

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 8.1 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/8.1 new)

7 Sec. 8.1. Foster Youth Summer Internship Pilot Program.

8 (a) The Department shall adopt rules on the development and
9 implementation of a Foster Youth Summer Internship Pilot
10 Program for the purpose of providing foster youth with
11 professional training and experience through internships. The
12 Department may collaborate with other appropriate State
13 agencies to establish the pilot program.

14 (b) The Department shall adopt rules on the application
15 process and eligibility requirements under the pilot program,
16 which shall include, but not be limited to, a rule establishing
17 that individuals who are at least 15 years old and are current
18 or former foster youth are eligible to participate in the pilot
19 program.

20 (c) The Department shall adopt rules to use the
21 request-for-proposal process set forth in the Illinois
22 Procurement Code when soliciting and entering into contractual
23 agreements with organizations wanting to award internships

1 under the pilot program.

2 (d) The pilot program may be established in multiple
3 regions of the State.

4 (e) Internships provided under the pilot program may be
5 paid or unpaid.

6 (f) Subject to appropriations, beginning January 1, 2016,
7 the Department shall implement the pilot program. The pilot
8 program shall operate for a 2-year period. At the end of that
9 2-year period, the Department shall evaluate the pilot program
10 and submit a report to the General Assembly with its findings,
11 including, but not limited to: (i) the number of foster youth
12 who participated in the pilot program; (ii) the location and
13 type of internships provided under the pilot program; and (3)
14 the Department's efforts to recruit eligible individuals to
15 participate in the pilot program. The report shall state
16 whether the Department intends to continue the pilot program,
17 using performance metrics to explain the rationale for its
18 decision.

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
20 becoming law.