

1 AN ACT in relation to foster care.

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
5 amended by adding Section 34.11a as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/34.11a new)

7 Sec. 34.11a. Grandparents as foster parents; financial
8 assistance and support services.

9 (a) Any grandparent of a child whose parents no longer
10 have custody of the child and who is also acting as the
11 foster parent of that child is entitled to full financial
12 assistance for foster care, whether or not the grandparent
13 has been licensed as a foster parent.

14 (b) The Department of Children and Family Services shall
15 create a support program, including case management services
16 and legal assistance, for grandparents acting as foster
17 parents.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 July 1, 2003.