



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB3805

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Sen. Celina Villanueva

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 605/605-1032 new

Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law. Creates the Office of Economic Equity and Empowerment. Provides that the Office shall assist minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and other underserved communities and constituencies through targeted programs, resources, and outreach and promotional activities. Provides that the Office may engage in or conduct promoting and conducting outreach efforts to ensure access to State and federal funding opportunities, and assisting minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, and businesses owned by persons with disabilities and other underserved communities and constituencies in applying for and receiving loan funds in the State. Provides that the Office may engage in other specified workshops, public forums, and other functions that assist minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and other underserved communities and constituencies.

LRB103 38461 MXP 68597 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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 605-1032 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 "Office" means the Office of Economic Equity and
11 Empowerment.

12 (b) The Office of Economic Equity and Empowerment is
13 hereby created within the Department. The Office shall assist
14 minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses,
15 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
16 disabilities, and other underserved communities and
17 constituencies through targeted programs, resources, and
18 outreach and promotional activities. The Office may engage in
19 or conduct the following activities:

20 (1) promoting and conducting outreach efforts to
21 ensure access to State and federal funding opportunities,
22 and assisting minority-owned businesses, women-owned
23 businesses, veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by

1 persons with disabilities, and other underserved
2 communities and constituencies in applying for and
3 receiving loan funds in the State;

4 (2) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
5 and engaging in outreach efforts for minority-owned
6 businesses, women-owned businesses, veteran-owned
7 businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities,
8 and other underserved communities and constituencies to
9 encourage participation in programs under the Business
10 Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with
11 Disabilities Act, and assisting those businesses in
12 becoming designated under that Act and under similar
13 certification programs;

14 (3) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
15 and engaging in outreach efforts that assist and educate
16 minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses,
17 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
18 disabilities, and other underserved communities and
19 constituencies on the process of applying for and becoming
20 certified to apply for State grant funds under the Grant
21 Accountability and Transparency Act;

22 (4) providing and hosting workshops and public forums
23 and engaging in outreach efforts that assist and educate
24 aspiring and existing minority-owned businesses,
25 women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses,
26 businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and other

1 underserved communities and constituencies with
2 understanding concepts such as, but not limited to,
3 business formation, business planning, capital access, and
4 marketing a business;

5 (5) administering programs established by the
6 Department or the General Assembly to provide grants to
7 minority-owned businesses, woman-owned businesses,
8 veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with
9 disabilities, and other underserved communities and
10 constituencies;

11 (6) coordinating assistance for minority-owned
12 businesses, woman-owned businesses, veteran-owned
13 businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities,
14 and other underserved communities and constituencies with
15 other State agencies;

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

18 (8) establishing applications, notifications,
19 contracts, and other forms and procedures, and adopting
20 rules deemed necessary and appropriate.

21 (c) The Office may use vendors or contract work to carry
22 out the purposes of this Act.