

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 adding Section
5 2-3.131 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.131 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.131. Bonuses for new teachers. The State Board
8 of Education shall implement a program to provide
9 State-funded bonuses to new fully certified teachers who
10 agree to teach in a school on the academic watch list under
11 Section 2-3.25d of this Code or in a critical teacher
12 shortage discipline, with additional bonuses awarded for
13 multi-year commitments. The bonus shall be \$1,000 for the
14 completion of one year of teaching, \$1,250 for the completion
15 of 2 years of teaching, and \$1,500 for the completion of 3
16 years of teaching. The State Board may adopt any rules
17 necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this
18 Section.

19 Section 10. The Board of Higher Education Act is amended
20 by adding Section 9.30 as follows:

21 (110 ILCS 205/9.30 new)

22 Sec. 9.30. Tuition waivers for future teachers. The Board
23 shall implement a program in which public institutions of
24 higher education would waive tuition for students enrolled in
25 a course of study leading to teacher certification who agree
26 to teach in a school on the academic watch list under Section
27 2-3.25d of the School Code for a period of not less than one
28 year for each year of tuition waived. The person shall be
29 required to refund the amount of tuition waived if he or she

1 does not comply with the teaching obligation. The Board may
2 adopt any rules necessary to carry out its responsibilities
3 under this Section.

4 Section 15. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act
5 is amended by adding Section 65.70 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/65.70 new)

7 Sec. 65.70. Loan forgiveness for future teachers. The
8 Commission shall implement a loan forgiveness program for
9 students enrolled in a course of study leading to teacher
10 certification at an institution of higher learning who agree
11 to teach in a school on the academic watch list under Section
12 2-3.25d of the School Code for a specified period of time.
13 Under this program, 15% of a student's higher education loans
14 shall be forgiven for each of the first and second years of
15 teaching, 20% for each of the third and fourth years of
16 teaching, and 30% for the fifth year of teaching. The
17 Commission may adopt any rules necessary to carry out its
18 responsibilities under this Section.