

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 Article 1. Industrial Biotech Partnership Act

5 Section 1-1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
6 Industrial Biotech Partnership Act.

7 Section 1-5. Purpose. Illinois will actively pursue  
8 expansion of the industrial biotechnology and biorenewables  
9 industry. This growing field closely aligns with several key  
10 industries that the State is pursuing through the 2019 "Plan  
11 to Revitalize the Illinois Economy and Build the Workforce of  
12 the Future", such as agriculture, agriculture technology, life  
13 sciences, healthcare, and manufacturing. Illinois is well  
14 positioned to lead the nation with ample feedstocks, dedicated  
15 research facilities, specialized job training programs, and an  
16 existing manufacturing base required to lead this industry.  
17 Modifications to several existing programs will ensure the  
18 State provides the correct aid and incentives to help attract  
19 this growing industry.

20 Section 1-10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

21 "Department" means the Department of Commerce and Economic

1 Opportunity.

2 "Industrial biotechnology" means biotechnology focused on  
3 new industrial products, such as industrial materials,  
4 chemicals and solvents, and feed and food, and new industrial  
5 processes. "Industrial biotechnology" does not include health  
6 biotechnology (pharmaceuticals), agricultural biotechnology  
7 (transgenic crops), or environmental biotechnology  
8 (bioremediation).

9 "Partnership" means the Industrial Biotechnology  
10 Public-Private Partnership established under this Act.

11 Section 1-15. Industrial Biotechnology Public-Private  
12 Partnership.

13 (a) There is hereby established the Industrial  
14 Biotechnology Public-Private Partnership as a State-sponsored  
15 board consisting of members from State agencies, research  
16 facilities, industry, and agriculture, to promote and market  
17 Illinois as the leading destination for research, development,  
18 and commercialization for industrial biotechnology.

19 (b) The Partnership shall consist of the following  
20 members:

21 (1) a representative of the Department of Agriculture,  
22 appointed by the Director of Agriculture;

23 (2) a representative of the Department of Commerce and  
24 Economic Opportunity, appointed by the Director of  
25 Commerce and Economic Opportunity;

1           (3) a representative of the Department of Labor,  
2 appointed by the Director of Labor;

3           (4) a representative of the National Corn to Ethanol  
4 Research Center, appointed by the Director of Commerce and  
5 Economic Opportunity;

6           (5) a representative of the Integrated Bioprocessing  
7 Research Laboratory, appointed by the Director of Commerce  
8 and Economic Opportunity;

9           (6) a representative of the National Center for  
10 Agricultural Utilization Research, who shall participate  
11 in a non-voting capacity, appointed by the Director of  
12 Commerce and Economic Opportunity in consultation with the  
13 Director of the Agricultural Research Service of the  
14 United States Department of Agriculture;

15           (7) a representative of an additional State-sponsored,  
16 university-affiliated laboratory or research institution  
17 conducting industrial biotechnology research, other than  
18 the entities described in paragraphs (4) and (5),  
19 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic  
20 Opportunity;

21           (8) a representative of an Illinois agricultural  
22 commodity group or farmer organization, appointed by the  
23 Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity;

24           (9) a representative of a grain or oilseed processing  
25 company with current facilities located in Illinois,  
26 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic

1 Opportunity;

2 (10) a representative of a biotechnology company,  
3 appointed by the Director of Commerce and Economic  
4 Opportunity;

5 (11) a representative of an environmental group  
6 committed to biorenewables, appointed by the Director of  
7 Commerce and Economic Opportunity; and

8 (12) a representative of a union of operating  
9 engineers, appointed by the Director of Commerce and  
10 Economic Opportunity.

11 (c) Members of the Partnership shall be appointed within  
12 90 days after the effective date of this Act. The Partnership  
13 may meet quarterly and may hold its first meeting within 90  
14 days after the appointment of all members. At the first  
15 meeting of the Partnership, a Chairperson shall be chosen from  
16 among the members. Members of the Partnership shall serve  
17 without compensation, but may be reimbursed for any expenses  
18 incurred in performing their duties.

19 (d) The Department, or a non-profit organization  
20 designated by the Department, shall provide administrative and  
21 other support to the Partnership.

22 Section 1-20. Duties. The Partnership shall have the  
23 following duties:

24 (1) Subject to appropriation and matching private  
25 funds as provided in Section 1-25, the Partnership shall

1       develop and direct efforts to attract companies to use  
2       existing Illinois facilities for research, development,  
3       and pre-commercialization activities. Those efforts may  
4       include, without limitation: (i) representing Illinois at  
5       biotechnology conferences; (ii) developing promotional and  
6       marketing materials in coordination with existing research  
7       facilities to encourage the use of Illinois facilities;  
8       and (iii) facilitating meetings for companies that are  
9       prospective candidates for establishing a presence in this  
10      State.

