

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 School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 21-7.1 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-7.1) (from Ch. 122, par. 21-7.1)  
7 Sec. 21-7.1. Administrative certificate.

8 (a) After July 1, 1999, an administrative certificate valid  
9 for 5 years of supervising and administering in the public  
10 common schools (unless changed under subsection (a-5) of this  
11 Section) may be issued to persons who have graduated from a  
12 regionally accredited institution of higher learning with a  
13 master's degree or its equivalent and who have been recommended  
14 by a recognized institution of higher learning, a  
15 not-for-profit entity, or a combination thereof, as having  
16 completed a program of preparation for one or more of these  
17 endorsements. Such programs of academic and professional  
18 preparation required for endorsement shall be administered by  
19 an institution or not-for-profit entity approved to offer such  
20 programs by the State Board of Education, in consultation with  
21 the State Teacher Certification Board, and shall be operated in  
22 accordance with this Article and the standards set forth by the  
23 State Superintendent of Education in consultation with the

1 State Teacher Certification Board. Any program offered in whole  
2 or in part by a not-for-profit entity must also be approved by  
3 the Board of Higher Education.

4 (a-5) Beginning July 1, 2003, if an administrative  
5 certificate holder holds a Standard Teaching Certificate, the  
6 validity period of the administrative certificate shall be  
7 changed, if necessary, so that the validity period of the  
8 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period  
9 of the Standard Teaching Certificate. Beginning July 1, 2003,  
10 if an administrative certificate holder holds a Master Teaching  
11 Certificate, the validity period of the administrative  
12 certificate shall be changed so that the validity period of the  
13 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period  
14 of the Master Teaching Certificate.

15 (b) No administrative certificate shall be issued for the  
16 first time after June 30, 1987 and no endorsement provided for  
17 by this Section shall be made or affixed to an administrative  
18 certificate for the first time after June 30, 1987 unless the  
19 person to whom such administrative certificate is to be issued  
20 or to whose administrative certificate such endorsement is to  
21 be affixed has been required to demonstrate as a part of a  
22 program of academic or professional preparation for such  
23 certification or endorsement: (i) an understanding of the  
24 knowledge called for in establishing productive parent-school  
25 relationships and of the procedures fostering the involvement  
26 which such relationships demand; and (ii) an understanding of

1 the knowledge required for establishing a high quality school  
2 climate and promoting good classroom organization and  
3 management, including rules of conduct and instructional  
4 procedures appropriate to accomplishing the tasks of  
5 schooling; and (iii) a demonstration of the knowledge and  
6 skills called for in providing instructional leadership. The  
7 standards for demonstrating an understanding of such knowledge  
8 shall be set forth by the State Board of Education in  
9 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board, and  
10 shall be administered by the recognized institutions of higher  
11 learning as part of the programs of academic and professional  
12 preparation required for certification and endorsement under  
13 this Section. As used in this subsection: "establishing  
14 productive parent-school relationships" means the ability to  
15 maintain effective communication between parents and school  
16 personnel, to encourage parental involvement in schooling, and  
17 to motivate school personnel to engage parents in encouraging  
18 student achievement, including the development of programs and  
19 policies which serve to accomplish this purpose; and  
20 "establishing a high quality school climate" means the ability  
21 to promote academic achievement, to maintain discipline, to  
22 recognize substance abuse problems among students and utilize  
23 appropriate law enforcement and other community resources to  
24 address these problems, to support teachers and students in  
25 their education endeavors, to establish learning objectives  
26 and to provide instructional leadership, including the

1 development of policies and programs which serve to accomplish  
2 this purpose; and "providing instructional leadership" means  
3 the ability to effectively evaluate school personnel, to  
4 possess general communication and interpersonal skills, and to  
5 establish and maintain appropriate classroom learning  
6 environments. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply  
7 to or affect the initial issuance or making on or before June  
8 30, 1987 of any administrative certificate or endorsement  
9 provided for under this Section, nor shall such provisions  
10 apply to or affect the renewal after June 30, 1987 of any such  
11 certificate or endorsement initially issued or made on or  
12 before June 30, 1987.

13 (c) Administrative certificates shall be renewed every 5  
14 years with the first renewal being 5 years following the  
15 initial receipt of an administrative certificate, unless the  
16 validity period for the administrative certificate has been  
17 changed under subsection (a-5) of this Section, in which case  
18 the certificate shall be renewed at the same time that the  
19 Standard or Master Teaching Certificate is renewed.

20 (c-5) (Blank).

21 (c-10) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c-15) of  
22 this Section, persons holding administrative certificates must  
23 follow the certificate renewal procedure set forth in this  
24 subsection (c-10), provided that those persons holding  
25 administrative certificates on June 30, 2003 who are renewing  
26 those certificates on or after July 1, 2003 shall be issued new

1 administrative certificates valid for 5 years (unless changed  
2 under subsection (a-5) of this Section), which may be renewed  
3 thereafter as set forth in this subsection (c-10).

