

1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Enterprise Zone Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 4 and 4.1 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 655/4) (from Ch. 67 1/2, par. 604)

7 Sec. 4. Qualifications for Enterprise Zones.

8 (1) An area is qualified to become an enterprise zone  
9 which:

10 (a) is a contiguous area, provided that a zone area may  
11 exclude wholly surrounded territory within its boundaries;

12 (b) comprises a minimum of one-half square mile and not  
13 more than 12 square miles, or 15 square miles if the zone  
14 is located within the jurisdiction of 4 or more counties or  
15 municipalities, in total area, exclusive of lakes and  
16 waterways; however, in such cases where the enterprise zone  
17 is a joint effort of three or more units of government, or  
18 two or more units of government if situated in a township  
19 which is divided by a municipality of 1,000,000 or more  
20 inhabitants, and where the certification has been in effect  
21 at least one year, the total area shall comprise a minimum  
22 of one-half square mile and not more than thirteen square  
23 miles in total area exclusive of lakes and waterways;

1 (c) (blank);

2 (d) (blank);

3 (e) is (1) entirely within a municipality or (2)  
4 entirely within the unincorporated areas of a county,  
5 except where reasonable need is established for such zone  
6 to cover portions of more than one municipality or county  
7 or (3) both comprises (i) all or part of a municipality and  
8 (ii) an unincorporated area of a county; and

9 (f) meets 3 or more of the following criteria:

10 (1) all or part of the local labor market area has  
11 had an annual average unemployment rate of at least  
12 120% of the State's annual average unemployment rate  
13 for the most recent calendar year or the most recent  
14 fiscal year as reported by the Department of Employment  
15 Security;

16 (2) designation will result in the development of  
17 substantial employment opportunities by creating or  
18 retaining a minimum aggregate of 1,000 full-time  
19 equivalent jobs due to an aggregate investment of  
20 \$100,000,000 or more, and will help alleviate the  
21 effects of poverty and unemployment within the local  
22 labor market area;

23 (3) all or part of the local labor market area has  
24 a poverty rate of at least 20% according to the latest  
25 federal decennial census, 50% or more of children in  
26 the local labor market area participate in the federal

1 free lunch program according to reported statistics  
2 from the State Board of Education, or 20% or more  
3 households in the local labor market area receive food  
4 stamps according to the latest federal decennial  
5 census;

6 (4) an abandoned coal mine or a brownfield (as  
7 defined in Section 58.2 of the Environmental  
8 Protection Act) is located in the proposed zone area,  
9 or all or a portion of the proposed zone was declared a  
10 federal disaster area in the 3 years preceding the date  
11 of application;

12 (5) the local labor market area contains a presence  
13 of large employers that have downsized over the years,  
14 the labor market area has experienced plant closures in  
15 the 5 years prior to the date of application affecting  
16 more than 50 workers, or the local labor market area  
17 has experienced State or federal facility closures in  
18 the 5 years prior to the date of application affecting  
19 more than 50 workers;

20 (6) based on data from Multiple Listing Service  
21 information or other suitable sources, the local labor  
22 market area contains a high floor vacancy rate of  
23 industrial or commercial properties, vacant or  
24 demolished commercial and industrial structures are  
25 prevalent in the local labor market area, or industrial  
26 structures in the local labor market area are not used

1 because of age, deterioration, relocation of the  
2 former occupants, or cessation of operation;

3 (7) the applicant demonstrates a substantial plan  
4 for using the designation to improve the State and  
5 local government tax base, including income, sales,  
6 and property taxes;

7 (8) significant public infrastructure is present  
8 in the local labor market area in addition to a plan  
9 for infrastructure development and improvement;

10 (9) high schools or community colleges located  
11 within the local labor market area are engaged in ACT  
12 Work Keys, Manufacturing Skills Standard  
13 Certification, or other industry-based credentials  
14 that prepare students for careers; ~~or~~

15 (10) the change in equalized assessed valuation of  
16 industrial and/or commercial properties in the 5 years  
17 prior to the date of application is equal to or less  
18 than 50% of the State average change in equalized  
19 assessed valuation for industrial and/or commercial  
20 properties, as applicable, for the same period of time;  
21 or -

22 (11) the applicant demonstrates a substantial plan  
23 for using the designation to encourage: (i)  
24 participation by businesses owned by minorities,  
25 women, and persons with disabilities, as those terms  
26 are defined in the Business Enterprise for Minorities,

1           Women, and Persons with Disabilities Act; and (ii) the  
2           hiring of minorities, women, and persons with  
3           disabilities.

