

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 Department of Commerce and Economic  
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is  
6 amended by adding Section 605-1020 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-1020 new)

8 Sec. 605-1020. Networking for Success Program.

9 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall  
10 establish a Networking for Success Program. The program shall  
11 be designed to assist small to mid-sized businesses in the  
12 following areas:

13 (1) strategic market research;

14 (2) geographic information systems;

15 (3) web design and search engine optimization; and

16 (4) social media marketing.

17 (b) The Department may enter into partnerships with  
18 non-profit business consulting firms to facilitate all or part  
19 of the Program.

20 (c) The Department shall submit a report to the Governor  
21 and the General Assembly no later than December 31, 2018 on the  
22 effectiveness of the Program. That report shall contain a  
23 recommendation on whether or not to continue the Program.

1       (d) As used in this Section, "small to mid-sized business"  
2       means a business that:  
3               (1) employs between 10 and 50 employees;  
4               (2) generates between \$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000 in  
5       annual revenue; and  
6               (3) has been located in the State for at least 2 years  
7       prior to the date of application.

8       Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
9       becoming law.