4 A person holding an administrative certificate and  
5 employed in a position requiring administrative certification,  
6 including a regional superintendent of schools, must satisfy  
7 the continuing professional development requirements of this  
8 Section to renew his or her administrative certificate. The  
9 continuing professional development must include without  
10 limitation the following continuing professional development  
11 purposes:

12 (1) To improve the administrator's knowledge of  
13 instructional practices and administrative procedures in  
14 accordance with the Illinois Professional School Leader  
15 Standards.

16 (2) To maintain the basic level of competence required  
17 for initial certification.

18 (3) To improve the administrator's mastery of skills  
19 and knowledge regarding the improvement of teaching  
20 performance in clinical settings and assessment of the  
21 levels of student performance in the schools.

22 The continuing professional development must include the  
23 following in order for the certificate to be renewed:

24 (A) Participation in continuing professional  
25 development activities, which must total a minimum of 100  
26 hours of continuing professional development. The

1 participation must consist of a minimum of 5 activities per  
2 validity period of the certificate, and the certificate  
3 holder must maintain documentation of completion of each  
4 activity.

5 (B) Participation every year in an Illinois  
6 Administrators' Academy course, which participation must  
7 total a minimum of 30 continuing professional development  
8 hours during the period of the certificate's validity and  
9 which must include completion of applicable required  
10 coursework, including completion of a communication,  
11 dissemination, or application component, as defined by the  
12 State Board of Education.

13 The certificate holder must complete a verification form  
14 developed by the State Board of Education and certify that 100  
15 hours of continuing professional development activities and 5  
16 Administrators' Academy courses have been completed. The  
17 regional superintendent of schools shall review and validate  
18 the verification form for a certificate holder. Based on  
19 compliance with all of the requirements for renewal, the  
20 regional superintendent of schools shall forward a  
21 recommendation for renewal or non-renewal to the State  
22 Superintendent of Education and shall notify the certificate  
23 holder of the recommendation. The State Superintendent of  
24 Education shall review the recommendation to renew or non-renew  
25 and shall notify, in writing, the certificate holder of a  
26 decision denying renewal of his or her certificate. Any

1 decision regarding non-renewal of an administrative  
2 certificate may be appealed to the State Teacher Certification  
3 Board.

4 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
5 State Teacher Certification Board, shall adopt rules to  
6 implement this subsection (c-10).

7 The regional superintendent of schools shall monitor the  
8 process for renewal of administrative certificates established  
9 in this subsection (c-10).

10 (c-15) This subsection (c-15) applies to the first period  
11 of an administrative certificate's validity during which the  
12 holder becomes subject to the requirements of subsection (c-10)  
13 of this Section if the certificate has less than 5 years'  
14 validity or has less than 5 years' validity remaining when the  
15 certificate holder becomes subject to the requirements of  
16 subsection (c-10) of this Section. With respect to this period,  
17 the 100 hours of continuing professional development and 5  
18 activities per validity period specified in clause (A) of  
19 subsection (c-10) of this Section shall instead be deemed to  
20 mean 20 hours of continuing professional development and one  
21 activity per year of the certificate's validity or remaining  
22 validity and the 30 continuing professional development hours  
23 specified in clause (B) of subsection (c-10) of this Section  
24 shall instead be deemed to mean completion of at least one  
25 course per year of the certificate's validity or remaining  
26 validity. Certificate holders who evaluate certified staff

1 must complete a 2-day teacher evaluation course, in addition to  
2 the 30 continuing professional development hours.

3 (c-20) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
4 the State Teacher Certification Board, shall develop  
5 procedures for implementing this Section and shall administer  
6 the renewal of administrative certificates. Failure to submit  
7 satisfactory evidence of continuing professional education  
8 which contributes to promoting the goals of this Section shall  
9 result in a loss of administrative certification.

10 (d) Any limited or life supervisory certificate issued  
11 prior to July 1, 1968 shall continue to be valid for all  
12 administrative and supervisory positions in the public schools  
13 for which it is valid as of that date as long as its holder  
14 meets the requirements for registration or renewal as set forth  
15 in the statutes or until revoked according to law.

16 (e) The administrative or supervisory positions for which  
17 the certificate shall be valid shall be determined by one or  
18 more of the following endorsements: general supervisory,  
19 general administrative, principal, chief school business  
20 official, and superintendent.

21 Subject to the provisions of Section 21-1a, endorsements  
22 shall be made under conditions set forth in this Section. The  
23 State Board of Education shall, in consultation with the State  
24 Teacher Certification Board, adopt rules pursuant to the  
25 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, establishing  
26 requirements for obtaining administrative certificates where



1 the minimum administrative or supervisory requirements surpass  
2 those set forth in this Section.

3 The State Teacher Certification Board shall file with the  
4 State Board of Education a written recommendation when  
5 considering additional administrative or supervisory  
6 requirements. All additional requirements shall be based upon  
7 the requisite knowledge necessary to perform those tasks  
8 required by the certificate. The State Board of Education shall  
9 in consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board,  
10 establish standards within its rules which shall include the  
11 academic and professional requirements necessary for  
12 certification. These standards shall at a minimum contain, but  
13 not be limited to, those used by the State Board of Education  
14 in determining whether additional knowledge will be required.  
15 Additionally, the State Board of Education shall in  
16 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board,  
17 establish provisions within its rules whereby any member of the  
18 educational community or the public may file a formal written  
19 recommendation or inquiry regarding requirements.

