

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 12-4.52 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/12-4.52 new)

7 Sec. 12-4.52. Prescriber education.

8 (a) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall
9 develop, in collaboration with a public university that has a
10 Doctor of Pharmacy Professional Program and is located in a
11 county with a population of more than 3,000,000, a program
12 designed to provide prescribing physicians under the medical
13 assistance program with an evidence-based, non-commercial
14 source of the latest objective information about
15 pharmaceuticals. Information shall be presented to prescribing
16 physicians by specially trained pharmacists, nurses, or other
17 health professionals to assist prescribing physicians in
18 making appropriate therapeutic recommendations.

19 (b) The prescriber education program shall consist of 2
20 components: a web-based curriculum and an academic educator
21 outreach. The program shall contract with clinical pharmacists
22 to provide scheduled visits with prescribing physicians to
23 update them on the latest research concerning medication usage

1 and new updates on disease states in an unbiased manner.

2 (c) Education provided under the prescriber education
3 program shall include, but not be limited to, disease-based
4 educational modules on the treatment of chronic non-cancer
5 pain, diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, respiratory
6 syncytial virus, and nicotine dependence. New modules may be
7 created periodically as needed and existing module content
8 shall be reviewed and updated on an annual or as-needed basis.
9 Educational modules provided under the program shall provide
10 prescribing physicians with continuing medical education
11 credit.

12 (d) Additional resources provided under the prescriber
13 education program shall include, but not be limited to, the
14 following:

15 (1) a drug information response center available to
16 prescribing physicians that provides thorough and timely
17 in-depth answers to any questions a prescribing physician
18 may have within 48 hours after a question is received; and

19 (2) information on drug utilization trends within
20 individual and group practices.