1 AN ACT to increase the availability and facilitate the 2 delivery of venture capital to emerging and expanding 3 enterprises in the State of Illinois.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Illinois Opportunity Fund Act.
- 8 Section 5. Findings and purposes.
  - (a) The State of Illinois finds that the traditional means by which venture capital and private equity investors direct capital to Illinois markets are inadequately serving the State's needs for that capital and that the shortage is impairing the ability of the State to create jobs, new markets for goods and services, and sustainable economic growth throughout Illinois. The State of Illinois desires to strengthen the overall economy of the State by increasing the availability and delivery of venture capital for emerging and expanding enterprises in Illinois, and to do so in a way that provides for financial returns to private investors.
    - (b) Furthermore, the State of Illinois finds that certain geographic areas and populations within the State have been subject to economic disparities and have lacked access to the private capital needed to create jobs and economic opportunities.
    - (c) Venture capital shall be directed to geographic areas and populations within the State that have been subject to economic disparities and have lacked access to the private capital needed to create jobs and economic opportunities, and to sectors considered to be strategic industries for the State of Illinois as determined by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in coordination with the entities formed under this Act.

- 1 (d) These investments are intended to create high-quality 2 and sustainable employment opportunities for Illinoisans, create domestic and global markets for the products and 3 services of funded enterprises, and help to strengthen the 4 5 State's economic base. This Act has the mission of mobilizing 6 private investment in a broad variety of venture capital funds in diversified industries and geographic regions of the State 7 8 of Illinois. To achieve this mission, the General Assembly 9 believes that it is important to retain the private sector 10 culture of focusing on rate of return in the investing process. 11 Therefore, this Act is intended to facilitate the establishment 12 of the Illinois Opportunity Fund, seek private investment, and create interest in these investments by offering State credit 13 enhancements that limit risk to private investors. This Act 14 15 also has the mission of facilitating and enhancing the flow of 16 venture capital into the State of Illinois and improving the 17 infrastructure through which capital is delivered throughout the State so as to grow commerce in the State of Illinois. It 18 19 is the goal and intent of this legislation to accomplish these 20 missions in such a manner as to minimize any appropriations by the State of Illinois to effectuate these purposes. 21
- 22 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act, unless the context 23 requires otherwise:
- "DCEO" means Department of Commerce and Economic
  Opportunity, or its successor agency.
- "Certificate" means an assignable contract between DCEO and an investor in the Illinois Opportunity Fund under which the terms of the tax credits being issued for the benefit of the investor, or any assignee of the investor, as established by DCEO, are set forth.
- "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, or any other lawfully organized entity, whether domiciled in Illinois or outside of Illinois.
- 34 "Illinois Capital Investment Corporation" means the 35 private not-for-profit corporation established pursuant to

1 this Act.

"Illinois Opportunity Fund" means the private for-profit
fund established by the Illinois Capital Investment
Corporation pursuant to this Act.

"Tax credits" means credits against taxes imposed pursuant to Section 201 of the Illinois Income Tax Act for any taxable year ending after December 31, 2009, and having such terms as are established by DCEO in accordance with Section 25 of this Act, including any contingencies on redemption.

"SBIC" means small business investment company within the meaning of the federal Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

"CDFI" and "CDVC". CDFI means a "community development financial institution" as defined in the Illinois Investment and Development Authority Act, and CDVC means community development venture capital, a type of CDFI specific to investing equity interests in Illinois firms with the dual goal of financial returns and economic and social benefit.

Section 15. Illinois Capital Investment Corporation.

- (a) DCEO shall create the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation as a private not-for-profit corporation under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986 and not as a public corporation or instrumentality of the State. The corporation shall not enjoy any of the privileges nor be required to comply with any of the requirements of a State agency. Except as provided in this Act, nothing in this Act exempts the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation from the same requirements under State law that apply to other corporations organized under the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986. The Director or Acting Director of DCEO or his or her designee shall be the incorporator of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation.
- (b) The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall recommend and DCEO shall approve investment objectives and criteria for the Illinois Opportunity Fund established to provide financial returns to investors, create jobs, and

