



Sen. Ram Villivalam

Filed: 4/3/2024

10300SB0861sam001

LRB103 03320 KTG 71621 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 861

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 861 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. This Act may be referred to as the Illinois
5 Guaranteed Income Law.

6 Section 3. Findings and declaration of policy. The General
7 Assembly finds, determines, and declares the following:

8 (1) All people deserve to live with dignity and have
9 their basic needs met.

10 (2) Elimination of deep poverty in the State of
11 Illinois is attainable and long overdue. While maximizing
12 the potential of existing economic security programs is
13 crucial, these programs alone are inadequate, given the
14 number of Illinoisans living in deep poverty. To build
15 upon our existing safety net, direct cash assistance
16 programs, such as a guaranteed income, are needed to

1 improve the well-being and economic stability of families.

2 (3) Guaranteed income refers to periodic,
3 unconditional cash payments directly to individuals. A
4 guaranteed income is not universal and is meant to
5 prioritize cash based on need.

6 (4) The City of Chicago, City of Evanston, and Cook
7 County have successfully conducted guaranteed income
8 pilots. These programs have demonstrated the power of cash
9 in improving outcomes for households in need, and provided
10 valuable insights into the potential benefits of a
11 guaranteed income.

12 (5) Guaranteed income programs both in Illinois and
13 across the country have been effective in improving
14 outcomes including, but not limited to, those related to
15 physical and mental health, nutrition, employment, housing
16 stability, financial stability, and many others, while
17 also reducing involvement in the child welfare and
18 criminal legal systems.

19 (6) Guaranteed income programs have shown a remarkable
20 capacity to support caregivers in our communities,
21 including caregivers for children, elderly parents, the
22 disabled, and those supporting formerly incarcerated
23 individuals, acknowledging the often overlooked but vital
24 role these caregivers play in the well-being of our
25 society.

26 (7) Guaranteed income not only supports people

1 struggling to meet their basic needs but also provides
2 crucial stability for every Illinoisan when confronted
3 with unexpected, challenging, and increasing frequent
4 financial costs, ensuring economic resilience for all.

5 (8) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision, as conveyed
6 in his last book, "Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or
7 Community?", should guide our approach to addressing
8 poverty. His famous declaration that "the solution to
9 poverty is to abolish it directly by a now widely
10 discussed measure: the guaranteed income" should serve as
11 a source of inspiration for our actions.

12 (9) Recent mothers and new parents face numerous
13 hardships. During the most critical time in a baby's life,
14 the State should provide its full support, recognizing the
15 importance of nurturing the next generation and fostering
16 a strong foundation for Illinois families.

17 (10) Caregivers come from every community, whether
18 rural or urban, migrant or resident, and their dedication
19 and sacrifices deserve our utmost respect and
20 acknowledgment, as they play a central role in creating
21 thriving and interconnected communities.

22 (11) The State of Illinois remains committed to
23 exploring innovative and effective ways to address
24 poverty.

25 Section 5. The Department of Human Services Act is amended

1 by adding Section 10-80 as follows:

2 (20 ILCS 1305/10-80 new)

3 Sec. 10-80. Guaranteed Income Task Force.

4 (a) As used in this Section:

5 "Task Force" means the Guaranteed Income Task Force.

6 "Guaranteed income" means periodic, unconditional cash
7 payments directly to individuals. A guaranteed income is not
8 universal and is meant to prioritize cash based on need.

9 "SNAP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
10 Program.

11 "TANF" means the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
12 program established under Article IV of the Illinois Public
13 Aid Code.

14 (b) The Guaranteed Income Task Force is established within
15 the Department of Human Services to:

16 (1) evaluate the efficacy of guaranteed income -
17 unconditional periodic direct cash payments - in improving
18 outcomes for Illinois residents;

19 (2) propose statewide policies to create and implement
20 one or more permanent guaranteed income programs; and

21 (3) provide oversight related to the implementation of
22 any guaranteed income program enacted by the General
23 Assembly.

