

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 adding Section 605-1115 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-1115 new)

8 Sec. 605-1115. Creative Economy Task Force.

9 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Creative Economy Task
10 Force is created within the Department of Commerce and
11 Economic Opportunity to create a strategic plan to develop the
12 creative economy in this State.

13 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

14 (1) the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
15 or the Director's designee, who shall serve as chair of
16 the task force;

17 (2) the Executive Director of the Illinois Arts
18 Council or the Executive Director's designee, who shall
19 serve as the vice-chair of the task force;

20 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House
21 of Representatives;

22 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
23 House of Representatives;

1 (5) one member appointed by the President of the
2 Senate;

3 (6) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
4 Senate;

5 (7) one member from the banking industry with
6 experience in matters involving the federal small business
7 administration, appointed by the Governor;

8 (8) one member from a certified public accounting firm
9 or other company with experience in financial modeling and
10 in the creative arts, appointed by the Governor;

11 (9) one member recommended by the Illinois State
12 Association of Counties, appointed by the Governor;

13 (10) one member from an Illinois public institution of
14 higher education or nonprofit research institution with
15 experience in matters involving cultural arts, appointed
16 by the Governor;

17 (11) the Director of Labor or the Director's designee;
18 and

19 (12) five members from this State's arts community,
20 appointed by the Governor, including, but not limited to,
21 the following sectors:

22 (A) film, television, and video production;

23 (B) recorded audio and music production;

24 (C) animation production;

25 (D) video game development;

26 (E) live theater, orchestra, ballet, and opera;

- 1 (F) live music performance;
2 (G) visual arts, including sculpture, painting,
3 graphic design, and photography;
4 (H) production facilities, such as film and
5 television studios;
6 (I) live music or performing arts venues; and
7 (J) arts service organizations.

8 (c) No later than July 1, 2026, the task force shall
9 collect and analyze data on the current state of the creative
10 economy in this State and develop a strategic plan to improve
11 this State's creative economy that can be rolled out in
12 incremental phases to reach identified economic, social
13 justice, and business development goals. The goal of the
14 strategic plan shall be to ensure that this State is
15 competitive with respect to attracting creative economy
16 business, retaining talent within this State, and developing
17 marketable content that can be exported for national and
18 international consumption and monetization. The strategic plan
19 shall address support for the creative community within
20 historically marginalized communities, as well as the creative
21 economy at large, and take into account the diverse interests,
22 strengths, and needs of the people of this State. In
23 developing the strategic plan for the creative economy in this
24 State, the task force shall:

- 25 (1) identify existing studies of aspects affecting the
26 creative economy, including studies relating to tax

1 issues, legislation, finance, population and demographics,
2 and employment;

3 (2) conduct a comparative analysis with other
4 jurisdictions that have successfully developed creative
5 economy plans and programs;

6 (3) conduct in-depth interviews to identify best
7 practices for structuring a strategic plan for this State;

8 (4) evaluate existing banking models for financing
9 creative economy projects in the private sector and
10 develop a financial model to promote investment in this
11 State's creative economy;

12 (5) evaluate existing federal, State, and local tax
13 incentives and make recommendations for improvements to
14 support the creative economy;

15 (6) identify the role that counties and cities play
16 with respect to the strategic plan, and identify specific
17 counties and cities that may need or want a stronger
18 creative economy;

19 (7) identify opportunities for aligning with new
20 business models and the integration of new technologies;

21 (8) identify the role that State education programs in
22 the creative arts play in the creative economy and with
23 respect to advancing the strategic plan;

24 (9) identify geographic areas with the least amount of
25 access or opportunity for a creative economy;

26 (10) identify opportunities for earn and learn job

1 training employment for students who have enrolled or
2 completed a program in the arts, low-income or unemployed
3 creative workers, and others with demonstrated interest in
4 creative work in their communities; and

5 (11) identify existing initiatives and projects that
6 can be used as models for earn and learn opportunities or
7 as examples of best practices for earn and learn
8 opportunities that can be replicated Statewide or in
9 different regions.

10 (d) The task force shall submit its findings and
11 recommendations to the General Assembly no later than July 1,
12 2026.

13 (e) Members of the task force shall serve without
14 compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses
15 incurred in the performance of their duties. The Department of
16 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall provide administrative
17 support to the task force.

18 (f) Appropriations for the task force may be used to
19 support operational expenses of the Department, including
20 entering into a contract with a third-party provider for
21 administrative support.

22 (g) The Director or the Director's designee may, after
23 issuing a request for proposals, designate a third-party
24 provider to help facilitate task force meetings, compile
25 information, and prepare the strategic plan described in
26 subsection (c). A third-party provider contracted by the

1 Director shall have experience conducting business in
2 professional arts or experience in business development and
3 drafting business plans and multidisciplinary planning
4 documents.

5 (h) This Section is repealed January 1, 2027.