20 (1) Until July 1, 2003, the general supervisory  
21 endorsement shall be affixed to the administrative  
22 certificate of any holder who has at least 16 semester  
23 hours of graduate credit in professional education  
24 including 8 semester hours of graduate credit in curriculum  
25 and research and who has at least 2 years of full-time  
26 teaching experience or school service personnel experience

1 in public schools, schools under the supervision of the  
2 Department of Corrections, schools under the  
3 administration of the Department of Rehabilitation  
4 Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the standards  
5 established by the State Superintendent of Education or  
6 comparable out-of-state recognition standards approved by  
7 the State Superintendent of Education.

8 Such endorsement shall be required for supervisors,  
9 curriculum directors and for such similar and related  
10 positions as determined by the State Superintendent of  
11 Education in consultation with the State Teacher  
12 Certification Board.

13 (2) Until June 30, 2014, the general administrative  
14 endorsement shall be affixed to the administrative  
15 certificate of any holder who has at least 20 semester  
16 hours of graduate credit in educational administration and  
17 supervision and who has at least 2 years of full-time  
18 teaching experience or school service personnel experience  
19 in public schools, schools under the supervision of the  
20 Department of Corrections, schools under the  
21 administration of the Department of Rehabilitation  
22 Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the standards  
23 established by the State Superintendent of Education or  
24 comparable out-of-state recognition standards approved by  
25 the State Superintendent of Education.

26 Such endorsement or a principal endorsement shall be

1 required for principal, assistant principal, assistant or  
2 associate superintendent, and junior college dean and for  
3 related or similar positions as determined by the State  
4 Superintendent of Education in consultation with the State  
5 Teacher Certification Board.

6 (2.5) The principal endorsement shall be affixed to the  
7 administrative certificate of any holder who qualifies by:

8 (A) successfully completing a principal  
9 preparation program approved in accordance with  
10 Section 21-7.6 of this Code and any applicable rules;

11 (B) having 4 years of teaching experience;  
12 however, the State Board of Education shall allow, by  
13 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based on  
14 meeting standards set forth in such rules, including  
15 without limitation a review of performance evaluations  
16 or other evidence of demonstrated qualifications; and

17 (C) having a master's degree.

18 (3) The chief school business official endorsement  
19 shall be affixed to the administrative certificate of any  
20 holder who qualifies by having a Master's degree, 2 years  
21 of administrative experience in school business management  
22 or 2 years of university-approved practical experience,  
23 and a minimum of 20 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
24 program established by the State Superintendent of  
25 Education in consultation with the State Teacher  
26 Certification Board for the preparation of school business

1 administrators. Such endorsement shall also be affixed to  
2 the administrative certificate of any holder who qualifies  
3 by having a Master's Degree in Public Administration,  
4 Business Administration, Finance, or Accounting and 6  
5 semester hours of internship in school business management  
6 from a regionally accredited institution of higher  
7 education.

8 After June 30, 1977, such endorsement shall be required  
9 for any individual first employed as a chief school  
10 business official.

11 (4) The superintendent endorsement shall be affixed to  
12 the administrative certificate of any holder who has  
13 completed 30 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the  
14 master's degree in a program for the preparation of  
15 superintendents of schools including 16 semester hours of  
16 graduate credit in professional education and who has at  
17 least 2 years experience as an administrator or supervisor  
18 in the public schools or the State Board of Education or  
19 education service regions or in nonpublic schools meeting  
20 the standards established by the State Superintendent of  
21 Education or comparable out-of-state recognition standards  
22 approved by the State Superintendent of Education and holds  
23 general supervisory or general administrative endorsement,  
24 or who has had 2 years of experience as a supervisor, chief  
25 school business official, or administrator while holding  
26 an all-grade supervisory certificate or a certificate

1           comparable in validity and educational and experience  
2           requirements.

3           After June 30, 1968, such endorsement shall be required  
4           for a superintendent of schools, except as provided in the  
5           second paragraph of this Section and in Section 34-6.

6           Any person appointed to the position of superintendent  
7           between the effective date of this Act and June 30, 1993 in  
8           a school district organized pursuant to Article 32 with an  
9           enrollment of at least 20,000 pupils shall be exempt from  
10          the provisions of this paragraph (4) until June 30, 1996.

11          (f) All official interpretations or acts of issuing or  
12          denying administrative certificates or endorsements by the  
13          State Teacher's Certification Board, State Board of Education  
14          or the State Superintendent of Education, from the passage of  
15          P.A. 81-1208 on November 8, 1979 through September 24, 1981 are  
16          hereby declared valid and legal acts in all respects and  
17          further that the purported repeal of the provisions of this  
18          Section by P.A. 81-1208 and P.A. 81-1509 is declared null and  
19          void.

20          (Source: P.A. 96-56, eff. 1-1-10; 96-903, eff. 7-1-10; 96-982,  
21          eff. 1-1-11; 96-1423, eff. 8-3-10; revised 9-2-10.)

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