



Rep. Joyce Mason

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LRB103 36139 RJT 72872 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5024

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 5024, AS AMENDED,  
3 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the  
4 following:

5 "Section 5. The Early Childhood Access Consortium for  
6 Equity Act is amended by changing Sections 15, 20, 25, and 30  
7 as follows:

8 (110 ILCS 28/15)

9 Sec. 15. Creation of Consortium; purpose; administrative  
10 support.

11 (a) The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois  
12 Community College Board shall create and establish the Early  
13 Childhood Access Consortium for Equity.

14 (b) The purpose of the Consortium is to serve the needs of  
15 the incumbent early childhood workforce and the employers of  
16 early childhood educators and to advance racial equity while

1 meeting the needs of employers by streamlining, coordinating,  
2 and improving the accessibility of degree completion pathways  
3 for upskilling and the sustained expansion of educational  
4 pipelines at Illinois institutions of higher education.

5 (c) The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois  
6 Community College Board shall convene the member institutions  
7 by July 1, 2021 or within 60 days after the effective date of  
8 this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly. The Board  
9 of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board  
10 shall provide administrative support for the start up and  
11 operation of the Consortium until a permanent governance  
12 structure is developed and implemented. ~~The Board of Higher  
13 Education and the Illinois Community College Board shall work  
14 with member institutions to establish geographic regional  
15 hubs, including public universities and the proximate  
16 community colleges responsible for serving each regional hub.~~

17 (Source: P.A. 102-174, eff. 7-28-21.)

18 (110 ILCS 28/20)

19 Sec. 20. Membership; functions.

20 (a) Membership in the Consortium shall include all public  
21 universities and community colleges in this State that offer  
22 early childhood programs. Membership by private,  
23 not-for-profit universities is optional and conditional on the  
24 acceptance of the terms adopted by the public members, the  
25 related administrative rules, and the provisions of this Act.

1 For-profit institutions of higher education are not eligible  
2 for membership in the Consortium. Participating institutions  
3 must be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and  
4 entitled to offer Gateways Credentials.

5 (b) The members of the Consortium shall operate jointly  
6 and in cooperation ~~through regional hubs~~ to provide  
7 streamlined paths for students to attain associate degrees,  
8 bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, certificates, and  
9 Gateways Credentials and other licensure endorsements in early  
10 childhood education. The priority shall be to focus on the  
11 incumbent workforce, which includes working adults who require  
12 programs of study that offer flexibility in the times courses  
13 are offered, location, and format. The Consortium shall  
14 cooperate in all of the following:

15 (1) Providing course offerings ~~within each regional~~  
16 ~~hub~~ in online, hybrid, and in-person formats that are  
17 available to any student enrolled in a member institution  
18 ~~in that hub~~ for occasions in which a particular course is  
19 not available at the student's home institution. In this  
20 paragraph (1), "not available" may mean the course is not  
21 offered during a term, at a time, or in a format that works  
22 best for the student. Courses taken at any member  
23 institution shall be accepted toward the student's degree  
24 at any other member institution. Course offerings across  
25 institutions ~~regional hubs~~ may also be provided by an  
26 agreement between Consortium members. All course

1 registration shall take place in consultation with a  
2 student's academic advisor.

3 (2) Shared responsibilities through the Consortium ~~and~~  
4 ~~within~~ and across the State ~~regional hubs~~ to expand access  
5 for students.

6 (3) Transfers in accordance with Section 130-10 of the  
7 Transitions in Education Act.

8 (4) The development of standardized methods for  
9 awarding credit for prior learning.

10 (5) The support necessary for student access,  
11 persistence, and completion shall be provided by the home  
12 institution, unless otherwise provided by agreement  
13 between Consortium members.

14 (6) Admissions, financial arrangements, registration,  
15 and advising services shall be functions of the home  
16 institution but shall be honored across the Consortium.

17 (7) Member institutions working with their regional  
18 pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and early childhood  
19 employer partners to determine demand throughout the  
20 region.

21 (8) Data-sharing agreements.

22 (9) An agreement that students enrolled in associate  
23 degree programs are encouraged to complete the associate  
24 degree program prior to transferring to a bachelor's  
25 degree program.

26 (10) Development of other shared agreements and terms

1 necessary to implement the Consortium and its  
2 responsibilities.

3 By January 31, 2022, the Consortium shall decide how to  
4 assign college credit for the incumbent workers who have a  
5 Child Development Associate (CDA) credential and for future  
6 workers obtaining a CDA.

7 (c) The Consortium may facilitate or implement the  
8 following if deemed beneficial and feasible:

9 (1) the creation of an open education resource  
10 library;

11 (2) support and training for program coaches and  
12 cross-institutional navigators; and

13 (3) support for the development, implementation, and  
14 participation in a statewide registry system through the  
15 Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral  
16 Agencies (INCCRRA) to provide tracking and data  
17 capabilities for students across the system as they attain  
18 competency through coursework.

