

Judiciary I - Civil Law Committee

Filed: 2/15/2006

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	09400HB4829ham001 LRB094 16490 WGH 55823 a
1	AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4829
2	AMENDMENT NO Amend House Bill 4829 by replacing
3	everything after the enacting clause with the following:
4	"Section 5. The Illinois Human Rights Act is amended by
5	changing Section 7B-102 as follows:
6	(775 ILCS 5/7B-102) (from Ch. 68, par. 7B-102)
7	Sec. 7B-102. Procedures.
8	(A) Charge.
9	(1) Within one year after the date that a civil rights
10	violation allegedly has been committed or terminated, a
11	charge in writing under oath or affirmation may be filed
12	with the Department by an aggrieved party or issued by the
13	Department itself under the signature of the Director.
14	(2) The charge shall be in such detail as to
15	substantially apprise any party properly concerned as to
16	the time, place, and facts surrounding the alleged civil
17	rights violation.
18	(B) Notice and Response to Charge.
19	(1) The Department shall serve notice upon the
20	aggrieved party acknowledging such charge and advising the
21	aggrieved party of the time limits and choice of forums

provided under this Act. The Department shall, within 10

days of the date on which the charge was filed or the

identification of an additional respondent under paragraph

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(2) of this subsection, serve on the respondent a copy of the charge along with a notice identifying the alleged civil rights violation and advising the respondent of the procedural rights and obligations of respondents under this Act and shall require the respondent to file a verified response to the allegations contained in the charge within 30 days. The respondent shall serve a copy of its response on the complainant or his representative. All allegations contained in the charge not timely denied by respondent shall be deemed admitted, unless the respondent states that it is without sufficient information to form a belief with respect to such allegation. The Department may issue a notice of default directed to any respondent who fails to file a verified response to a charge within 30 days of the date on which the charge was filed, unless the respondent can demonstrate good cause as to why such notice should not issue. The term "good cause" shall be defined by rule promulgated by the Department. Within 10 days of the date he receives the respondent's response, the complainant may file his reply to said response. If he chooses to file a reply, the complainant shall serve a copy of said reply on respondent or his representative. A party shall have the right to supplement his response or reply at any time that the investigation of the charge is pending.

(2) A person who is not named as a respondent in a charge, but who is identified as a respondent in the course of investigation, may be joined as an additional or substitute respondent upon written notice, under subsection (B), to such person, from the Department. Such notice, in addition to meeting the requirements of subsections (A) and (B), shall explain the basis for the Department's belief that a person to whom the notice is addressed is properly joined as a respondent.

- (C) Investigation.
 - (1) The Department shall conduct a full investigation of the allegations set forth in the charge and complete such investigation within 100 days after the filing of the charge, unless it is impracticable to do so. The Department's failure to complete the investigation within 100 days after the proper filing of the charge does not deprive the Department of jurisdiction over the charge.
 - (2) If the Department is unable to complete the investigation within 100 days after the charge is filed, the Department shall notify the complainant and respondent in writing of the reasons for not doing so.
 - (3) The Director or his or her designated representative shall have authority to request any member of the Commission to issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of a witness or the production for examination of any books, records or documents whatsoever.
 - (4) If any witness whose testimony is required for any investigation resides outside the State, or through illness or any other good cause as determined by the Director is unable to be interviewed by the investigator or appear at a fact finding conference, his or her testimony or deposition may be taken, within or without the State, in the same manner as provided for in the taking of depositions in civil cases in circuit courts.
 - (5) Upon reasonable notice to the complainant and the respondent, the Department shall conduct a fact finding conference, unless prior to 100 days from the date on which the charge was filed, the Director has determined whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed. A party's failure to attend the conference without good cause may result in dismissal or default. A notice of dismissal or default shall be issued by the Director and shall notify the relevant party

that a request for review may be filed in writing with the Chief Legal Counsel of the Department within 30 days of receipt of notice of dismissal or default.

(D) Report.

