

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 2-3.25f as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25f) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.25f)
7 Sec. 2-3.25f. State interventions.

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall provide technical
9 assistance to assist with the development and implementation of
10 School and District Improvement Plans.

11 Schools or school districts that fail to make reasonable
12 efforts to implement an approved Improvement Plan may suffer
13 loss of State funds by school district, attendance center, or
14 program as the State Board of Education deems appropriate.

15 (a-5) (Blank).

16 (b) If after 3 years following its placement on academic
17 watch status a school district or school remains on academic
18 watch status, the State Board of Education may (i) change the
19 recognition status of the school district or school to
20 nonrecognized or (ii) authorize the State Superintendent of
21 Education to direct the reassignment of pupils or direct the
22 reassignment or replacement of school district personnel who
23 are relevant to the failure to meet adequate yearly progress

1 criteria. If a school district is nonrecognized in its
2 entirety, it shall automatically be dissolved on July 1
3 following that nonrecognition and its territory realigned with
4 another school district or districts by the regional board of
5 school trustees in accordance with the procedures set forth in
6 Section 7-11 of the School Code. The effective date of the
7 nonrecognition of a school shall be July 1 following the
8 nonrecognition.

9 (b-5) The State Board of Education shall also develop a
10 system to provide assistance and resources to lower performing
11 school districts. At a minimum, the State Board shall identify
12 school districts to receive priority services, to be known as
13 priority districts. The school district shall provide the
14 exclusive bargaining representative with a 5-day notice that
15 the district has been identified as a priority district. In
16 addition, the State Board may, by rule, develop other
17 categories of low-performing schools and school districts to
18 receive services.

19 Districts designated as priority districts shall be those
20 that fall within one of the following categories:

21 (1) Have at least one school that is among the lowest
22 performing 5% of schools in this State based on a 3-year
23 average, with respect to the performance of the "all
24 students" group for the percentage of students meeting or
25 exceeding standards in reading and mathematics combined,
26 and demonstrate a lack of progress as defined by the State

1 Board of Education.

2 (2) Have at least one secondary school that has an
3 average graduation rate of less than 60% over the last 3
4 school years.

5 (3) Have at least one school receiving a school
6 improvement grant under Section 1003(g) of the federal
7 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

8 The State Board of Education shall work with a priority
9 district to perform a district needs assessment to determine
10 the district's core functions that are areas of strength and
11 weakness, unless the district is already undergoing a national
12 accreditation process. The results from the district needs
13 assessment shall be used by the district to identify goals and
14 objectives for the district's improvement. The district needs
15 assessment shall include a study of district functions, such as
16 district finance, governance, student engagement, instruction
17 practices, climate, community involvement, and continuous
18 improvement.

19 Based on the results of the district needs assessment, the
20 State Board of Education shall work with the district to
21 provide technical assistance and professional development, in
22 partnership with the district, to implement a continuous
23 improvement plan that would increase outcomes for students. The
24 plan for continuous improvement shall be based on the results
25 of the district needs assessment and shall be used to determine
26 the types of services that are to be provided to each priority

1 district. Potential services for a district may include
2 monitoring adult and student practices, reviewing and
3 reallocating district resources, developing a district
4 leadership team, providing access to curricular content area
5 specialists, and providing online resources and professional
6 development.

7 The State Board of Education may require priority districts
8 identified as having deficiencies in one or more core functions
9 of the district needs assessment to undergo an accreditation
10 process as provided in subsection (d) of Section 2-3.25f-5 of
11 this Code.

12 (c) All federal requirements apply to schools and school
13 districts utilizing federal funds under Title I, Part A of the
14 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-370, eff. 1-1-12; 98-1155, eff. 1-9-15.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
17 becoming law.