



## 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

#### 2003 and 2004

Introduced 02/09/04, by Wyvetter H. Younge

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act  
30 ILCS 105/5.625 new

Creates the Illinois Student Laptop Computer Initiative for 21st Century Education Act. Established the Illinois Student Laptop Computer Commission to (i) ensure that every elementary student in the State is given a personal laptop computer by the beginning of the 6th grade year and to make grants to local school districts for various purposes and (ii) publish an annual plan for the purchase and distribution of educational technology. Provides that only certain public schools are eligible for assistance from the Commission. Authorizes the Commission to obtain the services of personnel and to enter into contracts and memoranda of understanding with private parties and with State agencies. Provides that all moneys deposited into the Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund shall be distributed, subject to appropriation, to the Illinois Student Laptop Commission for the purposes of the Act. Provides that money from both public and private sources may be deposited into the Fund. Amends the State Finance Act. Creates the Illinois Student Laptop Fund, a special fund in the State treasury. Effective January 1, 2005.

LRB093 21170 MKM 47244 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning boards and commissions.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Illinois Student Laptop Computer Initiative for 21st Century  
6 Education Act.

7 Section 5. Purpose. The General Assembly finds that in the  
8 modern knowledge-based economy of the 21st century it is  
9 critical that all students have access to modern educational  
10 technology. The General Assembly further finds that universal  
11 access to laptop computers has been found to increase student  
12 assessment test scores and encourage student-parent  
13 collaborations in learning. The General Assembly further finds  
14 that the digital divide inhibits access to modern educational  
15 technology in many rural and inner-city schools. In order to  
16 meet the goal of universal access to modern educational  
17 technology, the General Assembly finds it is necessary to  
18 provide all sixth grade students in public, private, and home  
19 schools with access to laptop computers.

20 Section 10. Illinois Student Laptop Commission. There is  
21 hereby established the Illinois Student Laptop Computer  
22 Commission. The Commission shall have 5 members, the Lieutenant  
23 Governor and 4 members appointed by the Governor. The  
24 Commission shall be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. The  
25 term of office for any Commission member appointed by the  
26 Governor shall be 3 years. Commission members shall receive no  
27 compensation other than reimbursement of legitimate expenses.

28 Section 15. Powers and duties.

29 (a) The Commission shall ensure, to the greatest extent  
30 possible, that each elementary student in Illinois is given a

1 personal laptop computer by the beginning of that student's  
2 sixth grade year. The Commission may use any remaining funds in  
3 the Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund to provide grants to  
4 local school districts for the purchase of educational  
5 technology, the installation of computer networks in schools,  
6 technical assistance, and professional development for  
7 teachers.

8 (b) The Commission shall publish an annual plan, no later  
9 than July 1st of each year, for the purchase and distribution  
10 of educational technology. The annual plan shall be distributed  
11 to the Governor and to the General Assembly and made available  
12 to other persons on request. The annual plan shall include (i)  
13 the number of students to be given computers, (ii) a list of  
14 any and all software to be included on the computers, (iii) the  
15 cost of implementing the plan, and (iv) proposed sources of  
16 funding.

17 (c) Only public schools in Illinois in which 40% or more of  
18 the students live in low-income households shall be eligible  
19 for assistance under this Act. For the purposes of this  
20 subsection, "low-income households" are those that include any  
21 child eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the  
22 National School Lunch Program or any household whose income is  
23 no more than 185% of the poverty level. Students enrolled in  
24 eligible schools shall be eligible to receive a laptop computer  
25 regardless of personal or family income.

26 Section 20. Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund. The  
27 Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund is created as a special  
28 fund in the State treasury. All moneys deposited into the  
29 Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund shall be distributed,  
30 subject to appropriation, to the Illinois Student Laptop  
31 Commission for the purposes of this Act. Money from both public  
32 and private sources may be deposited into the Fund, provided  
33 that the contributions are given for the purposes of this Act.

34 Section 25. Rules. The Commission may adopt any rules

1 necessary for the administration of this Act.

2 Section 30. Personnel; contracts. The Commission is  
3 authorized to obtain the services of any personnel that may be  
4 necessary and to enter into contracts and Memorandums of  
5 Understanding with private parties and other State agencies in  
6 order to carry out the functions of the Commission under this  
7 Act.

8 Section 95. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
9 Section 5.625 as follows:

10 (30 ILCS 105/5.625 new)

11 Sec. 5.625. The Illinois Student Laptop Computer Fund.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
13 1, 2005.