

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 21B-120 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-120 new)

7 Sec. 21B-120. Short-Term Approval credential.

8 (a) As used in this Section, "serious health condition"
9 has the same meaning as set forth in the federal Family and
10 Medical Leave Act of 1993.

11 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
12 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may develop,
13 by rules, a credential valid for an individual to serve as an
14 educator in a specific education area or grade range for a
15 temporary period of time and upon meeting the conditions set
16 forth in those rules. Such a credential shall be known as a
17 Short-Term Approval. A Short-Term Approval may be issued on an
18 existing educator license or may stand alone, as applicable to
19 the particular Short-Term Approval.

20 (c) A Short-Term Approval shall have an expiration date
21 without the ability to renew. Before the expiration of an
22 educator's Short-Term Approval, the educator must obtain a
23 license or endorsement in the same specific education area or

1 grade range as the Short-Term Approval. If the educator does
2 not obtain the required license or endorsement in the specific
3 education area or grade range and the Short-Term Approval
4 expires, the educator is not eligible to continue serving as
5 an educator in the specific education area or grade range.

6 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
7 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may consider
8 extending the expiration date of the educator's Short-Term
9 Approval if the educator can demonstrate that a serious health
10 condition inhibited the educator's ability to timely apply for
11 and receive the license or endorsement for the specific
12 education area or grade range for which the Short-Term
13 Approval was issued. An educator may receive only one
14 extension for each Short-Term Approval, and the extension must
15 not exceed one year.