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- strengthen the economy of the State of Illinois. DCEO shall supervise the operations of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation, assist the corporation in performing its duties, and undertake such other responsibilities as are set forth in this Act or as may be necessary or appropriate to give effect to the intent and purposes of this Act.
  - (c) Subject to the direction and supervision of DCEO, the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall receive investment returns from the Illinois Opportunity Fund and shall reinvest those funds in further venture capital investments subject to the provisions of this Act, and shall have responsibility for organizing and overseeing the management of the Illinois Opportunity Fund, identifying and engaging a private fund manager or managers for the Illinois Opportunity Fund, and establishing investment objectives for the Illinois Opportunity Fund designed to create jobs and strengthen the economy of the State of Illinois.
  - The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall exercise no governmental functions. Without limiting authority of DCEO to issue tax credits pursuant to this Act under certificates that are binding on DCEO and the Illinois Department of Revenue, the obligations of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation are not obligations of the State or any political subdivision of the State within the meaning of any or statutory debt limitations, constitutional obligations of the corporation payable solely and only from the corporation's funds. The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall itself have no authority to pledge the credit or taxing power of the State or any political subdivision of the State or make its debts payable out of any moneys except those of the corporation.
  - (e) The board of directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall have not less than 7 nor more than 11 members. The Director or Acting Director of DCEO or his or her designee shall be a member of the board of directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation. The Governor, with

1 the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint the 2 remaining members of the board of directors of the Illinois 3 Capital Investment Corporation and fill any vacancies in 4 consultation with DCEO and the remaining directors. DCEO shall 5 recommend to the Governor candidates for the board and shall 6 advise the Governor as to the qualifications of any other candidates the Governor desires to consider. In recommending 7 8 and selecting directors, DCEO and the Governor shall seek to 9 ensure that (i) each candidate has meaningful experience 10 reviewing, preparing, analyzing, or interpreting financial 11 statements or has sophistication in financial matters generally, has meaningful experience in the supervision or 12 13 management of venture capital or private equity investments, 14 has meaningful experience operating or managing investments in 15 businesses engaged in the industries or sectors targeted by 16 DCEO as candidates for investment by the Illinois Opportunity 17 Fund, or has meaningful experience managing or selecting investments for institutional, seed, angel, mezzanine, 18 19 community development venture capital funds or SBIC's; (ii) the 20 board includes minority and female representatives; (iii) the 21 board includes representatives of geographic areas beyond Cook 22 County and the collar counties; and (iv) the board includes at 23 least 3 venture capital professionals. A conflict of interest 24 shall be deemed to exist in any contractual relationship in which a director, officer, agent, or employee of the Board, or 25 26 any for-profit firm or corporation in which that director, 27 officer, agent, or employee or any member of his or her 28 immediate family is an officer, partner, or principal 29 stockholder, shall directly or indirectly buy or sell goods or 30 services to, or otherwise contract with the Board. Upon a 31 showing that a conflict of interest exists, the director, 32 officer, agent, or employee is subject to removal and the 33 contract shall be deemed unenforceable as against the Board unless the records of the Board reflect that the director, 34 35 officer, agent, or employee fully and publicly disclosed all such interests, and unless that contractual relationship was 36

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secured by competitive bidding following a public invitation to bid. If a director, officer, agent, or employee holds such an interest, he or she shall refrain from any further official involvement in regard to that contract or agreement, from voting on any matter pertaining to that contract or agreement, and from communicating with other Board members, officers, agents, or employees concerning that contract or agreement.

(f) In consultation with the Department, the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall establish a committee and procedures to select a private fund manager or managers for the Illinois Opportunity Fund. The committee shall include 2 members of the board of directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation and one public member. The public member may not be employed or associated with the Department or the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation. The committee shall receive and review applications for the position of private fund manager. In reviewing applications, the committee shall each applicant's level of consider experience mezzanine, institutional, seed, angel, or development venture capital or SBIC's investing, its quality of management, its investment philosophy, its plan fundraising, and its prior investment fund results. Any fund manager selected shall demonstrate substantial experience in the design, implementation, and management of institutional, seed, angel, mezzanine, or community development venture investment programs or of SBIC's and in capital formation. Each applicant shall submit an investment plan for review by the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation, which shall describe the applicant's plan for seeking investment opportunities, evaluating and structuring investments, achieving the financial and policy goals of this Act. Upon completion of this evaluation, the committee shall rank the applicants based on their qualifications and recommend a private fund manager or private fund managers for selection to the board of directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation. In consultation with the Department, the board of

- directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall select an applicant or applicants based on the recommendations of the committee, and shall notify the applicant or applicants
- 4 selected in writing.

