

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 WHEREAS, Many of the local governmental units in the State  
3 of Illinois were established under provisions of the Illinois  
4 Constitution of 1870; and

5 WHEREAS, There have been rapid changes in the population of  
6 Illinois in numbers, in concentration, and in movement, as well  
7 as vast economic, social, and technological changes, that  
8 strain the ability of Illinois local governments adequately to  
9 furnish necessary services; and

10 WHEREAS, Illinois local governments were conceived to  
11 serve a rural society; in areas not experiencing the impact of  
12 modern changes, they may be adequate, but in areas of great  
13 change, notably the urban areas, they are not sufficiently  
14 flexible, do not have adequate powers and financing, and are  
15 not responsive to present-day needs in transportation, health,  
16 water supply, water pollution, air pollution, recreation,  
17 disposal of sewage, and disposal of refuse; and

18 WHEREAS, The inadequacies in Illinois local governments  
19 have resulted in the creation of numerous functional local  
20 governments all competing for financial and jurisdictional  
21 support from the same area; therefore,

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

1           Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Local  
2 Government Consolidation Commission Act of 2011.

3           Section 5. Commission; creation; members. There is created  
4 a Local Government Consolidation Commission, to consist of 17  
5 members, 3 to be members of the Senate appointed by the  
6 President of the Senate, 3 to be members of the Senate  
7 appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, 3 to be members of the  
8 House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House,  
9 3 to be members of the House of Representatives appointed by  
10 the House Minority Leader, and 5 to be citizens of the State  
11 appointed by the Governor as follows:

12           (1) one member selected from recommendations provided by an  
13 association representing counties;

14           (2) one member selected from recommendations provided by an  
15 association representing municipalities;

16           (3) one member selected from recommendations provided by an  
17 association representing townships;

18           (4) one member selected from recommendations provided by an  
19 association representing park districts; and

20           (5) one member who serves as an elected officer of a local  
21 governmental entity in Illinois other than a county,  
22 municipality, township, or park district.

23           Section 10. Study; recommendations. The Commission shall  
24 make a survey of the entire structure of local governments and

1 of their organization, powers, jurisdiction, and functions.  
2 Among other things, and without limiting its activities, the  
3 Commission shall:

4 (1) Study all laws governing the organization, powers,  
5 jurisdiction, and functions of local governments.

6 (2) Study the inter-relationships of local governments to  
7 each other and to federal and State governments.

8 (3) Formulate specific recommendations for legislation or  
9 constitutional amendments to (i) permit effective management  
10 of local affairs, (ii) encourage local policy decision making,  
11 (iii) reduce the multiplicity of local governments, (iv)  
12 eliminate overlapping and duplicating of unnecessary powers,  
13 (v) increase efficiency and economy in local governments, and  
14 (vi) allow optional forms of local governments and increase  
15 their authority for cooperation among the levels of government.

16 Section 15. Meetings; officers. The members of the  
17 Commission shall meet and the Commission shall be organized  
18 within 90 days after the effective date of this Act, and shall  
19 at that time elect a chair from among the members. The  
20 Commission may adopt its own rules of procedure. The Commission  
21 may employ or use the services of specialists in public  
22 administration and governmental management and any other  
23 trained consultants, analysts, investigators, and assistants  
24 it may consider necessary, on either a full-time or a part-time  
25 basis. The Commission shall fix the compensation for any paid

1 employees, which shall be paid from moneys appropriated to the  
2 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for that  
3 purpose.

4 Section 20. Compensation; expenses. The members of the  
5 Commission shall serve without compensation. The Department of  
6 Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall provide support for the  
7 Commission, and pay members' actual traveling and other  
8 expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the  
9 Commission, from moneys appropriated to the Department for  
10 those purposes.

11 Section 25. Report. The Commission shall render its final  
12 report to the General Assembly not later than December 31,  
13 2012, setting out its findings and recommendations and  
14 proposing those measures it considers necessary to effect  
15 essential changes and improvements in the existing laws  
16 relating to any or all of the matters enumerated in Section 10  
17 of this Act.

18 (20 ILCS 3986/Act rep.)

19 Section 30. The Local Government Consolidation Commission  
20 Act is repealed.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
22 becoming law.