19 (Source: P.A. 102-174, eff. 7-28-21.)

20 (110 ILCS 28/25)

21 Sec. 25. Advisory committee; membership.

22 (a) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community  
23 College Board, the State Board of Education, the Department of  
24 Human Services, and the Governor's Office of Early Childhood  
25 Development shall jointly convene a Consortium advisory

1 committee to provide guidance on the operation of the  
2 Consortium.

3 (b) Membership on the advisory committee shall be  
4 comprised of employers and experts appointed by the Board of  
5 Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, the  
6 Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, and the  
7 State Board of Education. Membership shall also include all of  
8 the following members:

9 (1) An employer from a community-based child care  
10 provider, appointed by the Governor's Office of Early  
11 Childhood Development.

12 (2) An employer from a for-profit child care provider,  
13 appointed by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood  
14 Development.

15 (3) An employer from a nonprofit child care provider,  
16 appointed by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood  
17 Development.

18 (4) A provider of family child care, appointed by the  
19 Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

20 (5) An employer located in southern Illinois,  
21 appointed by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood  
22 Development.

23 (6) An employer located in central Illinois, appointed  
24 by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

25 (7) At least one member who represents an urban school  
26 district, appointed by the State Board of Education.

1           (8) At least one member who represents a suburban  
2 school district, appointed by the State Board of  
3 Education.

4           (9) At least one member who represents a rural school  
5 district, appointed by the State Board of Education.

6           (10) At least one member who represents a school  
7 district in a city with a population of 500,000 or more,  
8 appointed by the State Board of Education.

9           (11) Two early childhood advocates with statewide  
10 expertise in early childhood workforce issues, appointed  
11 by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

12           (12) The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson and the  
13 Minority Spokesperson or a designee of the Senate  
14 Committee on Higher Education.

15           (13) The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson and the  
16 Minority Spokesperson or a designee of the House Committee  
17 on Higher Education.

18           (14) One member representing the Illinois Community  
19 College Board, who shall serve as co-chairperson,  
20 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

21           (15) One member representing the Board of Higher  
22 Education, who shall serve as co-chairperson, appointed by  
23 the Board of Higher Education.

24           (16) One member representing the Illinois Student  
25 Assistance Commission, appointed by the Illinois Student  
26 Assistance Commission ~~Board of Higher Education.~~

1           (17) One member representing the State Board of  
2 Education, who shall serve as co-chairperson, appointed by  
3 the State Board of Education.

4           (18) One member representing the Governor's Office of  
5 Early Childhood Development, who shall serve as  
6 co-chairperson, appointed by the Governor's Office of  
7 Early Childhood Development.

8           (19) One member representing the Department of Human  
9 Services, who shall serve as co-chairperson, appointed by  
10 the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

11           (20) One member representing INCCRRA, appointed by the  
12 Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

13           (21) One member representing the Department of  
14 Children and Family Services, appointed by the Governor's  
15 Office of Early Childhood Development.

16           (22) One member representing an organization that  
17 advocates on behalf of community college trustees,  
18 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

19           (23) One member of a union representing child care and  
20 early childhood providers, appointed by the Governor's  
21 Office of Early Childhood Development.

22           (24) Two members of unions representing higher  
23 education faculty, appointed by the Board of Higher  
24 Education.

25           (25) A representative from the College of Education of  
26 an urban public university, appointed by the Board of



1 Higher Education.

2 (26) A representative from the College of Education of  
3 a suburban public university, appointed by the Board of  
4 Higher Education.

5 (27) A representative from the College of Education of  
6 a rural public university, appointed by the Board of  
7 Higher Education.

8 (28) A representative from the College of Education of  
9 a private university, appointed by the Board of Higher  
10 Education.

11 (29) A representative of an urban community college,  
12 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

13 (30) A representative of a suburban community college,  
14 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

15 (31) A representative of rural community college,  
16 appointed by the Illinois Community College Board.

17 (c) The advisory committee shall meet at least twice a  
18 year ~~quarterly~~. The committee meetings shall be open to the  
19 public in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meetings  
20 Act.

21 (d) Except for the co-chairpersons of the advisory  
22 council, the initial terms for advisory committee members  
23 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 103rd  
24 General Assembly shall set by lottery at the first meeting  
25 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 103rd  
26 General Assembly as follows:

1           (1) One-third of members shall serve a 1-year term.

2           (2) One-third of members shall serve a 2-year term.

3           (3) One-third of members shall serve a 3-year term.