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- (g) The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation may charge a fee to the Illinois Opportunity Fund, which shall be in addition to any fee payable by the Illinois Opportunity Fund to the fund manager or managers engaged. The fee payable to the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall be structured to cover the reasonable costs of the corporation in fulfilling its oversight functions and of DCEO in fulfilling its obligations under this Section and Section 25.
- (h) Directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall be compensated for direct expenses and mileage but shall not receive a director's fee or salary for their service as directors.
- (i) The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall have the power to engage consultants, expend funds, invest funds, contract, bond or insure against loss, and perform any other act necessary to carry out its mission.
- (j) The directors of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall adopt bylaws, policies, and procedures necessary to administer the affairs of the corporation.
- (k) Upon the dissolution of Illinois Capital Investment Corporation, any assets owned by it shall thereupon be distributed to the State of Illinois.
- 27 (1) The meetings of the directors are subject to the Illinois Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120/. Any information 28 29 submitted to or compiled by the Illinois Capital Investment 30 Corporation with respect to the marketing plans, financial 31 statements, trade secrets, research concepts, methods or 32 products, or any other proprietary information of persons, 33 firms, associations, partnerships, agencies, corporations, or other entities shall be confidential, except to the extent that 34 35 the person or entity that provided the information or that is the subject of the information consents to disclosure. 36

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- 1 Executive sessions may be held to discuss such materials if
- 2 deemed necessary by the Directors.
- 3 Section 20. Illinois Opportunity Fund.
  - (a) Following the organization of the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation, the corporation shall organize the Illinois Opportunity Fund for the purpose of making investments in private institutional, seed, angel, mezzanine, or community development venture capital funds or SBIC's in a manner that is intended to strengthen the economy of the State, help business in Illinois gain access to capital resources, help build a significant, permanent resource available to serve the needs of Illinois businesses, and accomplish all these benefits in a way that minimizes the use of tax credits and provides market rate returns to the Illinois Opportunity Fund. The Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall organize the Illinois Opportunity Fund as a for-profit limited partnership or limited liability company under Illinois law pursuant to which the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation shall be the general partner or managing member, as the case may be.
- (b) Qualified investors shall be permitted to invest in debt obligations of equity interests or the Illinois Opportunity Fund. Such interests or obligations shall provide 23 for a fixed or variable rate of return established by the Illinois Capital Investment Corporation and approved by DCEO. DCEO may award contingent tax credits to investors in the Illinois Opportunity Fund that shall be redeemable if the Illinois Opportunity Fund fails to achieve results sufficient to repay the amounts invested by such investors and provide 29 them with specified returns. Returns on investments generated by the Illinois Opportunity Fund in excess of amounts required to (i) repay the amounts invested by investors and provide them with specified returns, and (ii) pay all or an agreed upon portion of DCEO's costs for establishing and operating 33 specified business development programs designed to promote economic development within the State of Illinois, including by

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increasing the availability of viable investment opportunities
and business start-ups in all regions of the State, shall be
reinvested by the Illinois Opportunity Fund in investments in
private institutional, seed, angel, mezzanine, or community
development venture capital funds, SBIC's, or other entities in
the manner described in this Section.

- (c) The Illinois Opportunity Fund shall operate primarily as a fund of funds that invests principally in high-quality angel, institutional, seed, mezzanine, and development venture capital funds and SBIC's that (i) maintain a meaningful physical presence in the State of Illinois, (ii) are managed by private investment managers who commit that their funds will invest not less than the amount invested with them by the Illinois Opportunity Fund in businesses that are headquartered or maintain meaningful business operations in the State of Illinois, and (iii) meet the investment objectives and criteria established by DCEO and this Act. In establishing these objectives and criteria, DCEO shall consult with leaders in business, science, and government to identify strategic industries and sectors that offer the potential to create high-quality and sustainable employment opportunities Illinoisans and create domestic and global markets for the products and services of investee companies. In addition, in establishing these objectives and criteria, DCEO shall seek to ensure that funds will be available for investment by the Illinois Opportunity Fund in seed funds, angel funds, and CDVC or other CDFI funds in diverse geographies within Illinois.
- engage consultants, expend funds, invest funds, contract, bond or insure against loss, and perform any other act necessary to carry out its mission. Without limiting the foregoing, the Illinois Opportunity Fund may (i) issue debt or equity securities and borrow such funds as may be needed to accomplish its goals, (ii) open and manage bank and short-term investment accounts as deemed necessary by its fund manager or managers, and (iii) expend funds to secure investment ratings. The

