

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 11E-190 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/11E-190 new)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 31, 2013)

8 Sec. 11E-190. School District Realignment and
9 Consolidation Commission.

10 (a) The School District Realignment and Consolidation
11 Commission is established. The Commission shall consist of the
12 following voting members:

13 (1) the Lieutenant Governor or his or her appointee,
14 who shall serve as the Chairperson;

15 (2) one member appointed by the State Board of
16 Education;

17 (3) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
18 Speaker of the House of Representatives;

19 (4) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
20 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

21 (5) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the
22 President of the Senate;

23 (6) a member of the General Assembly appointed by the

1 Minority Leader of the Senate;

2 (7) a representative of a statewide professional
3 teachers' organization appointed by the head of that
4 organization;

5 (8) a representative of a different statewide
6 professional teachers' organization appointed by the head
7 of that organization;

8 (9) a representative of a statewide organization that
9 represents school boards appointed by the head of that
10 organization;

11 (10) a representative of a statewide organization
12 representing principals appointed by the head of that
13 organization;

14 (11) a representative of an organization representing
15 professional teachers in a city having a population
16 exceeding 500,000 appointed by the head of that
17 organization;

18 (12) a representative of an association representing
19 school business officials appointed by the head of that
20 association;

21 (13) a representative of an association representing
22 school administrators appointed by the head of that
23 association;

24 (14) a representative from the Chicago Board of
25 Education appointed by the Chicago Board of Education;

26 (15) a representative from an organization

1 representing administrators of special education appointed
2 by the head of that organization;

3 (16) a representative from a statewide parent
4 organization appointed by the head of that organization;

5 (17) a representative from an organization
6 representing high school districts appointed by the head of
7 that organization;

8 (18) a representative from a rural school district
9 appointed by the Governor;

10 (19) a representative from a suburban school district
11 appointed by the Governor; and

12 (20) a representative of an association that
13 represents regional superintendents of schools appointed
14 by the head of that association.

15 Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be
16 reimbursed for their reasonable and necessary expenses from
17 funds appropriated for that purpose. Members shall be
18 reimbursed for their travel expenses from appropriations to the
19 State Board of Education available for that purpose and subject
20 to the rules of the appropriate travel control board.

21 The Commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson,
22 with the initial meeting of the Commission being held as soon
23 as possible after the effective date of this amendatory Act of
24 the 97th General Assembly, and shall hold public hearings
25 throughout this State.

26 The State Board of Education shall provide assistance and

1 necessary staff support services to the Commission.

2 (b) The purpose of the Commission is to make
3 recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on the
4 number of school districts in this State, the optimal amount of
5 enrollment for a school district, and where consolidation and
6 realignment would be beneficial. The Commission's
7 recommendations must focus on all of the following areas:

8 (1) Reducing the money spent on duplication of efforts.

9 (2) Improving the education of students by having less
10 obstacles between qualified teachers and their students.

11 (3) Lowering the property tax burden.

12 (4) Providing recommendations as to what the net cost
13 savings of realignment is to this State.

14 (5) Providing input to school districts on
15 reorganization.

16 (c) On or before July 1, 2012, the Commission must vote on
17 its recommendations and file a report with the Governor and the
18 General Assembly. If the Commission adopts the report by an
19 affirmative vote of at least 11 of its members, then the
20 General Assembly must, within 14 days after the report is filed
21 by the Commission, vote on whether to accept the report by the
22 adoption of a resolution by a record vote of a majority of the
23 members elected in each house. If the General Assembly is not
24 in session on the day that the report is filed, then the
25 General Assembly must vote on whether to accept the report
26 within 14 days after the General Assembly convenes for the

1 first time after the report is filed. The Commission is
2 dissolved on the day after the report is filed with both the
3 Governor and the General Assembly.

4 (d) This Section is repealed on January 31, 2013.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.