

1 AN ACT concerning lawyers' assistance programs.

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 Lawyers' Assistance Program Act.

6 Section 5. Definition. For the purposes of this Act,  
7 "lawyers' assistance program" means a program operated by a  
8 not-for-profit corporation that is exempt from the payment of  
9 federal taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
10 Code and that provides services that may include the  
11 provision of information on addiction and mental health  
12 impairments, referrals to treatment programs, peer  
13 assistance, prevention education, interventions, relapse  
14 prevention, and monitoring of compliance with treatment  
15 programs for attorneys.

16 Section 10. Support for lawyers' assistance programs. The  
17 Illinois Supreme Court may support programs that provide  
18 assistance to attorneys who are addicted to or abuse alcohol  
19 or other drugs or who are in need of mental health  
20 assistance.

21 Section 15. Creation of the Lawyers' Assistance Program  
22 Fund. There is created in the State treasury the Lawyers'  
23 Assistance Program Fund, a special fund to be appropriated  
24 solely for the purpose of funding lawyers' assistance  
25 programs.

26 Section 20. Establishment of a Lawyers' Assistance  
27 Program Fee. The Attorney Registration and Disciplinary  
28 Commission shall collect an annual lawyers' assistance

1 program fee from every attorney admitted to practice law in  
2 this State paying full annual registration fees. The annual  
3 lawyers' assistance program fee is \$7, or such other amount  
4 as is established by Supreme Court rule, and shall be  
5 collected at the time fixed for the annual registration of  
6 attorneys. Lawyers' assistance program fees collected by the  
7 Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission shall be  
8 remitted within 60 days to the State Treasurer for deposit  
9 into the Lawyers' Assistance Program Fund.

10 Section 25. Payment authorization and powers. The Supreme  
11 Court may make, enter into, or execute contracts, grants, or  
12 agreements with any not-for-profit entity for the provision  
13 of a lawyers' assistance program authorized by this Act.  
14 Payments under those contracts, grants, or agreements  
15 authorized by this Act shall be made from appropriations from  
16 the Lawyers' Assistance Program Fund.

17 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
18 Section 5.570 as follows:

19 (30 ILCS 105/5.570 new)

20 Sec. 5.570. The Lawyers' Assistance Program Fund.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
22 becoming law.