(1) Each investigated charge shall be the subject of a report to the Director. The report shall be a confidential document subject to review by the Director, authorized Department employees, the parties, and, where indicated by this Act, members of the Commission or their designated hearing officers.

The report shall contain:

- (a) the names and dates of contacts with witnesses;
- (b) a summary and the date of correspondence and other contacts with the aggrieved party and the respondent;
- (c) a summary description of other pertinent
 records;
 - (d) a summary of witness statements; and
 - (e) answers to questionnaires.

A final report under this paragraph may be amended if additional evidence is later discovered.

- (2) Upon review of the report and within 100 days of the filing of the charge, unless it is impracticable to do so, the Director shall determine whether there is substantial evidence that the alleged civil rights violation has been committed or is about to be committed. If the Director is unable to make the determination within 100 days after the filing of the charge, the Director shall notify the complainant and respondent in writing of the reasons for not doing so. The Director's failure to make the determination within 100 days after the proper filing of the charge does not deprive the Department of jurisdiction over the charge.
 - (a) If the Director determines that there is no

substantial evidence, the charge shall be dismissed and the aggrieved party notified that he or she may seek review of the dismissal order before the Commission. The aggrieved party shall have 30 days from receipt of notice to file a request for review by the Chief Legal Counsel of the Department. The Director shall make public disclosure of each such dismissal.

- (b) If the Director determines that there is substantial evidence, he or she shall immediately issue a complaint on behalf of the aggrieved party pursuant to subsection (F).
- (E) Conciliation.
- (1) During the period beginning with the filing of charge and ending with the filing of a complaint or a dismissal by the Department, the Department shall, to the extent feasible, engage in conciliation with respect to such charge.

When the Department determines that a formal conciliation conference is feasible, the aggrieved party and respondent shall be notified of the time and place of the conference by registered or certified mail at least 7 days prior thereto and either or both parties shall appear at the conference in person or by attorney.

- (2) The place fixed for the conference shall be within 35 miles of the place where the civil rights violation is alleged to have been committed.
- (3) Nothing occurring at the conference shall be made public or used as evidence in a subsequent proceeding for the purpose of proving a violation under this Act unless the complainant and respondent agree in writing that such disclosure be made.
- (4) A conciliation agreement arising out of such conciliation shall be an agreement between the respondent and the complainant, and shall be subject to approval by

1 the Department and Commission.

- (5) A conciliation agreement may provide for binding arbitration of the dispute arising from the charge. Any such arbitration that results from a conciliation agreement may award appropriate relief, including monetary relief.
- (6) Each conciliation agreement shall be made public unless the complainant and respondent otherwise agree and the Department determines that disclosure is not required to further the purpose of this Act.

(F) Complaint.

- (1) When there is a failure to settle or adjust any charge through a conciliation conference and the charge is not dismissed, the Department shall prepare a written complaint, under oath or affirmation, stating the nature of the civil rights violation and the relief sought on behalf of the aggrieved party. Such complaint shall be based on the final investigation report and need not be limited to the facts or grounds alleged in the charge filed under subsection (A).
 - (2) The complaint shall be filed with the Commission.
- (3) The Department may not issue a complaint under this Section regarding an alleged civil rights violation after the beginning of the trial of a civil action commenced by the aggrieved party under any State or federal law, seeking relief with respect to that alleged civil rights violation.

(G) Time Limit.

(1) When a charge of a civil rights violation has been properly filed, the Department, within 100 days thereof, unless it is impracticable to do so, shall either issue and file a complaint in the manner and form set forth in this Section or shall order that no complaint be issued. Any such order shall be duly served upon both the aggrieved party and the respondent. The Department's failure to

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- (2) The Director shall make available to the aggrieved party and the respondent, at any time, upon request following completion of the Department's investigation, information derived from an investigation and any final investigative report relating to that investigation.
- 10 (H) This amendatory Act of 1995 applies to causes of action filed on or after January 1, 1996. 11
- (Source: P.A. 94-326, eff. 7-26-05.) 12
- Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 13 becoming law.". 14