

# HB1597



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1597

Introduced 1/31/2023, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/34-3

from Ch. 122, par. 34-3

Amends the Chicago School District Article of the School Code. Provides that each member of the Chicago Board of Education shall select a constituent service coordinator, who shall be an employee of the Board but whose employment shall be at the will of the respective Board member.

LRB103 28903 RJT 55289 b

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

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 changing Section  
5 34-3 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/34-3) (from Ch. 122, par. 34-3)

7 Sec. 34-3. Chicago School Reform Board of Trustees; new  
8 Chicago Board of Education; members; term; vacancies.

9 (a) Within 30 days after the effective date of this  
10 amendatory Act of 1995, the terms of all members of the Chicago  
11 Board of Education holding office on that date are abolished  
12 and the Mayor shall appoint, without the consent or approval  
13 of the City Council, a 5 member Chicago School Reform Board of  
14 Trustees which shall take office upon the appointment of the  
15 fifth member. The Chicago School Reform Board of Trustees and  
16 its members shall serve until, and the terms of all members of  
17 the Chicago School Reform Board of Trustees shall expire on,  
18 June 30, 1999 or upon the appointment of a new Chicago Board of  
19 Education as provided in subsection (b), whichever is later.  
20 Any vacancy in the membership of the Trustees shall be filled  
21 through appointment by the Mayor, without the consent or  
22 approval of the City Council, for the unexpired term. One of  
23 the members appointed by the Mayor to the Trustees shall be

1 designated by the Mayor to serve as President of the Trustees.  
2 The Mayor shall appoint a full-time, compensated chief  
3 executive officer, and his or her compensation as such chief  
4 executive officer shall be determined by the Mayor. The Mayor,  
5 at his or her discretion, may appoint the President to serve  
6 simultaneously as the chief executive officer.

7 (b) This subsection applies until January 15, 2025. Within  
8 30 days before the expiration of the terms of the members of  
9 the Chicago Reform Board of Trustees as provided in subsection  
10 (a), a new Chicago Board of Education consisting of 7 members  
11 shall be appointed by the Mayor to take office on the later of  
12 July 1, 1999 or the appointment of the seventh member. Three of  
13 the members initially so appointed under this subsection shall  
14 serve for terms ending June 30, 2002, 4 of the members  
15 initially so appointed under this subsection shall serve for  
16 terms ending June 30, 2003, and each member initially so  
17 appointed shall continue to hold office until his or her  
18 successor is appointed and qualified.

19 (b-5) On January 15, 2025, the terms of all members of the  
20 Chicago Board of Education appointed under subsection (b) are  
21 abolished when the new board, consisting of 21 members, is  
22 appointed by the Mayor and elected by the electors of the  
23 school district as provided under subsections (b-10) and  
24 (b-15) and takes office.

25 (b-10) By December 16, 2024 for a term of office beginning  
26 on January 15, 2025, the Mayor shall appoint 10 Chicago Board

1 of Education members to serve terms of 2 years. All appointed  
2 members shall serve until a successor is appointed or elected  
3 and qualified. Thereafter at the expiration of the term of any  
4 member a successor shall be elected and shall hold office for a  
5 term of 4 years, from January 15 of the year in which the term  
6 commences and until a successor is appointed or elected and  
7 qualified. Any vacancy in the appointed membership of the  
8 Chicago Board of Education shall be filled through appointment  
9 by the Mayor for the unexpired term. The terms of the 10  
10 appointed members under this subsection shall end on January  
11 14, 2027. By December 16, 2024 for a term of office beginning  
12 on January 15, 2025, the Mayor shall appoint a President of the  
13 Board for a term of 2 years. The board shall elect annually  
14 from its number a vice-president, in such manner and at such  
15 time as the board determines by its rules. The president  
16 appointed by the Mayor and vice-president elected by the board  
17 shall each perform the duties imposed upon their respective  
18 office by the rules of the board, provided that (i) the  
19 president shall preside at meetings of the board and shall  
20 only have voting rights to break a voting tie of the other  
21 Chicago Board of Education elected and appointed members and  
22 (ii) the vice president shall perform the duties of the  
23 president if that office is vacant or the president is absent  
24 or unable to act. Beginning with the 2026 general election,  
25 one member shall be elected at large and serve as the president  
26 of the board. After January 15, 2027, the president shall

1 preside at meetings of the board and vote as any other member  
2 but have no power of veto. The secretary of the Board shall be  
3 selected by the Board and shall be an employee of the Board  
4 rather than a member of the Board, notwithstanding subsection  
5 (d) of Section 34-3.3. The duties of the secretary shall be  
6 imposed by the rules of the Board. Each member of the Board  
7 shall select a constituent service coordinator, who shall  
8 report to that respective member of the Board and shall be an  
9 employee of the Board but whose employment shall be at the will  
10 of the Board member.

11 (b-15) Beginning with the 2024 general election, 10  
12 members of the Chicago Board of Education shall be elected to  
13 serve a term of 4 years in office beginning on January 15,  
14 2025. Beginning with the 2026 general election, 10 members of  
15 the Chicago Board of Education shall be elected to serve a term  
16 of 4 years in office beginning on January 15, 2027. Whenever a  
17 vacancy of a Chicago Board of Education elected board member  
18 occurs, the President of the Board shall notify the Mayor of  
19 the vacancy within 7 days after its occurrence and shall,  
20 within 30 days, fill the vacancy for the remainder of the  
21 unexpired term by majority vote of the remaining board  
22 members. The successor shall have the same qualifications as  
23 his or her predecessor.

24 For purposes of elections conducted under this subsection,  
25 the City of Chicago shall be subdivided into electoral  
26 districts as provided under subsection (a) of Section

1 34-21.10. From January 15, 2025 to January 14, 2027, each  
2 district shall be represented by one elected member and one  
3 appointed member. After January 15, 2027, each district shall  
4 be represented by one elected member.

5 (b-30) No member shall have, or be an employee or owner of  
6 a company that has, a contract with the school district. No  
7 former officer, member, or employee of the board shall, within  
8 a period of one year immediately after termination of service  
9 on the board, knowingly accept employment or receive  
10 compensation or fees for services from a person or entity if  
11 the officer, member, or employee, during the year immediately  
12 preceding termination of service on the board, participated  
13 personally and substantially in the award of contracts with  
14 the board or the school district, or the issuance of contract  
15 change orders with the board or the school district, with a  
16 cumulative value of \$25,000 or more to the person or entity, or  
17 its parent or subsidiary.

18 (c) The board may appoint a student to the board to serve  
19 in an advisory capacity. The student member shall serve for a  
20 term as determined by the board. The board may not grant the  
21 student member any voting privileges, but shall consider the  
22 student member as an advisor. The student member may not  
23 participate in or attend any executive session of the board.

24 (Source: P.A. 102-177, eff. 6-1-22; 102-691, eff. 12-17-21.)