

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

4 Section 5. The Metro-East Park and Recreation District Act  
5 is amended by changing Sections 5, 10, and 20 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 1605/5)

7 Sec. 5. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Board" means the board of directors of the Metro-East Park  
9 and Recreation District.

10 "Chief executive officer" means the chairman of the county  
11 board of a county.

12 "County" means Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Clinton, ~~or~~  
13 Jersey, or Macoupin County.

14 "District" or "Metro-East District" means the Metro-East  
15 Park and Recreation District created under this Act.

16 "Governing body" means a county board.

17 "Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund" means the fund held  
18 by the District that is the repository for all taxes and other  
19 moneys raised by or for the District under this Act.

20 "Metro-East region" means Madison, St. Clair, Monroe,  
21 Clinton, Macoupin, and Jersey Counties.

22 "Park district" means a park district organized under the  
23 Park District Code.

1 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

2 (70 ILCS 1605/10)

3 Sec. 10. Creation of Metro-East Park and Recreation  
4 District.

5 (a) The Metro-East Park and Recreation District may be  
6 created, incorporated, and managed under this Section and may  
7 exercise the powers given to the District under this Act. Any  
8 county may be included in the Metro-East District if the voters  
9 in the county or counties to be included in the District vote  
10 to be included in the District. Any recreation system or public  
11 parks system that exists within the Metro-East District created  
12 under this Section shall remain in existence with the same  
13 powers and responsibilities it had prior to the creation of the  
14 Metro-East District. Nothing in this Section shall be construed  
15 in any manner to limit or prohibit:

16 (1) later establishment or cessation of any park or  
17 recreation system provided for by law; or

18 (2) any powers and responsibilities of any park or  
19 recreation system provided for by law.

20 (b) When the Metro-East District is organized, it shall be  
21 a body corporate and a political subdivision of this State, and  
22 the District shall be known as the "Metro-East Park and  
23 Recreation District", and in that name may sue and be sued,  
24 issue general revenue bonds, and impose and collect taxes or  
25 fees under this Act.

1 (c) The Metro-East District shall have as its primary duty  
2 the development, operation, and maintenance of a public system  
3 of interconnecting trails and parks throughout the counties  
4 comprising the District. The Metro-East District shall  
5 supplement but shall not substitute for the powers and  
6 responsibilities of the other parks and recreation systems  
7 within the Metro-East District and shall have the power to  
8 contract with the State of Illinois, the United States  
9 government, and other parks and recreation systems as well as  
10 with the departments or agencies of any of those governmental  
11 bodies and with other public and private entities.

12 (d) All counties and communities comprising the Metro-East  
13 Park and Recreation District shall make available upon written  
14 request from the District, at no cost to the District, any and  
15 all technical information and data necessary for the  
16 implementation of the District's goals.

17 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

18 (70 ILCS 1605/20)

19 Sec. 20. Board of directors.

20 (a) If the Metro-East District is created by only one  
21 county, the District shall be managed by a board of directors  
22 consisting of 3 members. Two members shall be appointed by the  
23 chief executive officer, with the advice and consent of the  
24 county board, of the county in which the District is located,  
25 and one member shall be appointed by the minority members of

1 the county board with the advice and consent of the county  
2 board. The first appointment shall be made within 90 days and  
3 not sooner than 60 days after the District has been organized.  
4 Each member of the board so appointed shall be a legal voter in  
5 the District. The first directors shall be appointed to hold  
6 office for terms of one, 2, and 3 years, and until June 30  
7 thereafter, respectively, as determined by lot. Thereafter,  
8 successors shall be appointed in the same manner no later than  
9 the first day of the month in which the term of a director  
10 expires. All terms expire if another county joins the District.

11 A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of term  
12 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

13 (b) If the Metro-East District is created by more than one  
14 county, each county that elects to join the District shall be  
15 represented by a certain number of board members. The board  
16 members shall be distributed from the counties electing to join  
17 the District as follows:

18 (1) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
19 consent of the county board, of St. Clair county shall  
20 appoint 2 members and the minority members of the county  
21 board, with the advice and consent of the county board,  
22 shall appoint one member.

23 (2) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
24 consent of the county board, of Madison County shall  
25 appoint 2 members and the minority members of the county  
26 board, with the advice and consent of the county board,

1 shall appoint one member.

2 (3) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
3 consent of the county board, of Clinton County shall  
4 appoint one member.

5 (4) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
6 consent of the county board, of Jersey County shall appoint  
7 one member.

8 (5) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
9 consent of the county board, of Monroe County shall appoint  
10 one member.

11 (6) The chief executive officer, with the advice and  
12 consent of the county board, of Macoupin County shall  
13 appoint one member.

14 The board members shall serve 3-year terms, except that  
15 board members first appointed shall be appointed to serve terms  
16 of one, 2, or 3 years as determined by lot, provided that board  
17 members from counties eligible to appoint more than one member  
18 may not serve identical initial terms. On the expiration of the  
19 initial terms of appointment and on the expiration of any  
20 subsequent term, the resulting vacancy shall be filled in the  
21 same manner as the original appointment. Board members shall  
22 serve until their successors are appointed. Board members are  
23 eligible for reappointment.

24 (c) No board member may hold a public office in any county  
25 within the Metro-East District, other than the office of notary  
26 public. Board members must be citizens of the United States and

1 they must reside within the county from which they are  
2 appointed. No board member may receive compensation for  
3 performance of duties as a board member. No board member may be  
4 financially interested directly or indirectly in any contract  
5 entered into under this Act.

6 (d) Promptly after their appointment, the initial board  
7 members shall hold an organizational meeting at which they  
8 shall elect a president and any other officers that they deem  
9 necessary from among their number. The members shall make and  
10 adopt any bylaws, rules, and regulations for their guidance and  
11 for the government of the parks, neighborhood trails, and  
12 recreational grounds and facilities that may be expedient and  
13 not inconsistent with this Act.

14 (e) Board members shall have the exclusive control of the  
15 expenditures of all money collected to the credit of the  
16 Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund created pursuant to Section  
17 35, and of the supervision, improvement, care, and custody of  
18 public parks, neighborhood trails, recreational facilities,  
19 and grounds owned, maintained, or managed by the Metro-East  
20 District. All moneys received for those purposes shall be  
21 deposited in the Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund. The board  
22 shall have power to purchase or otherwise secure ground to be  
23 used for parks, neighborhood trails, recreational facilities,  
24 and grounds; shall have power to appoint suitable persons to  
25 maintain the parks, neighborhood trails, recreational grounds,  
26 and facilities and to administer recreational programs and to

1 fix their compensation; and shall have power to remove those  
2 appointees. The board shall keep accurate records of all its  
3 proceedings and actions and shall comply with the provisions of  
4 the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

5 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

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