24 (c) Members. The Task Force must consist of the following
25 members:

1 (1) one member of the House of Representatives,
2 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
3 who must serve as co-chair;

4 (2) one member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate
5 President, who must serve as co-chair;

6 (3) one member of the House of Representatives,
7 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
8 Representatives;

9 (4) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
10 Minority Leader of the Senate;

11 (5) one member appointed by the Governor;

12 (6) the Secretary of Human Services, or the
13 Secretary's designee;

14 (7) the Director of Healthcare and Family Services, or
15 the Director's designee;

16 (8) two members of the community who have received, or
17 are currently receiving, cash through a guaranteed income
18 pilot or demonstration program in Illinois, including, but
19 not limited to, the Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot,
20 the Cook County Promise Guaranteed Income Pilot, the
21 Evanston Guaranteed Income Pilot, the Chicago Future Fund,
22 or any other privately funded guaranteed income pilot,
23 demonstration, or program for Illinois residents;

24 (9) two members whose professional experience includes
25 advocacy related to guaranteed income or other direct cash
26 supports;

1 (10) two members whose professional experience
2 includes administering guaranteed income pilots or other
3 direct cash supports; and

4 (11) two members from community-based organizations
5 who advocate on behalf of and alongside communities that
6 often lack access to cash supports.

7 (d) Appointments to the Task Force must be complete by
8 December 1, 2024. Members of the Task Force shall serve
9 without compensation.

10 (e) The Task Force must meet at the call of the co-chairs
11 no less than 6 times a year with the first meeting to be held
12 no later than 30 days after all members of the Task Force have
13 been appointed.

14 (f) The Task Force must complete all of the following
15 tasks:

16 (1) Evaluate the efficacy of guaranteed income in
17 improving outcomes for Illinois residents, including, but
18 not limited to, outcomes related to public health,
19 nutrition, housing, education, employment, interaction
20 with the criminal legal system, interaction with the child
21 welfare system, public safety, economic indicators, and
22 economic stability.

23 (2) Review the landscape of cash supports available to
24 low-income residents of Illinois, identify populations
25 without significant access to cash supports, and delineate
26 the current state of cash supports available in Illinois

1 including, but not limited to, one-time payment programs,
2 restricted basic assistance programs, and other
3 income-based programming such as SNAP, TANF, and other
4 State-administered assistance programs.

5 (3) Evaluate the effectiveness of outreach activities
6 for cash supports in Illinois.

7 (4) Submit a report to the General Assembly and the
8 Governor by December 31, 2026 that evaluates the efficacy
9 of guaranteed income in improving outcomes for Illinois
10 residents as described in paragraph (1). The report shall
11 also include all of the following:

12 (A) Recommendations for one or more permanent
13 guaranteed income programs including, eligibility
14 guidelines, program rules, the amount of cash provided
15 through the program, and the length of time assistance
16 should be provided.

17 (B) An analysis of the costs and benefits of each
18 program recommended in the report.

19 (C) An analysis of potential sources of funding
20 for each program.

21 (D) Recommendations to minimize administrative
22 burdens and eliminate barriers to access for program
23 applicants.

24 (E) Input from community partners, including
25 recipients of guaranteed income pilots or Illinois
26 residents who would be eligible to receive guaranteed

1 income payments through each program recommended in
2 the report.

3 (F) An analysis and set of recommendations to the
4 General Assembly to improve or otherwise expand upon
5 the State's current cash-based programming as
6 described in paragraph (2).

7 (g) In addition to the mandatory tasks included in
8 subsection (f), the Task Force may engage in any other
9 activity that will advance the creation and implementation of
10 permanent guaranteed income programs in the State.

11 (h) Deadline. The Task Force must complete all mandatory
12 activities as set forth in subsection (f) and all additional
13 activities under subsection (g) by December 31, 2026.

14 (i) Committees. The Task Force may establish subcommittees
15 to address specific aspects of its duties. Subcommittees may
16 collaborate with individuals with relevant expertise who are
17 not members of the Task Force to assist the subcommittee in
18 carrying out its duties.

19 (j) The Department of Human Services shall provide staff
20 and administrative support to the Task Force.

21 (k) All Task Force meetings are subject to the Open
22 Meetings Act.

23 (l) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to
24 contravene any federal or State law or regulation. Unless
25 specifically referenced in this Section, nothing in this
26 Section shall affect or alter the existing statutory powers of

1 any State agency or be construed as a reassignment or
2 reorganization of any State agency.

3 (m) The Task Force is dissolved, and this Section is
4 repealed, on December 31, 2027.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.".