

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 21B-107 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-107 new)

7 Sec. 21B-107. Educator preparation program; appeal.

8 (a) An institution of higher education that is denied a  
9 recommendation for recognition by the State Educator  
10 Preparation and Licensure Board to offer an educator  
11 preparation program at the institution may appeal the decision  
12 to the State Board of Education. The appeal must state the  
13 reasons why the State Educator Preparation and Licensure  
14 Board's decision should be reversed and must include any other  
15 information required by the State Board of Education. The  
16 appeal must be submitted in writing, by certified mail with  
17 return receipt requested, and postmarked no later than 14 days  
18 after receipt of the notice of denial of recommendation from  
19 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. As soon as  
20 practicable after receipt of the appeal, the State Board of  
21 Education must provide a copy of the appeal to the State  
22 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. Except as provided  
23 under subsection (b) of this Section, the State Board of

1 Education must approve or deny the appeal no later than 30 days  
2 after receipt of the appeal.

3 (b) If a majority of the members of the State Board of  
4 Education determines that the appeal is untimely or that the  
5 proposed educator preparation program does not comply with 23  
6 Ill. Adm. Code 25.Subpart C, the State Board of Education must  
7 hold a public hearing, which must comply with all of the  
8 following:

9 (1) Notice of the meeting must be posted in accordance  
10 with the Open Meetings Act.

11 (2) The hearing must include testimony from members of  
12 the State Board of Education and State Educator Preparation  
13 and Licensure Board and other public participants.

14 (3) The hearing must include testimony from the  
15 institution of higher education appealing the denial of  
16 recommendation. The testimony must include evidence of any  
17 nationally recognized accreditations, qualifications of  
18 the educators at the institution, and the relevance of  
19 education preparation programs in Illinois communities.  
20 The testimony must also include a response to any concerns  
21 raised by the State Board of Education or State Educator  
22 Preparation and Licensure Board.

23 The State Board of Education must take action to approve or  
24 deny the appeal immediately after the hearing.