

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 Comprehensive Healthcare Workforce Planning  
5 Act is amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 2325/15)

7 Sec. 15. Members.

8 (a) The following 10 persons or their designees shall be  
9 members of the Council: the Director of the Department; a  
10 representative of the Governor's Office; the Secretary of Human  
11 Services; the Directors of the Departments of Commerce and  
12 Economic Opportunity, Employment Security, Financial and  
13 Professional Regulation, and Healthcare and Family Services;  
14 and the Executive Director ~~executive director~~ of the ~~Illinois~~  
15 Board of Higher Education, the Executive Director ~~President~~ of  
16 the Illinois Community College Board, and the State  
17 Superintendent of Education.

18 (b) The Governor shall appoint 8 additional members, who  
19 shall be healthcare workforce experts, including  
20 representatives of practicing physicians, nurses, pharmacists,  
21 and dentists, State and local health professions  
22 organizations, schools of medicine and osteopathy, nursing,  
23 dental, allied health, and public health; public and private

1 teaching hospitals; health insurers, business; and labor. The  
2 Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, the President  
3 of the Illinois Senate, the Minority Leader of the Illinois  
4 House of Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the  
5 Illinois Senate may each appoint 2 representatives to the  
6 Council. Members appointed under this subsection (b) shall  
7 serve 4-year terms and may be reappointed.

8 (c) The Director of the Department shall serve as Chair of  
9 the Council. The Governor shall appoint a healthcare workforce  
10 expert from the non-governmental sector to serve as Vice-Chair.  
11 (Source: P.A. 97-424, eff. 7-1-12.)

12 Section 10. The Illinois Century Network Act is amended by  
13 changing Section 15 as follows:

14 (20 ILCS 3921/15)

15 Sec. 15. Management of the Illinois Century Network.

16 (a) Staffing and contractual services necessary to support  
17 the network's activities shall be governed by the Illinois  
18 Century Network Policy Committee. The committee shall include:

19 (1) 6 standing members as follows:

20 (i) the Illinois State Library Director or  
21 designee;

22 (ii) the Illinois State Museum Director or  
23 designee;

24 (iii) the Executive Director of the Board of Higher

1 Education or designee;

2 (iv) the Executive Director of the Illinois  
3 Community College Board ~~President~~ or designee;

4 (v) the State Board of Education State  
5 Superintendent or designee; and

6 (vi) the Director of Central Management Services  
7 or designee;

8 (2) up to 7 members who are appointed by the Governor  
9 and who:

10 (i) have experience and background in private K-12  
11 education, private higher education, or who are from  
12 other participant constituents that are not already  
13 represented;

14 (ii) shall serve staggered terms up to 3 years as  
15 designated by the Governor; and

16 (iii) shall serve until a successor is appointed  
17 and qualified; and

18 (3) a Chairperson who is appointed by the Governor and  
19 who shall serve a term of 2 years and until a successor is  
20 appointed and qualified.

21 (b) Illinois Century Network Policy Committee members  
22 shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to  
23 reimbursement for reasonable expenses of travel for members who  
24 are required to travel for a distance greater than 20 miles to  
25 participate in business of the Illinois Century Network Policy  
26 Committee.

1 (Source: P.A. 91-21, eff. 7-1-99; 92-691, eff. 7-18-02.)

2 Section 15. The School Code is amended by changing Sections  
3 3-15.12 and 22-45 as follows:

4 (105 ILCS 5/3-15.12) (from Ch. 122, par. 3-15.12)

5 Sec. 3-15.12. High school equivalency testing program. The  
6 regional superintendent of schools shall make available for  
7 qualified individuals residing within the region a High School  
8 Equivalency Testing Program. For that purpose the regional  
9 superintendent alone or with other regional superintendents  
10 may establish and supervise a testing center or centers to  
11 administer the secure forms of the high school level Test of  
12 General Educational Development to qualified persons. Such  
13 centers shall be under the supervision of the regional  
14 superintendent in whose region such centers are located,  
15 subject to the approval of the Executive Director ~~President~~ of  
16 the Illinois Community College Board.

