



Sen. Celina Villanueva

Filed: 4/5/2024

10300SB0859sam001

LRB103 03318 HLH 71783 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 859

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 859 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

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 605-1032 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-1032 new)

8 Sec. 605-1032. Office of Economic Equity and Empowerment.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Eligible not-for-profit corporation" means a
11 not-for-profit corporation, as defined in Section 101.80 of
12 the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986, that
13 primarily serves minorities, women, veterans, or persons with
14 a disability.

15 "Office" means the Office of Economic Equity and
16 Empowerment.

1 (b) The Office of Economic Equity and Empowerment is
2 hereby created within the Department. The Office shall assist
3 minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses,
4 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
5 disabilities, eligible not-for-profit corporations, and other
6 underserved communities and constituencies through targeted
7 programs, resources, and outreach and promotional activities.
8 The Office may engage in or conduct the following activities:

9 (1) promoting and conducting outreach efforts to
10 ensure access to State and federal funding opportunities,
11 and assisting minority-owned businesses, women-owned
12 businesses, veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by
13 persons with disabilities, eligible not-for-profit
14 corporations, and other underserved communities and
15 constituencies in applying for and receiving loan funds in
16 the State;

17 (2) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
18 and engaging in outreach efforts for minority-owned
19 businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned
20 businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities,
21 and other underserved communities and constituencies to
22 encourage participation in programs under the Business
23 Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with
24 Disabilities Act, and assisting those businesses in
25 becoming designated under that Act and under similar
26 certification programs;

1 (3) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
2 and engaging in outreach efforts that assist and educate
3 minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses,
4 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
5 disabilities, eligible not-for-profit corporations, and
6 other underserved communities and constituencies on the
7 process of applying for and becoming certified to apply
8 for State grant funds under the Grant Accountability and
9 Transparency Act;

10 (4) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
11 and engaging in outreach efforts that assist and educate
12 aspiring and existing minority-owned businesses,
13 women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses,
14 businesses owned by persons with disabilities, eligible
15 not-for-profit corporations, and other underserved
16 communities and constituencies with understanding concepts
17 including, but not limited to, business formation and
18 not-for-profit incorporation, business planning, capital
19 access, and marketing a business or not-for-profit
20 corporation;

21 (5) administering programs established by the
22 Department or the General Assembly to provide grants to
23 minority-owned businesses, woman-owned businesses,
24 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
25 disabilities, eligible not-for-profit corporations, and
26 other underserved communities and constituencies;

1 (6) coordinating assistance for minority-owned
2 businesses, woman-owned businesses, veteran-owned
3 businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities,
4 eligible not-for-profit corporations, and other
5 underserved communities and constituencies with other
6 State agencies;

7 (7) providing staff, administration, and related
8 support required to administer this Section; and

9 (8) establishing applications, notifications,
10 contracts, and other forms and procedures, and adopting
11 rules deemed necessary and appropriate.

12 (c) The Office may use vendors or enter into contracts to
13 carry out the purposes of this Section."