4           (e) The initial term of co-chairpersons of the advisory  
5 councils shall be for 3 years.

6           (f) After the initial term, each subsequent term for the  
7 members of the advisory committee shall be for 3 years or until  
8 a successor is appointed.

9           (g) The members of the advisory committee shall serve  
10 without compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement  
11 for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of  
12 their official duties as members of the advisory committee  
13 from funds appropriated for that purpose.

14         (Source: P.A. 102-174, eff. 7-28-21.)

15           (110 ILCS 28/30)

16           Sec. 30. Reporting. The Consortium shall report to the  
17 General Assembly, to the Senate and House Committees with  
18 oversight over higher education, to the Governor, and to the  
19 advisory committee on the progress made by the Consortium. A  
20 report must include, but is not limited to, all of the  
21 following information:

22           (1) Student enrollment numbers by academic year ~~for~~  
23 ~~the fall and spring terms or semesters~~, retention rates,  
24 persistence, and completion in relevant associate,  
25 baccalaureate, and credential programs, including

1 demographic data that is disaggregated by race, ethnicity,  
2 geography, higher education sector, and federal Pell Grant  
3 status, reported annually ~~twice per year.~~ Completion  
4 ~~numbers and rates, employer type, and years worked shall~~  
5 ~~be reported annually.~~

6 (2) For students enrolled in early childhood programs,  
7 average assessed tuition, average ~~Tuition rates charged~~  
8 ~~and net price, number of students receiving student loans,~~  
9 and average loan amount ~~prices paid, reported both as~~  
10 ~~including and excluding student loans, by enrolled members~~  
11 ~~of the incumbent workforce, reported annually.~~

12 (3) Outreach plans to recruit and enroll incumbent  
13 workforce members, reported annually ~~twice per year.~~

14 (4) Participation of the incumbent workforce in  
15 outreach programs, which may include participation in an  
16 informational session, social media engagement, or other  
17 activities, reported annually ~~twice per year.~~

18 (5) Student academic and holistic support plans to  
19 help the enrolled incumbent workforce persist in their  
20 education, reported annually.

21 (6) Evidence of engagement and responsiveness to the  
22 needs of employer partners, reported annually.

23 (7) The Consortium budget including the use of federal  
24 funds, reported annually.

25 (8) Member contributions, including financial,  
26 physical, or in-kind contributions, provided to the

1 Consortium, reported annually.

2 (9) Information on Early Childhood Access Consortium  
3 for Equity Scholarships awarded under the Higher Education  
4 Student Assistance Act, including demographic data that is  
5 disaggregated by race and ethnicity, federal Pell Grant  
6 eligibility status, geography, age, gender, and higher  
7 education sector, reported annually. Employer type and  
8 years worked, as provided by students via the scholarship  
9 application, reported annually. To the extent possible  
10 given available data and resources, information on  
11 scholarship recipients' subsequent employment in the early  
12 childhood care and education field in this State.

13 (Source: P.A. 102-174, eff. 7-28-21.)

14 Section 15. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is  
15 amended by adding Section 65.125 as follows:

16 (110 ILCS 947/65.125 new)

17 Sec. 65.125. Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity  
18 Scholarship Program.

19 (a) As used in this Section, "incumbent workforce" has the  
20 meaning ascribed to that term in the Early Childhood Access  
21 Consortium for Equity Act.

22 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Commission shall  
23 implement and administer an early childhood educator  
24 scholarship program, to be known as the Early Childhood Access

1 Consortium for Equity Scholarship Program. Under the Program,  
2 the Commission shall annually award scholarships to early  
3 childhood education students enrolled in institutions of  
4 higher education participating in the Early Childhood Access  
5 Consortium for Equity under the Early Childhood Access  
6 Consortium for Equity Act with preference given to members of  
7 the incumbent workforce.

8 (c) To ensure alignment with Consortium goals and changing  
9 workforce needs, the Commission shall work in partnership with  
10 the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community  
11 College Board in program design, and the Board of Higher  
12 Education and the Illinois Community College Board shall  
13 solicit feedback from the Consortium advisory committee  
14 established under Section 25 of the Early Childhood Access  
15 Consortium for Equity Act.

16 (d) In awarding a scholarship under this Section, the  
17 Commission may give preference to applicants who received a  
18 scholarship under this Section during the prior academic year,  
19 to applicants with financial need, or both.

20 (e) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for any  
21 academic year, each recipient of a scholarship awarded under  
22 this Section shall be required by the Commission to sign an  
23 agreement under which the recipient pledges to continue or  
24 return to teaching or direct services in the early childhood  
25 care and education field in this State after they complete  
26 their program of study.

1           (f) The Commission may adopt any rules necessary to  
2           implement and administer the Program.

3           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
4           becoming law.".