4           As provided in Section 10-5.3 of the River Edge  
5           Redevelopment Zone Act, upon the expiration of the term of each  
6           River Edge Redevelopment Zone in existence on the effective  
7           date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, that  
8           River Edge Redevelopment Zone will become available for its  
9           previous designee or a new applicant to compete for designation  
10          as an enterprise zone. No preference for designation will be  
11          given to the previous designee of the zone.

12          (2) Any criteria established by the Department or by law  
13          which utilize the rate of unemployment for a particular area  
14          shall provide that all persons who are not presently employed  
15          and have exhausted all unemployment benefits shall be  
16          considered unemployed, whether or not such persons are actively  
17          seeking employment.

18          (Source: P.A. 97-905, eff. 8-7-12.)

19          (20 ILCS 655/4.1)

20          Sec. 4.1. Department recommendations.

21          (a) For all applications that qualify under Section 4 of  
22          this Act, the Department shall issue recommendations by  
23          assigning a score to each applicant. The scores will be  
24          determined by the Department, based on the extent to which an  
25          applicant meets the criteria points under subsection (f) of

1 Section 4 of this Act. Scores will be determined using the  
2 following scoring system:

3 (1) Up to 50 points for the extent to which the  
4 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (1) of  
5 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
6 awarded according to the severity of the unemployment.

7 (2) Up to 50 points for the extent to which the  
8 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (2) of  
9 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
10 awarded in accordance with the number of jobs created and  
11 the aggregate amount of investment promised.

12 (3) Up to 40 points for the extent to which the  
13 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (3) of  
14 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
15 awarded in accordance with the severity of the unemployment  
16 rate according to the latest federal decennial census.

17 (4) Up to 30 points for the extent to which the  
18 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (4) of  
19 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
20 awarded in accordance with the severity of the  
21 environmental impact of the abandoned coal mine,  
22 brownfield, or federal disaster area.

23 (5) Up to 50 points for the extent to which the  
24 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (5) of  
25 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
26 awarded in accordance with the severity of the applicable

1 facility closures or downsizing.

2 (6) Up to 40 points for the extent to which the  
3 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (6) of  
4 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
5 awarded in accordance with the severity and extent of the  
6 high floor vacancy or deterioration.

7 (7) Up to 30 points for the extent to which the  
8 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (7) of  
9 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
10 awarded in accordance with the extent to which the  
11 application addresses a plan to improve the State and local  
12 government tax base.

13 (8) Up to 50 points for the extent to which the  
14 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (8) of  
15 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
16 awarded in accordance with the existence of significant  
17 public infrastructure.

18 (9) Up to 40 points for the extent to which the  
19 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (9) of  
20 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
21 awarded in accordance with the extent to which educational  
22 programs exist for career preparation.

23 (10) Up to 40 points for the extent to which the  
24 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (10) of  
25 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act, with points  
26 awarded according to the severity of the change in

1 equalized assessed valuation.

2 (11) Up to 40 points for the extent to which the  
3 applicant meets or exceeds the criteria in item (11) of  
4 subsection (f) of Section 4 of this Act.

5 (b) After assigning a score for each of the individual  
6 criteria using the point system as described in subsection (a),  
7 the Department shall then take the sum of the scores for each  
8 applicant and assign a final score. The Department shall then  
9 submit this information to the Board, as required in subsection  
10 (c) of Section 5.2, as its recommendation.

11 (Source: P.A. 97-905, eff. 8-7-12; 98-109, eff. 7-25-13.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
13 becoming law.