103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5278

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Rep. William "Will" Davis

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

745 ILCS 10/9-104	from Ch. 85, par. 9-104
745 ILCS 10/9-106	from Ch. 85, par. 9-106

Amends the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act. Provides that if a local public entity does not pay a court order or administrative agency order requiring payment to a local entity during the fiscal year it becomes final, or cannot pay a judgment, court order, or administrative agency order due to the overall revenue of the local public entity and the overall volume of operating expenses and debts, and if the payment of the judgment, court order, settlement agreement, or administrative agency order creates an unreasonable financial hardship for the local public entity, it shall pay the balance of the judgment, court order, settlement agreement, or administrative agency order in installments. Provides that a local public entity shall have the power of judicial relief to restructure the settlement agreement if the payment of the settlement agreement creates an unreasonable hardship for the local public entity. Provides that a local public entity that derives revenue for its maintenance and operation from rates and charges made for services or facilities it provides shall make rates and charges in an amount sufficient to pay all its tort judgments and settlements under the Payment of Claims and Judgment Article of the Act and its obligations under the Workers' Compensation Act, the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act, and the Unemployment Insurance Act, to the extent possible.

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AN ACT concerning civil law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Local Governmental and Governmental
Employees Tort Immunity Act is amended by changing Sections
9-104 and 9-106 as follows:

7 (745 ILCS 10/9-104) (from Ch. 85, par. 9-104)

8 Sec. 9-104. <u>Nonpayment of judgments</u>, orders, or 9 agreements; installment payments.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this Section, if a local 10 11 public entity does not pay a tort judgment, other court order, 12 or administrative agency order requiring a payment to a local 13 entity during the fiscal year in which it becomes final, or 14 cannot pay a judgment, court order, or administrative agency order under the terms ordered due to the overall revenue of the 15 16 local public entity and the overall volume of operating expenses and debts, and if, in the opinion of its governing 17 body, the payment of the judgment, court order, settlement 18 19 agreement, or administrative agency order creates an 20 unreasonable financial hardship for the local public entity, 21 it shall pay the balance of the judgment, court order, 22 settlement agreement, or administrative agency order, with interest thereon, in installments. 23

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1 (b) The court which enters judgment shall order that the 2 governing body pay the judgment, with interest thereon, in not 3 exceeding 10 annual installments if both of the following 4 conditions are satisfied:

5 (1) The governing body of the local public entity has 6 adopted an ordinance or resolution finding that an 7 unreasonable hardship will result unless the judgment is 8 paid in installments.

9 (2) The court, after hearing, has found that payment 10 of the judgment in installments as ordered by the court is 11 necessary to avoid an unreasonable hardship.

12 (c) Each installment payment shall be of an equal portion of the principal of the judgment except that where a judgment 13 14 is \$500,000 or more the court may, upon a showing by the 15 plaintiff of an extraordinary need for immediate funds in 16 order to secure medical necessities immediately after 17 judgment, including, but not limited to, equipment, supplies, medication, residence, or other items, order that unequal 18 19 payments of the principal of the judgment be made in 20 proportions to be determined by the court, but in no event shall any increase in a payment cause such payment to be 21 22 greater than 50% of the judgment. The local public entity, in 23 its discretion, may prepay any one or more installments or any 24 part of an installment.

(d) A local public entity shall have the power to enterinto a settlement agreement subject to a term not to exceed the

period of years negotiated by the parties <u>and shall have the</u> <u>power of judicial relief to restructure the settlement</u> <u>agreement if, in the opinion of the public body, the payment of</u> <u>the settlement agreement creates an unreasonable hardship for</u> <u>the local public entity</u>.

6 (Source: P.A. 84-1431.)

7 (745 ILCS 10/9-106) (from Ch. 85, par. 9-106)

8 Sec. 9-106. Use of rates and charges to pay judgments and 9 settlements. A local public entity that derives revenue for 10 its maintenance and operation from rates and charges made for 11 services or facilities it provides shall in each fiscal year 12 make rates and charges or both, or otherwise provide funds, in an amount sufficient to pay all its tort judgments and 13 14 settlements in accordance with this Article and its 15 obligations under the Workers' Compensation Act, the Workers' 16 Occupational Diseases Act, and the Unemployment Insurance Act, 17 to the extent possible.

18 (Source: P.A. 82-783.)