

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 10-20.9a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a)
7 Sec. 10-20.9a. Final grade; promotion.

8 (a) Teachers shall administer the approved marking system
9 or other approved means of evaluating pupil progress. The
10 teacher shall maintain the responsibility and right to
11 determine grades and other evaluations of students within the
12 grading policies of the district based upon his or her
13 professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any
14 given subject area or activity for which he or she is
15 responsible. District policy shall provide the procedure and
16 reasons by and for which a grade may be changed; provided that
17 no grade or evaluation shall be changed without notification
18 to the teacher concerning the nature and reasons for such
19 change. If such a change is made, the person making the change
20 shall assume such responsibility for determining the grade or
21 evaluation, and shall initial such change.

22 (b) School districts shall not promote students to the
23 next higher grade level based upon age or any other social

1 reasons not related to the academic performance of the
2 students. On or before September 1, 1998, school boards shall
3 adopt and enforce a policy on promotion as they deem necessary
4 to ensure that students meet local goals and objectives and
5 can perform at the expected grade level prior to promotion.
6 Decisions to promote or retain students in any classes shall
7 be based on successful completion of the curriculum,
8 attendance, performance based on the assessments required
9 under Section 2-3.64a-5 of this Code, the Iowa Test of Basic
10 Skills, or other testing or any other criteria established by
11 the school board. Students determined by the local district to
12 not qualify for promotion to the next higher grade shall be
13 provided remedial assistance, which may include, but shall not
14 be limited to, a summer bridge program of no less than 90
15 hours, tutorial sessions, increased or concentrated
16 instructional time, modifications to instructional materials,
17 and retention in grade.

18 (c) No public high school of a school district shall
19 withhold a student's grades, transcripts, or diploma because
20 of an unpaid balance on the student's school account.

21 At the end of each school year, the school district shall
22 catalogue and report to the State Board of Education the total
23 amount that remains unpaid by students due to the prohibition
24 under this subsection (c).

25 (d) On and after 3 years from the effective date of this
26 amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, subsection (c)

1 is inoperative.

2 (Source: P.A. 98-972, eff. 8-15-14.)

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
4 becoming law.