

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Governmental Ethics Act is amended
5 by changing Section 4A-108 as follows:

6 (5 ILCS 420/4A-108)

7 Sec. 4A-108. Internet-based systems of filing.

8 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or any
9 other law, the Secretary of State and county clerks are
10 authorized to institute an Internet-based system for the filing
11 of statements of economic interests in their offices. With
12 respect to county clerk systems, the determination to institute
13 such a system shall be in the sole discretion of the county
14 clerk and shall meet the requirements set out in this Section.
15 With respect to a Secretary of State system, the determination
16 to institute such a system shall be in the sole discretion of
17 the Secretary of State and shall meet the requirements set out
18 in this Section and those Sections of the State Officials and
19 Employees Ethics Act requiring ethics officer review prior to
20 filing. The system shall be capable of allowing an ethics
21 officer to approve a statement of economic interests and shall
22 include a means to amend a statement of economic interests.
23 When this Section does not modify or remove the requirements

1 set forth elsewhere in this Article, those requirements shall
2 apply to any system of Internet-based filing authorized by this
3 Section. When this Section does modify or remove the
4 requirements set forth elsewhere in this Article, the
5 provisions of this Section shall apply to any system of
6 Internet-based filing authorized by this Section.

7 (b) In any system of Internet-based filing of statements of
8 economic interests instituted by the Secretary of State or a
9 county clerk:

10 (1) Any filing of an Internet-based statement of
11 economic interests shall be the equivalent of the filing of
12 a verified, written statement of economic interests as
13 required by Section 4A-101 and the equivalent of the filing
14 of a verified, dated, and signed statement of economic
15 interests as required by Section 4A-104.

16 (2) The Secretary of State and county clerks who
17 institute a system of Internet-based filing of statements
18 of economic interests shall establish a password-protected
19 website to receive the filings of such statements. A
20 website established under this Section shall set forth and
21 provide a means of responding to the items set forth in
22 Section 4A-102 that are required of a person who files a
23 statement of economic interests with that officer. A
24 website established under this Section shall set forth and
25 provide a means of generating a printable receipt page
26 acknowledging filing.

1 (3) The times for the filing of statements of economic
2 interests set forth in Section 4A-105 shall be followed in
3 any system of Internet-based filing of statements of
4 economic interests; provided that a candidate for elective
5 office who is required to file a statement of economic
6 interests in relation to his or her candidacy pursuant to
7 Section 4A-105(a) ~~shall not use the Internet to file his or~~
8 ~~her statement of economic interests but shall file his or~~
9 ~~her statement of economic interests in a written or printed~~
10 ~~form and~~ shall receive a written or printed receipt for his
11 or her filing.

12 A candidate filing for Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
13 Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer,
14 Comptroller, State Senate, or State House of
15 Representatives shall not use the Internet to file his or
16 her statement of economic interests, but shall file his or
17 her statement of economic interests in a written or printed
18 form and shall receive a written or printed receipt for his
19 or her filing. Annually, the duly appointed ethics officer
20 for each legislative caucus shall certify to the Secretary
21 of State whether his or her caucus members will file their
22 statements of economic interests electronically or in a
23 written or printed format for that year. If the ethics
24 officer for a caucus certifies that the statements of
25 economic interests shall be written or printed, then
26 members of the General Assembly of that caucus shall not

1 use the Internet to file his or her statement of economic
2 interests, but shall file his or her statement of economic
3 interests in a written or printed form and shall receive a
4 written or printed receipt for his or her filing. If no
5 certification is made by an ethics officer for a
6 legislative caucus, or if a member of the General Assembly
7 is not affiliated with a legislative caucus, then the
8 affected member or members of the General Assembly may file
9 their statements of economic interests using the Internet.

10 (4) In the first year of the implementation of a system
11 of Internet-based filing of statements of economic
12 interests, each person required to file such a statement is
13 to be notified in writing of his or her obligation to file
14 his or her statement of economic interests by way of the
15 Internet-based system. If access to the web site requires a
16 code or password, this information shall be included in the
17 notice prescribed by this paragraph.

18 (5) When a person required to file a statement of
19 economic interests has supplied the Secretary of State or a
20 county clerk, as applicable, with an email address for the
21 purpose of receiving notices under this Article by email, a
22 notice sent by email to the supplied email address shall be
23 the equivalent of a notice sent by first class mail, as set
24 forth in Section 4A-106. A person who has supplied such an
25 email address shall notify the Secretary of State or county
26 clerk, as applicable, when his or her email address changes

1 or if he or she no longer wishes to receive notices by
2 email.

3 (6) If any person who is required to file a statement
4 of economic interests and who has chosen to receive notices
5 by email fails to file his or her statement by May 10, then
6 the Secretary of State or county clerk, as applicable,
7 shall send an additional email notice on that date,
8 informing the person that he or she has not filed and
9 describing the penalties for late filing and failing to
10 file. This notice shall be in addition to other notices
11 provided for in this Article.

12 (7) The Secretary of State and each county clerk who
13 institutes a system of Internet-based filing of statements
14 of economic interests may also institute an Internet-based
15 process for the filing of the list of names and addresses
16 of persons required to file statements of economic
17 interests by the chief administrative officers that must
18 file such information with the Secretary of State or county
19 clerk, as applicable, pursuant to Section 4A-106. Whenever
20 the Secretary of State or a county clerk institutes such a
21 system under this paragraph, every chief administrative
22 officer must use the system to file this information.

23 (8) The Secretary of State and any county clerk who
24 institutes a system of Internet-based filing of statements
25 of economic interests shall post the contents of such
26 statements filed with him or her available for inspection

1 and copying on a publicly accessible website. Such postings
2 shall not include the addresses or signatures of the
3 filers.

4 (Source: P.A. 99-108, eff. 7-22-15.)