11       (2) Subject to appropriation and matching private  
12      funds as provided in Section 1-25, the Partnership may  
13      develop programs to encourage emerging research,  
14      development, and commercializing biotechnology companies  
15      to locate production facilities in Illinois, including,  
16      but not limited to: (i) acting as an information  
17      clearinghouse for new companies on all State programs and  
18      investment incentives; and (ii) working with local and  
19      regional economic development groups.

20       (3) The Partnership may provide advice and  
21      recommendations to State agencies on the administration of  
22      grant programs directed at industrial biotechnology.

23       (4) On or before January 31 of the next calendar year  
24      to occur after the last day of any State fiscal year in  
25      which the Partnership receives State funding, the  
26      Partnership shall submit a report to the Department

1 describing the use of appropriated funds by the  
2 Partnership in the State fiscal year for which the funds  
3 were allocated. The report shall include, but not be  
4 limited to, marketing materials produced by the  
5 Partnership, meetings attended by members of the  
6 Partnership related to Partnership business, and the  
7 hosting of companies visiting this State.

8 Section 1-25. Funding. The Partnership may receive funding  
9 through specific appropriations available for its purposes  
10 made to the Department. Moneys appropriated to the Department  
11 for the use of the Partnership as provided in this Act shall  
12 not be disbursed to the Partnership until the Partnership  
13 certifies to the Department that it has received at least \$3 in  
14 private matching funds for every \$1 so disbursed.

15 Section 1-30. Reports. On or before January 31 of the next  
16 calendar year to occur after the last day of any State fiscal  
17 year in which the Partnership receives State funding, the  
18 Department shall submit to the General Assembly and the  
19 Governor a report describing the use of appropriated funds by  
20 the Partnership in the State fiscal year for which the funds  
21 were allocated.

22 Section 1-35. Rules. The Department shall adopt all rules  
23 necessary for the implementation of this Act.

1 Section 1-40. Partnership dissolved. The Partnership is  
2 dissolved on December 31, 2025.

3 Section 1-45. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,  
4 2027.

5 Article 90. Amendatory Provisions

6 Section 90-5. The Department of Commerce and Economic  
7 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois  
8 is amended by adding Section 605-1095 as follows:

9 (20 ILCS 605/605-1095 new)

10 Sec. 605-1095. Industrial Biotechnology Workforce  
11 Development Grant Program.

12 (a) The Industrial Biotechnology Workforce Development  
13 Grant Program is hereby established as a program to be  
14 implemented and administered by the Department. The Program  
15 shall provide grants for the purpose of fostering a  
16 well-trained and well-skilled industrial biotechnology  
17 workforce.

18 (b) Subject to appropriation, grants under the Program may  
19 be awarded on an annual basis for one or more of the following:

20 (1) industrial biotechnology apprenticeships or  
21 apprenticeship programs;

1           (2) industrial biotechnology talent pipeline  
2           management programs that emphasize business-oriented  
3           strategies to increase workforce competitiveness, improve  
4           workforce diversity, and expand a regional talent pool  
5           around high-growth industries;

6           (3) industrial biotechnology industry-aligned  
7           credential (digital badging) expansion programs to  
8           increase the number of workers with in-demand skills  
9           needed to obtain a job or advance within the workplace and  
10           for merging competency-based education with responsive  
11           workforce training strategies; and

12           (4) high school and community college industrial  
13           biotechnology career pathway and pre-apprenticeship  
14           program development.

15           (c) To be eligible for grants provided under the Program,  
16           an entity must be either: (i) a State-sponsored,  
17           university-affiliated laboratory or research institution  
18           conducting collaboratives or for-hire research in the  
19           development of biorenewable chemicals, bio-based polymers,  
20           materials, novel feeds, or additional value-added  
21           biorenewables; or (ii) a State-accredited university or  
22           community college. An eligible entity must establish that it  
23           plans to use grant funds for a purpose specifically provided  
24           under subsection (b).

25           (d) On or before January 31 of the next calendar year to  
26           occur after the last day of any State fiscal year in which the



1 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity receives State  
2 funding for the Program under this Section, the Department of  
3 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall submit an annual  
4 report to the General Assembly and the Governor on the use of  
5 grant funds under the Program. The report shall include, but  
6 not be limited to: (i) the disbursement of grant funds,  
7 categorized by eligible entity; (ii) the number of persons  
8 enrolled in or taking advantage of a program established or  
9 maintained using grant funds; (iii) the number of persons  
10 completing a program established or maintained using grant  
11 funds; and (iv) the number of person gaining employment in the  
12 industrial biotechnology industry following completion of a  
13 program established or maintained using grant funds.

14 (e) The Department shall adopt all rules necessary for the  
15 implementation and administration of the Program under this  
16 Section.