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- 1 Illinois Opportunity Fund shall adopt investment and diversification policies.
  - (e) The Illinois Opportunity Fund shall engage a certified public accountant to conduct an annual audit of its financial condition and results of operations.
  - Assembly reports on the performance of the Illinois Opportunity
    Fund and other pertinent information concerning the Illinois
    Opportunity Fund and the Illinois Capital Investment
    Corporation, except for trade secrets and commercial or
    financial information obtained from a person or business if the
    information is proprietary, privileged, or confidential or if
    disclosure may cause competitive harm or could reasonably be
    expected to produce private gain or public loss.
  - (g) Fifty years after the formation of the Illinois Opportunity Fund, it shall be liquidated and its assets shall be distributed in accordance with law.

Section 25. Contingent tax credits.

- 19 (a) The State of Illinois hereby allows an aggregate of \$200,000,000 of contingent tax credits, which may be allocated 20 and issued by DCEO to qualified investors in the Illinois 21 22 Opportunity Fund. DCEO shall not be obligated to issue 23 certificates equal to the full aggregate amount allowed by the State of Illinois, and it may elect to suspend or terminate the 24 25 issuance of certificates at any time if it does not believe 26 that the continued issuance of certificates will assist the State of Illinois in meeting the objectives of this Act. Tax 27 28 credits may be redeemed in any year redemption is permitted to 29 the extent the Illinois Opportunity Fund is unable to make required repayments to its investors of the amounts invested by 30 31 them and provide them with specified fixed or variable rate 32 returns. Tax credits shall be redeemable not earlier than 33 January 1, 2010 nor later than December 31, 2033 as may be specified in any certificate. 34
  - (b) DCEO shall determine the amount of tax credits to be

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- allowed to investors in the Illinois Opportunity Fund and the years those tax credits may first be redeemed. The aggregate redemptions of tax credits issued by DCEO, however, shall not exceed \$40,000,000 in any fiscal year of the State of Illinois.
- 5 (c) All tax credits shall be evidenced by certificates. DCEO shall establish and set forth in each certificate all 6 terms and conditions under which tax credits may be redeemed. In establishing the terms of any tax credits and issuing 8 certificates, DCEO shall seek to promote the purposes of this 9 10 Act. Tax credits may not be redeemed except in accordance with 11 the terms of the certificate under which they have been issued. 12 The certificates shall, upon proper issuance to investors in the Illinois Opportunity Fund, be binding on DCEO and the 13 Illinois Department of Revenue. 14
  - (d) Tax credits issued pursuant to this Section shall be freely transferable by their holders. DCEO shall, in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Revenue, develop a system for registration of any tax credits allowed or transferred pursuant to this Act that permits verification that any tax credit claimed upon a tax return is valid and properly taken in the year of claim, and that any transfers of the tax credit are made in accordance with the requirements of this Act.
  - (e) Tax credits allowed or transferred pursuant to this Act shall not be considered securities under any Illinois law relating to securities.

Section 30. Powers and effectiveness. Nothing contained in this Act is or shall be construed as a restriction or limitation upon any powers that DCEO might otherwise have under any other law of this State, and the provisions of this Act are cumulative to those powers. The provisions of this Act do and shall be construed to provide a complete, additional, and alternative method for the doing of the things authorized and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred by any other laws.

- Section 35. Acceptable investments. Investments by designated investors in the Illinois Opportunity Fund shall be deemed permissible investments for State chartered banks and for domestic insurance companies under the appropriate laws of the State of Illinois.
- Section 40. Business development grants. DCEO may establish a business planning and development assistance grant program to provide grant funds to help entrepreneurs with business creation and expansion or related activities, subject to appropriation.
- Section 45. Illinois Opportunity Special Projects Fund.