17 An individual is eligible to apply to the regional  
18 superintendent of schools for the region in which he or she  
19 resides if he or she is: (a) a person who is 17 years of age or  
20 older, has maintained residence in the State of Illinois, and  
21 is not a high school graduate; (b) a person who is successfully  
22 completing an alternative education program under Section  
23 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article 13B; or (c) a person who is  
24 enrolled in a youth education program sponsored by the Illinois

1 National Guard. For purposes of this Section, residence is that  
2 abode which the applicant considers his or her home. Applicants  
3 may provide as sufficient proof of such residence and as an  
4 acceptable form of identification a driver's license, valid  
5 passport, military ID, or other form of government-issued  
6 national or foreign identification that shows the applicant's  
7 name, address, date of birth, signature, and photograph or  
8 other acceptable identification as may be allowed by law or as  
9 regulated by the Illinois Community College Board. Such  
10 regional superintendent shall determine if the applicant meets  
11 statutory and regulatory state standards. If qualified the  
12 applicant shall at the time of such application pay a fee  
13 established by the Illinois Community College Board, which fee  
14 shall be paid into a special fund under the control and  
15 supervision of the regional superintendent. Such moneys  
16 received by the regional superintendent shall be used, first,  
17 for the expenses incurred in administering and scoring the  
18 examination, and next for other educational programs that are  
19 developed and designed by the regional superintendent of  
20 schools to assist those who successfully complete the high  
21 school level test of General Education Development in  
22 furthering their academic development or their ability to  
23 secure and retain gainful employment, including programs for  
24 the competitive award based on test scores of college or adult  
25 education scholarship grants or similar educational  
26 incentives. Any excess moneys shall be paid into the institute

1 fund.

2 Any applicant who has achieved the minimum passing  
3 standards as established by the Illinois Community College  
4 Board shall be notified in writing by the regional  
5 superintendent and shall be issued a high school equivalency  
6 certificate on the forms provided by the Illinois Community  
7 College Board. The regional superintendent shall then certify  
8 to the Illinois Community College Board the score of the  
9 applicant and such other and additional information that may be  
10 required by the Illinois Community College Board. The moneys  
11 received therefrom shall be used in the same manner as provided  
12 for in this Section.

13 Any applicant who has attained the age of 17 years and  
14 maintained residence in the State of Illinois and is not a high  
15 school graduate, any person who has enrolled in a youth  
16 education program sponsored by the Illinois National Guard, or  
17 any person who has successfully completed an alternative  
18 education program under Section 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article  
19 13B is eligible to apply for a high school equivalency  
20 certificate (if he or she meets the requirements prescribed by  
21 the Illinois Community College Board) upon showing evidence  
22 that he or she has completed, successfully, the high school  
23 level General Educational Development Tests, administered by  
24 the United States Armed Forces Institute, official GED Centers  
25 established in other states, or at Veterans' Administration  
26 Hospitals or the office of the State Superintendent of

1 Education administered for the Illinois State Penitentiary  
2 System and the Department of Corrections. Such applicant shall  
3 apply to the regional superintendent of the region wherein he  
4 has maintained residence, and upon payment of a fee established  
5 by the Illinois Community College Board the regional  
6 superintendent shall issue a high school equivalency  
7 certificate, and immediately thereafter certify to the  
8 Illinois Community College Board the score of the applicant and  
9 such other and additional information as may be required by the  
10 Illinois Community College Board.

11 Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, any  
12 applicant who has been out of school for at least one year may  
13 request the regional superintendent of schools to administer  
14 the restricted GED test upon written request of: The director  
15 of a program who certifies to the Chief Examiner of an official  
16 GED center that the applicant has completed a program of  
17 instruction provided by such agencies as the Job Corps, the  
18 Postal Service Academy or apprenticeship training program; an  
19 employer or program director for purposes of entry into  
20 apprenticeship programs; another State Department of Education  
21 in order to meet regulations established by that Department of  
22 Education, a post high school educational institution for  
23 purposes of admission, the Department of Professional  
24 Regulation for licensing purposes, or the Armed Forces for  
25 induction purposes. The regional superintendent shall  
26 administer such test and the applicant shall be notified in

1 writing that he is eligible to receive the Illinois High School  
2 Equivalency Certificate upon reaching age 17, provided he meets  
3 the standards established by the Illinois Community College  
4 Board.

5 Any test administered under this Section to an applicant  
6 who does not speak and understand English may at the discretion  
7 of the administering agency be given and answered in any  
8 language in which the test is printed. The regional  
9 superintendent of schools may waive any fees required by this  
10 Section in case of hardship.

11 In counties of over 3,000,000 population, a GED certificate  
12 shall contain the signatures of the Executive Director  
13 ~~President~~ of the Illinois Community College Board; the  
14 superintendent, president, or other chief executive officer of  
15 the institution where GED instruction occurred; and any other  
16 signatures authorized by the Illinois Community College Board.

17 The regional superintendent of schools shall furnish the  
18 Illinois Community College Board with any information that the  
19 Illinois Community College Board requests with regard to  
20 testing and certificates under this Section.

21 (Source: P.A. 94-108, eff. 7-1-05; 95-609, eff. 6-1-08.)

