



Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia

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LRB099 04448 SXM 33699 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 642

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 642 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Women's Business Ownership Act of 2015.

6 Section 5. Women's Business Ownership Council. The Women's
7 Business Ownership Council is created within the Department of
8 Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The Council shall consist of
9 9 members, with 5 persons appointed by the Governor, one of
10 whom shall be the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
11 or his or her designee, one person appointed by the President
12 of the Senate, one person appointed by the Minority Leader of
13 the Senate, one person appointed by the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives, and one person appointed by the Minority
15 Leader of the House of Representatives.

16 Appointed members shall be uniquely qualified by

1 education, professional knowledge, or experience to serve on
2 the Council and shall reflect the ethnic, cultural, and
3 geographic diversity of the State. Of the 9 members, at least 5
4 shall be women business owners. As used this Act, "woman
5 business owner" means a woman who is either:

6 (1) the principal of a company or business concern, at
7 least 51% of which is owned, operated, and controlled by
8 women; or

9 (2) a senior officer or director of a company or
10 business concern who also has either:

11 (A) material responsibility for the daily
12 operations and management of the overall company or
13 business concern; or

14 (B) material responsibility for the policy making
15 of the company or business concern.

16 Of the initial appointments, members shall be randomly
17 assigned to staggered terms; 3 members shall be appointed for a
18 term of 3 years, 3 members shall be appointed for a term of 2
19 years, and 3 members shall be appointed for a term of one year.
20 Upon the expiration of each member's term, a successor shall be
21 appointed for a term of 3 years. In the case of a vacancy in the
22 office of any member, a successor shall be appointed for the
23 remainder of the unexpired term by the person designated as
24 responsible for making the appointment. No member shall serve
25 more than 3 consecutive terms. Members shall serve without
26 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in

1 connection with the performance of their duties as members.

2 One of the members shall be designated as Chairperson by
3 the Governor. In the event the Governor does not appoint the
4 Chairperson within 60 days after the effective date of this
5 Act, the Council shall convene and elect a Chairperson by a
6 simple majority vote. Upon a vacancy in the position of
7 Chairperson, the Governor shall have 30 days from the date of
8 the resignation to appoint a new Chairperson. In the event the
9 Governor does not appoint a new Chairperson within 30 days, the
10 Council shall convene and elect a new Chairperson by a simple
11 majority vote.

12 The first meeting of the Council shall be held within 90
13 days after the effective date of this Act. The Council shall
14 meet quarterly and may hold other meetings on the call of the
15 Chairperson. Five members shall constitute a quorum. The
16 Council may adopt rules it deems necessary to govern its own
17 procedures. The Department of Commerce and Economic
18 Opportunity shall cooperate with the Council to fulfill the
19 purposes of this Act and shall provide the Council with
20 necessary staff and administrative support. The Council may
21 apply for grants from the public and private sector and is
22 authorized to accept grants, gifts, and donations, which shall
23 be deposited into the Women's Business Ownership Fund.

24 Section 10. Duties and responsibilities of the Council.

25 (a) The Council shall conduct hearings, as necessary, and

1 issue an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly
2 regarding the status of women business owners within the State.
3 In that regard, the Council shall review the following:

4 (1) The status of women-owned businesses statewide,
5 including progress made and barriers that remain, in order
6 to assist these businesses to enter the mainstream of the
7 Illinois economy.

8 (2) The role of State and local government in assisting
9 and promoting aid to, and the promotion of, women-owned
10 businesses.

11 (3) Data collected by private and public sector
12 entities relating to women-owned businesses.

13 (4) Any other government initiatives that may exist
14 relating to women-owned businesses, including but not
15 limited to those relating to State and local procurement.

16 (b) The Council shall recommend to the Governor and the
17 General Assembly, on an annual basis, all of the following:

18 (1) New private sector initiatives that would provide
19 management and technical assistance to women-owned
20 businesses.

21 (2) Ways to promote greater access to public and
22 private sector financing and procurement opportunities for
23 these businesses.

24 (3) Detailed multi-year plans of action, with specific
25 goals and timetables, for both public and private sector
26 actions needed to overcome discriminatory barriers to full

1 participation in the economic mainstream.

2 (c) The Council may hold hearings, take testimony, and
3 request information from State agencies.

4 Section 15. The Women's Business Ownership Fund. The
5 Women's Business Ownership Fund is created as a special fund in
6 the State treasury. The Fund shall consist of all public and
7 private moneys donated to further the work of the Council under
8 this Act. All moneys deposited into the Fund shall be subject
9 to appropriation by the General Assembly.

10 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
11 Section 5.866 as follows:

12 (30 ILCS 105/5.866 new)

13 Sec. 5.866. The Women's Business Ownership Fund.

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
15 becoming law."