



HB 140 – SINGLE PORTAL FILING FOR CHARITIES REP. ANN WILLIAMS

HB 140 allows the Illinois Attorney General’s Office to participate in the development of a single online filing portal that will make it easier for charities to comply with registration and annual filing requirements nationwide.

Specifically, HB 140 allows the Illinois Attorney General’s Office to become a member of the Multistate Registration and Filing Portal, Inc. (MRFP), an independent tax-exempt nonprofit corporation formed to develop and operate the multistate single portal (Single Portal) being developed by the National Association of State Charities Officials (NASCO) with the support of the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG).

There are thirteen states in the Single Portal pilot program. Eleven of the pilot states (California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire and Tennessee) are currently members of MRFP. Illinois and Alaska are not yet members of MRFP.

Membership in MRFP will enable Illinois to continue to participate in the pilot program and have a voice in the development of the Single Portal, but it will not obligate us to use the portal if the ultimate product does not serve our needs. The Single Portal will also allow a state like Illinois to integrate its own application with the portal, allowing it to maintain its own database of its state’s registrations.

The benefits of a Single Portal include:

- **Efficiency**: The Single Portal will help streamline charitable registrations and annual filings nationwide. It will enable population of data fields from electronically filed Federal Forms 990, maximizing efficiency and avoiding duplication or reentry of data provided to government sources.
 - Multistate registrants will realize reduced administrative costs and inefficiencies in complying with 39 states’ different registration requirements, allowing more resources to be devoted to charitable mission.
 - Single state filers will avoid the inconvenience and uncertainty of paper filings.
- **Transparency**: The Single Portal will also increase transparency because the data will be searchable online. The collected data will be available to the public in a searchable and interactive format. The public can use the information to make more informed charitable giving decisions.

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