 2 members of the judiciary (rather than a member of the judiciary or a designee) who shall be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court. Effective immediately.

LRB102 10937 KTG 16269 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Intergenerational Poverty Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 95-501 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 70/95-501)

7 Sec. 95-501. The Commission on Poverty Elimination and  
8 Economic Security.

9 (a) Establishment. The Commission on Poverty Elimination  
10 and Economic Security is established.

11 (b) Purpose. The purpose of the Commission is to:

12 (1) Inform the public policy making process by:

13 (i) Improving policymakers' understanding of the  
14 root causes of poverty and economic insecurity,  
15 including contributing social, economic, and cultural  
16 factors and the reasons that poverty and economic  
17 insecurity persist in this State.

18 (ii) Expanding policymakers' understanding of  
19 poverty by distinguishing a standard that measures a  
20 level of freedom from deprivation from a standard that  
21 measures economic security provided by a living wage  
22 and access to a livable standard of living.

23 (iii) Educating policymakers on the impact poverty

1 has on other measures of economic stability and  
2 economic outcomes, including educational attainment,  
3 rates of incarceration, lifetime earnings, access to  
4 health care, health care outcomes, and access to  
5 housing.

6 (2) Support governmental efforts to ensure that  
7 residents of this State have equal opportunity to achieve  
8 economic security.

9 (3) Reduce and ultimately eliminate poverty in this  
10 State by making policy and other recommendations to the  
11 legislative, executive, and judicial branches of this  
12 State.

13 (c) Membership. The Commission shall consist of the  
14 following members:

15 (1) Four members of the General Assembly, one each  
16 appointed by the President of the Senate, the Minority  
17 Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the House of  
19 Representative.

20 (2) Two members ~~A member~~ of the judiciary ~~or a~~  
21 ~~designee~~ who shall be appointed by the Chief Justice of  
22 the Illinois Supreme Court.

23 (3) Twenty members of the public appointed under  
24 subsection (d) representing stakeholders as follows:

25 (i) Two representatives, one of whom shall  
26 represent an organization that focuses on rural

1 poverty and one of whom shall represent an  
2 organization that focuses on urban and suburban  
3 poverty.

4 (ii) Two individuals who have experienced deep  
5 poverty.

6 (iii) One representative of an organization that  
7 advocates for health care access, affordability, and  
8 availability.

9 (iv) One representative of an organization that  
10 advocated for individuals with mental illness.

11 (v) One representative of an organization that  
12 advocates for children and youth.

13 (vi) One representative of an organization that  
14 advocates for equity and equality in education.

15 (vii) One representative of an organization that  
16 advocates for individuals who are homeless.

17 (viii) One representative of a Statewide  
18 antihunger organization.

19 (ix) One representative of an organization that  
20 advocates for military veterans.

21 (x) One representative of an organization that  
22 advocates for individuals with disabilities.

23 (xi) One representative of an organization that  
24 advocates for immigrants.

25 (xii) One representative of a Statewide  
26 faith-based organization that provides direct social

1 services in this State.

2 (xiii) One representative of an organization that  
3 advocates for economic security for women.

4 (xiv) One representative of an organization that  
5 advocates for older adults.

6 (xv) One representative of a labor organization  
7 that represents primarily low-wage and middle-wage  
8 earners.

9 (xvi) One representative of school districts in  
10 this State.

11 (xvii) One representative of county governments in  
12 this State.

13 (xviii) One representative of municipal  
14 corporation governments in this State.

15 (4) The members of the workgroup shall serve as  
16 nonvoting ex officio members of the Commission.

17 (d) Appointment. The following shall apply:

18 (1) The public members of the Commission under  
19 paragraph (3) of subsection (c) shall be appointed as  
20 follows:

21 (i) Four shall be appointed by the Governor.

22 (ii) Four shall be appointed by the President of  
23 the Senate.

24 (iii) Four shall be appointed by the Minority  
25 Leader of the Senate.

26 (iv) Four shall be appointed by the Speaker of the

1 House of Representatives.

2 (v) Four shall be appointed by the Minority Leader  
3 of the House of Representatives.

4 (2) It shall be determined by lot which appointing  
5 authority appoints which public members to the Commission.

6 (3) The appointed members shall reflect the racial,  
7 gender, and geographic diversity of this State and shall  
8 include representation from regions of this State  
9 experiencing economic insecurity and the highest rates of  
10 deep poverty.

11 (4) Public members of the Commission shall be selected  
12 for service on the Commission within 45 days after the  
13 effective date of this Act.

14 (e) Qualifications. Each member of the Commission must  
15 have been a resident of this State for a period of at least one  
16 year immediately preceding appointment and must continue  
17 residence in this State during the member's tenure of service  
18 on the Commission.

19 (f) Organizational meeting. The organizational meeting of  
20 the Commission shall take place after all members are  
21 appointed but no later than 60 days after the effective date of  
22 this Act.

23 (g) Compensation. Members shall serve without  
24 compensation, but public members may be reimbursed for  
25 reasonable and necessary travel expenses connected to  
26 Commission business.

1           (h) Commission chairperson. The representatives of the  
2 antipoverty organizations appointed under subparagraph (i) of  
3 paragraph (3) of subsection (c) shall serve as cochairs of the  
4 Commission.

5           (i) Committees. The Commission may establish subcommittees  
6 to address specific issues or populations and may collaborate  
7 with individuals with relevant expertise who are not members  
8 of the Commission to assist the subcommittee in carrying out  
9 its duties.

10          (j) Meetings. The full Commission shall meet at least once  
11 annually.

12          (k) Quorum. A majority plus one of the voting members  
13 shall constitute a quorum.

14          (l) Voting. All actions of the Commission and any  
15 subcommittees established by the Commission shall be approved  
16 by a majority vote of the Commission or subcommittee as  
17 applicable.

18          (m) Open meetings. The meetings of the Commission shall be  
19 conducted in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of  
20 the Open Meetings Act.

21          (n) Administrative support. The Department of Human  
22 Services shall provide staff and administrative support to  
23 assist the Commission in carrying out its duties.

24          (Source: P.A. 101-636, eff. 6-10-20.)

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