

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 changing Section
5 1D-1 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/1D-1)

7 Sec. 1D-1. Block grant funding.

8 (a) For fiscal year 1996 and each fiscal year thereafter,
9 the State Board of Education shall award to a school district
10 having a population exceeding 500,000 inhabitants a general
11 education block grant and an educational services block grant,
12 determined as provided in this Section, in lieu of distributing
13 to the district separate State funding for the programs
14 described in subsections (b) and (c). The provisions of this
15 Section, however, do not apply to any federal funds that the
16 district is entitled to receive. In accordance with Section
17 2-3.32, all block grants are subject to an audit. Therefore,
18 block grant receipts and block grant expenditures shall be
19 recorded to the appropriate fund code for the designated block
20 grant.

21 (b) The general education block grant shall include the
22 following programs: REI Initiative, Summer Bridges, Preschool
23 Education At-Risk, K-6 Comprehensive Arts, School Improvement

1 Support, Urban Education, Scientific Literacy, Substance Abuse
2 Prevention, Second Language Planning, Staff Development,
3 Outcomes and Assessment, K-6 Reading Improvement, 7-12
4 Continued Reading Improvement, Truants' Optional Education,
5 Hispanic Programs, Agriculture Education, Parental Training
6 Education, Prevention Initiative, Report Cards, and Criminal
7 Background Investigations. Notwithstanding any other provision
8 of law, all amounts paid under the general education block
9 grant from State appropriations to a school district in a city
10 having a population exceeding 500,000 inhabitants shall be
11 appropriated and expended by the board of that district for any
12 of the programs included in the block grant or any of the
13 board's lawful purposes. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2018, at
14 least 25% of any additional Preschool Education, Parental
15 Training, and Prevention Initiative program funding over and
16 above the previous fiscal year's allocation shall be used to
17 fund programs for children ages 0-3. Beginning in Fiscal Year
18 2018, funding for Preschool Education, Parental Training, and
19 Prevention Initiative programs above the allocation for these
20 programs in Fiscal Year 2017 must be used solely as a
21 supplement for these programs and may not supplant funds
22 received from other sources.

23 (c) The educational services block grant shall include the
24 following programs: Regular and Vocational Transportation,
25 State Lunch and Free Breakfast Program, Special Education
26 (Personnel, Transportation, Orphanage, Private Tuition),

1 funding for children requiring special education services,
2 Summer School, Educational Service Centers, and
3 Administrator's Academy. This subsection (c) does not relieve
4 the district of its obligation to provide the services required
5 under a program that is included within the educational
6 services block grant. It is the intention of the General
7 Assembly in enacting the provisions of this subsection (c) to
8 relieve the district of the administrative burdens that impede
9 efficiency and accompany single-program funding. The General
10 Assembly encourages the board to pursue mandate waivers
11 pursuant to Section 2-3.25g.

12 The funding program included in the educational services
13 block grant for funding for children requiring special
14 education services in each fiscal year shall be treated in that
15 fiscal year as a payment to the school district in respect of
16 services provided or costs incurred in the prior fiscal year,
17 calculated in each case as provided in this Section. Nothing in
18 this Section shall change the nature of payments for any
19 program that, apart from this Section, would be or, prior to
20 adoption or amendment of this Section, was on the basis of a
21 payment in a fiscal year in respect of services provided or
22 costs incurred in the prior fiscal year, calculated in each
23 case as provided in this Section.

24 (d) For fiscal year 1996 and each fiscal year thereafter,
25 the amount of the district's block grants shall be determined
26 as follows: (i) with respect to each program that is included

1 within each block grant, the district shall receive an amount
2 equal to the same percentage of the current fiscal year
3 appropriation made for that program as the percentage of the
4 appropriation received by the district from the 1995 fiscal
5 year appropriation made for that program, and (ii) the total
6 amount that is due the district under the block grant shall be
7 the aggregate of the amounts that the district is entitled to
8 receive for the fiscal year with respect to each program that
9 is included within the block grant that the State Board of
10 Education shall award the district under this Section for that
11 fiscal year. In the case of the Summer Bridges program, the
12 amount of the district's block grant shall be equal to 44% of
13 the amount of the current fiscal year appropriation made for
14 that program.

15 (e) The district is not required to file any application or
16 other claim in order to receive the block grants to which it is
17 entitled under this Section. The State Board of Education shall
18 make payments to the district of amounts due under the
19 district's block grants on a schedule determined by the State
20 Board of Education.

21 (f) A school district to which this Section applies shall
22 report to the State Board of Education on its use of the block
23 grants in such form and detail as the State Board of Education
24 may specify. In addition, the report must include the following
25 description for the district, which must also be reported to
26 the General Assembly: block grant allocation and expenditures

1 by program; population and service levels by program; and
2 administrative expenditures by program. The State Board of
3 Education shall ensure that the reporting requirements for the
4 district are the same as for all other school districts in this
5 State.

6 (g) This paragraph provides for the treatment of block
7 grants under Article 1C for purposes of calculating the amount
8 of block grants for a district under this Section. Those block
9 grants under Article 1C are, for this purpose, treated as
10 included in the amount of appropriation for the various
11 programs set forth in paragraph (b) above. The appropriation in
12 each current fiscal year for each block grant under Article 1C
13 shall be treated for these purposes as appropriations for the
14 individual program included in that block grant. The proportion
15 of each block grant so allocated to each such program included
16 in it shall be the proportion which the appropriation for that
17 program was of all appropriations for such purposes now in that
18 block grant, in fiscal 1995.

19 Payments to the school district under this Section with
20 respect to each program for which payments to school districts
21 generally, as of the date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd
22 General Assembly, are on a reimbursement basis shall continue
23 to be made to the district on a reimbursement basis, pursuant
24 to the provisions of this Code governing those programs.

25 (h) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any school
26 district receiving a block grant under this Section may

1 classify all or a portion of the funds that it receives in a
2 particular fiscal year from any block grant authorized under
3 this Code or from general State aid pursuant to Section 18-8.05
4 of this Code (other than supplemental general State aid) as
5 funds received in connection with any funding program for which
6 it is entitled to receive funds from the State in that fiscal
7 year (including, without limitation, any funding program
8 referred to in subsection (c) of this Section), regardless of
9 the source or timing of the receipt. The district may not
10 classify more funds as funds received in connection with the
11 funding program than the district is entitled to receive in
12 that fiscal year for that program. Any classification by a
13 district must be made by a resolution of its board of
14 education. The resolution must identify the amount of any block
15 grant or general State aid to be classified under this
16 subsection (h) and must specify the funding program to which
17 the funds are to be treated as received in connection
18 therewith. This resolution is controlling as to the
19 classification of funds referenced therein. A certified copy of
20 the resolution must be sent to the State Superintendent of
21 Education. The resolution shall still take effect even though a
22 copy of the resolution has not been sent to the State
23 Superintendent of Education in a timely manner. No
24 classification under this subsection (h) by a district shall
25 affect the total amount or timing of money the district is
26 entitled to receive under this Code. No classification under

1 this subsection (h) by a district shall in any way relieve the
2 district from or affect any requirements that otherwise would
3 apply with respect to the block grant as provided in this
4 Section, including any accounting of funds by source, reporting
5 expenditures by original source and purpose, reporting
6 requirements, or requirements of provision of services.

7 (Source: P.A. 97-238, eff. 8-2-11; 97-324, eff. 8-12-11;
8 97-813, eff. 7-13-12.)

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