

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 34-1.05 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/34-1.05 new)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on May 31, 2015)

8 Sec. 34-1.05. The Chicago Educational Governance Task
9 Force.

10 (a) The General Assembly makes the following findings:

11 (1) City of Chicago School District 299 is one of the
12 only school districts in this State with an appointed, not
13 an elected, school board.

14 (2) For 15 years, City of Chicago School District 299
15 has implemented a staggering number of reforms, including
16 probation, student retention, school closings, charters,
17 turnarounds, and the wholesale firing of 1,300 educators in
18 the summer of 2011.

19 (3) Many of these reforms are controversial and require
20 a robust democratic discussion and decision-making
21 process.

22 (4) For the past 15 years, citizens have had little to
23 no voice in school policy.

1 (5) All children must be able to walk across the street
2 to receive a world class education.

3 (b) The Chicago Educational Governance Task Force is
4 created for the purpose of recommending the best structure and
5 procedure for the governance of City of Chicago School District
6 299 in order to protect the welfare of the students of the City
7 of Chicago.

8 (c) The Task Force shall be composed of the following
9 members:

10 (1) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House
11 of Representatives and 3 members appointed by the Minority
12 Leader of the House of Representatives.

13 (2) Three members appointed by the President of the
14 Senate and 3 members appointed by the Minority Leader of
15 the Senate.

16 (3) The Chief Executive Officer of City of Chicago
17 School District 299 or her or his designee.

18 (4) The President of the Chicago Board of Education or
19 her or his designee.

20 (5) The president of a Chicago professional teachers'
21 organization or his or her designee.

22 (6) The president of the association representing
23 principals in the schools of the district or his or her
24 designee.

25 (7) The student representative from the Chicago Board
26 of Education or her or his designee.

1 (d) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
2 appoint one of his or her appointees under subdivision (1) of
3 subsection (c) of this Section as a co-chairperson of the
4 Chicago Educational Governance Task Force. The President of the
5 Senate shall appoint one of his or her appointees under
6 subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this Section as a
7 co-chairperson of the Chicago Educational Governance Task
8 Force. Members appointed by the legislative leaders shall be
9 appointed for the duration of the Chicago Educational
10 Governance Task Force. In the event of a vacancy, the
11 appointment to fill the vacancy shall be made by the
12 legislative leader of the same chamber and party as the leader
13 who made the original appointment.

14 (e) The Chicago Board of Education shall provide
15 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

16 (f) The members of the Task Force shall serve on a pro bono
17 basis. These members shall aid in the gathering of pertinent
18 information on the impact of various school governance
19 structures, including without limitation an elected
20 representative school board and mayoral control, as well as
21 gathering and analyzing data about the district's current
22 governance structure.

23 (g) The Task Force shall report its recommendation as to
24 which governance structure is best designed to serve the
25 students of the City of Chicago to the General Assembly on or
26 before May 30, 2015.

1 (h) The Task Force is abolished and this Section is
2 repealed on May 31, 2015.