22 (105 ILCS 5/22-45)

23 Sec. 22-45. Illinois P-20 Council.

24 (a) The General Assembly finds that preparing Illinoisans  
25 for success in school and the workplace requires a continuum of



1 quality education from preschool through graduate school. This  
2 State needs a framework to guide education policy and integrate  
3 education at every level. A statewide coordinating council to  
4 study and make recommendations concerning education at all  
5 levels can avoid fragmentation of policies, promote improved  
6 teaching and learning, and continue to cultivate and  
7 demonstrate strong accountability and efficiency. Establishing  
8 an Illinois P-20 Council will develop a statewide agenda that  
9 will move the State towards the common goals of improving  
10 academic achievement, increasing college access and success,  
11 improving use of existing data and measurements, developing  
12 improved accountability, fostering innovative approaches to  
13 education, promoting lifelong learning, easing the transition  
14 to college, and reducing remediation. A pre-kindergarten  
15 through grade 20 agenda will strengthen this State's economic  
16 competitiveness by producing a highly-skilled workforce. In  
17 addition, lifelong learning plans will enhance this State's  
18 ability to leverage funding.

19 (b) There is created the Illinois P-20 Council. The  
20 Illinois P-20 Council shall include all of the following  
21 members:

22 (1) The Governor or his or her designee, to serve as  
23 chairperson.

24 (2) Four members of the General Assembly, one appointed  
25 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one  
26 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of

1 Representatives, one appointed by the President of the  
2 Senate, and one appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
3 Senate.

4 (3) Six at-large members appointed by the Governor as  
5 follows, with 2 members being from the City of Chicago, 2  
6 members being from Lake County, McHenry County, Kane  
7 County, DuPage County, Will County, or that part of Cook  
8 County outside of the City of Chicago, and 2 members being  
9 from the remainder of the State:

10 (A) one representative of civic leaders;

11 (B) one representative of local government;

12 (C) one representative of trade unions;

13 (D) one representative of nonprofit organizations  
14 or foundations;

15 (E) one representative of parents' organizations;

16 and

17 (F) one education research expert.

18 (4) Five members appointed by statewide business  
19 organizations and business trade associations.

20 (5) Six members appointed by statewide professional  
21 organizations and associations representing  
22 pre-kindergarten through grade 20 teachers, community  
23 college faculty, and public university faculty.

24 (6) Two members appointed by associations representing  
25 local school administrators and school board members. One  
26 of these members must be a special education administrator.

1           (7) One member representing community colleges,  
2 appointed by the Illinois Council of Community College  
3 Presidents.

4           (8) One member representing 4-year independent  
5 colleges and universities, appointed by a statewide  
6 organization representing private institutions of higher  
7 learning.

8           (9) One member representing public 4-year  
9 universities, appointed jointly by the university  
10 presidents and chancellors.

11           (10) Ex-officio members as follows:

12           (A) The State Superintendent of Education or his or  
13 her designee.

14           (B) The Executive Director of the Board of Higher  
15 Education or his or her designee.

16           (C) The Executive Director ~~President and Chief~~  
17 ~~Executive Officer~~ of the Illinois Community College  
18 Board or his or her designee.

19           (D) The Executive Director of the Illinois Student  
20 Assistance Commission or his or her designee.

21           (E) The Co-chairpersons of the Illinois Workforce  
22 Investment Board or their designee.

23           (F) The Director of Commerce and Economic  
24 Opportunity or his or her designee.

25           (G) The Chairperson of the Illinois Early Learning  
26 Council or his or her designee.

1           (H) The President of the Illinois Mathematics and  
2           Science Academy or his or her designee.

3           (I) The president of an association representing  
4           educators of adult learners or his or her designee.

5           Ex-officio members shall have no vote on the Illinois P-20  
6           Council.

7           Appointed members shall serve for staggered terms expiring  
8           on July 1 of the first, second, or third calendar year  
9           following their appointments or until their successors are  
10          appointed and have qualified. Staggered terms shall be  
11          determined by lot at the organizing meeting of the Illinois  
12          P-20 Council.

13          Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original  
14          appointments, and any member so appointed shall serve during  
15          the remainder of the term for which the vacancy occurred.

16          (c) The Illinois P-20 Council shall be funded through State  
17          appropriations to support staff activities, research,  
18          data-collection, and dissemination. The Illinois P-20 Council  
19          shall be staffed by the Office of the Governor, in coordination  
20          with relevant State agencies, boards, and commissions. The  
21          Illinois Education Research Council shall provide research and  
22          coordinate research collection activities for the Illinois  
23          P-20 Council.

24          (d) The Illinois P-20 Council shall have all of the  
25          following duties:

26                 (1) To make recommendations to do all of the following:

1 (A) Coordinate pre-kindergarten through grade 20  
2 (graduate school) education in this State through  
3 working at the intersections of educational systems to  
4 promote collaborative infrastructure.

