

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The Public Community College Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 3-65 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 805/3-65 new)

7 Sec. 3-65. Harper College pilot baccalaureate program. The  
8 Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 may  
9 establish and offer a pilot program under which the district  
10 may offer bachelor's degrees in 2 fields of study if all of the  
11 following conditions are met:

12 (1) The public universities in this State have the  
13 right of first refusal to offer the Bachelor of Applied  
14 Science Degree programs on the community college campus or  
15 a community college extension site in a manner that is  
16 mutually agreeable between the district and the  
17 university. If there is a disagreement on whether the  
18 university program meets local workforce needs, a 5-person  
19 panel shall be appointed to determine if the university's  
20 proposed program on the community college campus or  
21 extension site reasonably meets local workforce needs. Two  
22 members of the panel shall be from local employers  
23 representing the applicable field of study, appointed by

1 the Board of Trustees of Community College District No.  
2 512. Two members of the panel shall be university officials  
3 with expertise in the applicable field of study, appointed  
4 by the board of trustees of the university submitting the  
5 program proposal. One member shall be a Community College  
6 District No. 512 official with expertise in the applicable  
7 field of study, appointed by the Board of Trustees of  
8 Community College District No. 512. Community College  
9 District No. 512 may only proceed with the pilot program if  
10 a majority of the panel rules that the university's  
11 proposed program on Community College District No. 512's  
12 campus or extension site does not reasonably meet local  
13 workforce needs.

14 (2) The Board of Trustees has determined that it has  
15 the expertise, resources, and interest to offer quality  
16 Bachelor of Applied Science Degree programs and the  
17 programs are consistent with existing board policy.

18 (3) The district has identified and documented unmet  
19 workforce needs.

20 (4) The degree programs will not compete with any  
21 nearby public university.

22 (5) The degree programs will not require any additional  
23 funding from local taxes, the State, or Community College  
24 District No. 512 students not enrolled in the pilot  
25 program. At the completion of the Community College  
26 District No. 512 pilot program, an independent audit must

1 be conducted to determine if any of the funding for the  
2 pilot program was provided by local taxes, the State, or  
3 the community college students not enrolled in the program.

4 (6) The Board of Higher Education has approved the  
5 offering of the degree programs in a manner consistent with  
6 approving new bachelor's degree programs at all State  
7 public universities.

8 (7) The pilot program will expire 4 years after the  
9 initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise  
10 extended by law.

11 The intention of this Section is to allow Community College  
12 District No. 512 to meet specific, documented workforce needs  
13 in the district. Community College District No. 512 is  
14 prohibited from becoming a primarily baccalaureate  
15 degree-granting, 4-year institution of higher learning.

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
17 2009.