

SB2327



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2327

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Sara Feigenholtz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 605/605-705

was 20 ILCS 605/46.6a

Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that, in Fiscal Years 2022 through 2024, convention and tourism bureaus receiving grants from the Local Tourism Fund shall provide matching funds equal to no less than 25% (currently, 50%) of the grant amount. Contains provisions concerning the amount of grant funds that may be used for salaries.

LRB102 14908 HLH 20263 b

A BILL FOR

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 5. The Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois
6 is amended by changing Section 605-705 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-705) (was 20 ILCS 605/46.6a)

8 Sec. 605-705. Grants to local tourism and convention
9 bureaus.

10 (a) To establish a grant program for local tourism and
11 convention bureaus. The Department will develop and implement
12 a program for the use of funds, as authorized under this Act,
13 by local tourism and convention bureaus. For the purposes of
14 this Act, bureaus eligible to receive funds are those local
15 tourism and convention bureaus that are (i) either units of
16 local government or incorporated as not-for-profit
17 organizations; (ii) in legal existence for a minimum of 2
18 years before July 1, 2001; (iii) operating with a paid,
19 full-time staff whose sole purpose is to promote tourism in
20 the designated service area; and (iv) affiliated with one or
21 more municipalities or counties that support the bureau with
22 local hotel-motel taxes. After July 1, 2001, bureaus
23 requesting certification in order to receive funds for the

1 first time must be local tourism and convention bureaus that
2 are (i) either units of local government or incorporated as
3 not-for-profit organizations; (ii) in legal existence for a
4 minimum of 2 years before the request for certification; (iii)
5 operating with a paid, full-time staff whose sole purpose is
6 to promote tourism in the designated service area; and (iv)
7 affiliated with multiple municipalities or counties that
8 support the bureau with local hotel-motel taxes. Each bureau
9 receiving funds under this Act will be certified by the
10 Department as the designated recipient to serve an area of the
11 State. Notwithstanding the criteria set forth in this
12 subsection (a), or any rule adopted under this subsection (a),
13 the Director of the Department may provide for the award of
14 grant funds to one or more entities if in the Department's
15 judgment that action is necessary in order to prevent a loss of
16 funding critical to promoting tourism in a designated
17 geographic area of the State.

18 (b) To distribute grants to local tourism and convention
19 bureaus from appropriations made from the Local Tourism Fund
20 for that purpose. Of the amounts appropriated annually to the
21 Department for expenditure under this Section prior to July 1,
22 2011, one-third of those monies shall be used for grants to
23 convention and tourism bureaus in cities with a population
24 greater than 500,000. The remaining two-thirds of the annual
25 appropriation prior to July 1, 2011 shall be used for grants to
26 convention and tourism bureaus in the remainder of the State,

1 in accordance with a formula based upon the population served.
2 Of the amounts appropriated annually to the Department for
3 expenditure under this Section beginning July 1, 2011, 18% of
4 such moneys shall be used for grants to convention and tourism
5 bureaus in cities with a population greater than 500,000. Of
6 the amounts appropriated annually to the Department for
7 expenditure under this Section beginning July 1, 2011, 82% of
8 such moneys shall be used for grants to convention bureaus in
9 the remainder of the State, in accordance with a formula based
10 upon the population served. The Department may reserve up to
11 3% of total local tourism funds available for costs of
12 administering the program to conduct audits of grants, to
13 provide incentive funds to those bureaus that will conduct
14 promotional activities designed to further the Department's
15 statewide advertising campaign, to fund special statewide
16 promotional activities, and to fund promotional activities
17 that support an increased use of the State's parks or historic
18 sites. The Department shall require that any convention and
19 tourism bureau receiving a grant under this Section that
20 requires matching funds shall provide matching funds equal to
21 no less than 50% of the grant amount except that in Fiscal
22 Years 2021 through 2024 ~~Year 2021~~, the Department shall
23 require that any convention and tourism bureau receiving a
24 grant under this Section that requires matching funds shall
25 provide matching funds equal to no less than 25% of the grant
26 amount. Salaries and related payroll expenses for the program

1 year paid with grant funds shall not exceed 50% of the total
2 grant funds awarded, except that, in fiscal years 2021 through
3 2024, these expenses may represent up to 60% of the total grant
4 funds awarded. One hundred percent of tourism sales and
5 promotion staff persons' salaries may be applied toward the
6 50% (or 60% for fiscal years 2021 through 2024) cap. Fifty
7 percent of the Chief Executive Officer's salary may be applied
8 toward the 50% cap, except that in fiscal years 2021 through
9 2024, the allotment for this salary may be up to 100% of the
10 60% cap. During fiscal year 2013, the Department shall reserve
11 \$2,000,000 of the available local tourism funds for
12 appropriation to the Historic Preservation Agency for the
13 operation of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and
14 Museum and State historic sites.

15 To provide for the expeditious and timely implementation
16 of the changes made by this amendatory Act of the 101st General
17 Assembly, emergency rules to implement the changes made by
18 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly may be
19 adopted by the Department subject to the provisions of Section
20 5-45 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act.

21 (Source: P.A. 100-678, eff. 8-3-18; 101-636, eff. 6-10-20.)