5 (B) Coordinate and leverage strategies, actions,  
6 legislation, policies, and resources of all  
7 stakeholders to support fundamental and lasting  
8 improvement in this State's public schools, community  
9 colleges, and universities.

10 (C) Better align the high school curriculum with  
11 postsecondary expectations.

12 (D) Better align assessments across all levels of  
13 education.

14 (E) Reduce the need for students entering  
15 institutions of higher education to take remedial  
16 courses.

17 (F) Smooth the transition from high school to  
18 college.

19 (G) Improve high school and college graduation  
20 rates.

21 (H) Improve the rigor and relevance of academic  
22 standards for college and workforce readiness.

23 (I) Better align college and university teaching  
24 programs with the needs of Illinois schools.

25 (2) To advise the Governor, the General Assembly, the  
26 State's education and higher education agencies, and the

1 State's workforce and economic development boards and  
2 agencies on policies related to lifelong learning for  
3 Illinois students and families.

4 (3) To articulate a framework for systemic educational  
5 improvement and innovation that will enable every student  
6 to meet or exceed Illinois learning standards and be  
7 well-prepared to succeed in the workforce and community.

8 (4) To provide an estimated fiscal impact for  
9 implementation of all Council recommendations.

10 (e) The chairperson of the Illinois P-20 Council may  
11 authorize the creation of working groups focusing on areas of  
12 interest to Illinois educational and workforce development,  
13 including without limitation the following areas:

14 (1) Preparation, recruitment, and certification of  
15 highly qualified teachers.

16 (2) Mentoring and induction of highly qualified  
17 teachers.

18 (3) The diversity of highly qualified teachers.

19 (4) Funding for highly qualified teachers, including  
20 developing a strategic and collaborative plan to seek  
21 federal and private grants to support initiatives  
22 targeting teacher preparation and its impact on student  
23 achievement.

24 (5) Highly effective administrators.

25 (6) Illinois birth through age 3 education,  
26 pre-kindergarten, and early childhood education.

1           (7) The assessment, alignment, outreach, and network  
2 of college and workforce readiness efforts.

3           (8) Alternative routes to college access.

4           (9) Research data and accountability.

5           (10) Community schools, community participation, and  
6 other innovative approaches to education that foster  
7 community partnerships.

8           The chairperson of the Illinois P-20 Council may designate  
9 Council members to serve as working group chairpersons. Working  
10 groups may invite organizations and individuals representing  
11 pre-kindergarten through grade 20 interests to participate in  
12 discussions, data collection, and dissemination.

13           (Source: P.A. 98-463, eff. 8-16-13.)

14           Section 20. The Public Community College Act is amended by  
15 changing Section 3-33.7 as follows:

16           (110 ILCS 805/3-33.7)

17           Sec. 3-33.7. Establishment of lines of credit. The board  
18 may establish a line of credit with a bank or other financial  
19 institution in an amount not to exceed the following:

20           (1) if anticipating State revenues due in the current  
21 fiscal year, 85% of the amount or amounts of the revenues  
22 due in the current fiscal year, as certified by the  
23 Executive Director ~~President/CEO~~ of the State Board or  
24 other official in a position to provide assurances as to

1 the amounts; and

2 (2) if anticipating State revenues expected to be due  
3 in the next subsequent fiscal year, 50% of the amount or  
4 amounts of the revenues due in the current fiscal year, as  
5 certified by the Executive Director ~~President/CEO~~ of the  
6 State Board or other official in a position to provide  
7 assurances as to the amounts.

8 All moneys so borrowed shall be repaid exclusively from the  
9 anticipated revenues within 60 days after the revenues have  
10 been received. Borrowing authorized under subdivisions (1) and  
11 (2) of this Section shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed  
12 the maximum rate authorized by the Bond Authorization Act, from  
13 the date of issuance until paid.

14 Prior to establishing a line of credit under this Section,  
15 the board shall authorize, by resolution, the line of credit.  
16 The resolution shall set forth facts demonstrating the need for  
17 the line of credit, state the amount to be borrowed, establish  
18 a maximum interest rate limit not to exceed that set forth in  
19 this Section, and provide a date by which the borrowed funds  
20 must be repaid. The resolution shall direct the relevant  
21 officials to make arrangements to set apart and hold the  
22 revenue, as received, that will be used to repay the borrowing.  
23 In addition, the resolution may authorize the relevant  
24 officials to make partial repayments of the borrowing as the  
25 revenues become available and may contain any other terms,  
26 restrictions, or limitations not inconsistent with the



1 provisions of this Section.

2 (Source: P.A. 96-912, eff. 6-9-10.)