17 Section 90-10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
18 Sections 6z-130 and 6z-131 as follows:

19 (30 ILCS 105/6z-130 new)

20 Sec. 6z-130. Industrial Biotechnology Human Capital Fund.

21 (a) The Industrial Biotechnology Human Capital Fund is  
22 created as a special fund in the State treasury and may receive  
23 funds from any source, public or private, including moneys  
24 appropriated for use by the Department of Commerce and

1 Economic Opportunity and laboratories and institutions  
2 conducting industrial biotechnology research. Subject to  
3 appropriation, the Industrial Biotechnology Human Capital Fund  
4 shall receive moneys from the General Revenue Fund until June  
5 30, 2025. Each eligible entity receiving a grant under this  
6 Section shall, as a condition of receiving the grant,  
7 contribute moneys to the Fund as part of a cost-sharing  
8 agreement between the grantee and the Department of Commerce  
9 and Economic Opportunity in accordance with rules adopted by  
10 the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Grants  
11 issued under the Section may be for a period of 2 years. An  
12 eligible entity issued a grant under this Sections shall be  
13 eligible for more than one such grant, but no more than one  
14 grant annually, for the purpose of hiring and retaining  
15 Experts in Residence; however, such entity may maintain more  
16 than one grant at any given time.

17 (b) Subject to appropriation, moneys in the Fund shall be  
18 used for providing grants to laboratories and research  
19 institutions for the purpose of hiring and retaining in-house  
20 specialists, to be known as experts in residence, with the  
21 knowledge and experience in moving industrial biotechnology  
22 products through the development phase.

23 (c) To be eligible for grants provided from the Fund, an  
24 entity must be a State-sponsored, university-affiliated  
25 laboratory or research institution conducting collaboratives  
26 or for-hire research in the development of biorenewable

1 chemicals, bio-based polymers, materials, novel feeds, or  
2 additional value added biorenewables. Eligible entities must  
3 also establish that the Expert-In-Residence they seek to hire  
4 or retain using the grant funds possesses expertise in  
5 fermentation engineering, process engineering, catalytic  
6 engineering, analytical chemistry, or is a scale-up  
7 specialist.

8 (d) On or before January 31 of the next calendar year to  
9 occur after the last day of any State fiscal year in which the  
10 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity receives State  
11 funding for the Program under this Section, the Department of  
12 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall submit an annual  
13 report to the General Assembly and the Governor on the use of  
14 moneys in the Fund. The report shall include, but not be  
15 limited to: (i) the number of laboratories or institutions  
16 utilizing moneys in the Fund, including the name of such  
17 entities; (ii) the number of experts in residence hired by  
18 each laboratory or institution; (iii) the expertise or  
19 specialty area of each expert in residence hired or retained;  
20 and (iv) a summary of the benefit to the economy of the State  
21 of Illinois economy in providing the grants.

22 (e) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
23 shall adopt all rules necessary for the implementation of this  
24 Section.

1       Sec. 6z-131. Industrial Biotechnology Capital Maintenance  
2 Fund.

3       (a) The Industrial Biotechnology Capital Maintenance Fund  
4 is created as a special fund in the State treasury and may  
5 receive funds from any source, public or private, including  
6 from moneys appropriated for use by the Department of Commerce  
7 and Economic Opportunity and laboratories and institutions  
8 conducting industrial biotechnology research.

9       (b) Subject to appropriation, moneys in the Fund shall be  
10 used for providing grants to laboratories and research  
11 institutions for the purpose of maintenance and repair of  
12 capital assets. Such maintenance and repairs of capital assets  
13 shall be designed to extend the serviceable life of equipment  
14 and buildings and expand the capacity of equipment and  
15 buildings by at least 10%. For the purposes of this Section,  
16 "capital assets" means equipment or buildings that have a  
17 value greater than \$250,000.

18       (c) To be eligible for grants provided from the Fund, an  
19 entity must be a State-sponsored, university-affiliated  
20 laboratory or research institution conducting collaboratives  
21 or for-hire research in the development of biorenewable  
22 chemicals, bio-based polymers, materials, novel feeds, or  
23 additional value added biorenewables. The Department of  
24 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall determine the  
25 disbursement of moneys for the purposes of this Section. Each  
26 eligible entity, as a condition of receiving a grant under

1 this Section, shall match up to at least 50% of the moneys to  
2 be granted to the entity.

3 (d) On or before January 31 of the next calendar year to  
4 occur after the last day of any State fiscal year in which the  
5 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity receives State  
6 funding for the Program under this Section, the Department of  
7 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall submit an annual  
8 report to the General Assembly and the Governor on the use of  
9 moneys in the Fund. The report shall include, but not be  
10 limited to: (i) the name of the institution or laboratory  
11 receiving funds; (ii) the capital assets that were maintained  
12 or repaired at each institution or laboratory; (iii) the  
13 expected usable life extension of each maintained or repaired  
14 asset; and (iv) the capacity increase of each maintained or  
15 repaired asset.

16 (e) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
17 shall adopt all rules necessary for the implementation of this  
18 Section.