  The Illinois Opportunity Special Projects Fund is created as a special fund in the State treasury. DCEO may accept disbursements from the Illinois Opportunity Fund for deposit into the Illinois Opportunity Special Projects Fund and expend those funds for the purposes set forth in Sections 15(g) and 20(b) of this Act, subject to appropriation.
- Section 95. The Illinois State Auditing Act is amended by changing Section 3-1 as follows:
- 20 (30 ILCS 5/3-1) (from Ch. 15, par. 303-1)
- Sec. 3-1. Jurisdiction of Auditor General. The Auditor
  General has jurisdiction over all State agencies to make post
  audits and investigations authorized by or under this Act or
  the Constitution.
- 25 The Auditor General has jurisdiction over local government 26 agencies and private agencies only:
- 27 (a) to make such post audits authorized by or under
  28 this Act as are necessary and incidental to a post audit of
  29 a State agency or of a program administered by a State
  30 agency involving public funds of the State, but this
  31 jurisdiction does not include any authority to review local

governmental agencies in the obligation, receipt, expenditure or use of public funds of the State that are granted without limitation or condition imposed by law, other than the general limitation that such funds be used for public purposes;

- (b) to make investigations authorized by or under this Act or the Constitution; and
- (c) to make audits of the records of local government agencies to verify actual costs of state-mandated programs when directed to do so by the Legislative Audit Commission at the request of the State Board of Appeals under the State Mandates Act.

In addition to the foregoing, the Auditor General may conduct an audit of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, the Regional Transportation Authority, the Suburban Bus Division, the Commuter Rail Division and the Chicago Transit Authority and any other subsidized carrier when authorized by the Legislative Audit Commission. Such audit may be a financial, management or program audit, or any combination thereof.

The audit shall determine whether they are operating in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Subject to the limitations of this Act, the Legislative Audit Commission may by resolution specify additional determinations to be included in the scope of the audit.

In addition to the foregoing, the Auditor General must also conduct a financial audit of the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority's expenditures of public funds in connection with the reconstruction, renovation, remodeling, extension, or improvement of all or substantially all of any existing "facility", as that term is defined in the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority Act.

The Auditor General may also conduct an audit, when authorized by the Legislative Audit Commission, of any hospital which receives 10% or more of its gross revenues from payments from the State of Illinois, Department of Public Aid, Medical

Assistance Program.

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The Auditor General is authorized to conduct financial and compliance audits of the Illinois Distance Learning Foundation and the Illinois Conservation Foundation.

As soon as practical after the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1995, the Auditor General shall conduct a compliance and management audit of the City of Chicago and any other entity with regard to the operation of Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Chicago Midway Airport and Merrill C. Meigs Field. The audit shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of revenues, expenses, and transfers of funds; purchasing and contracting policies and practices; staffing levels; and hiring practices and procedures. When completed, the audit required by this paragraph shall be distributed in accordance with Section 3-14.

The Auditor General shall conduct a financial and compliance and program audit of distributions from the Municipal Economic Development Fund during the immediately preceding calendar year pursuant to Section 8-403.1 of the Public Utilities Act at no cost to the city, village, or incorporated town that received the distributions.

The Auditor General must conduct an audit of the Health Facilities Planning Board pursuant to Section 19.5 of the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act.

The Auditor General of the State of Illinois shall annually conduct or cause to be conducted a financial and compliance audit of the books and records of any county water commission organized pursuant to the Water Commission Act of 1985 and shall file a copy of the report of that audit with the Governor and the Legislative Audit Commission. The filed audit shall be open to the public for inspection. The cost of the audit shall be charged to the county water commission in accordance with Section 6z-27 of the State Finance Act. The county water commission shall make available to the Auditor General its books and records and any other documentation, whether in the possession of its trustees or other parties, necessary to

- 1 conduct the audit required. These audit requirements apply only
- 2 through July 1, 2007.
- 3 The Auditor General must conduct audits of the Rend Lake
- 4 Conservancy District as provided in Section 25.5 of the River
- 5 Conservancy Districts Act.
- 6 The Auditor General is authorized to conduct financial and
- 7 compliance audits of the Illinois Capital Investment
- 8 <u>Corporation and the Illinois Opportunity Fund.</u>
- 9 (Source: P.A. 93-226, eff. 7-22-03; 93-259, eff. 7-22-03;
- 10 93-275, eff. 7-22-03; revised 8-25-03.)
- 11 Section 96. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
- 12 Section 5.625 as follows:
- 13 (30 ILCS 105/5.625 new)
- Sec. 5.625. The Illinois Opportunity Special Projects
- 15 <u>Fund.</u>
- Section 99. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.