

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 2-3.163 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.163)

7 Sec. 2-3.163. Prioritization of Urgency of Need for
8 Services database.

9 (a) The General Assembly makes all of the following
10 findings:

11 (1) The Department of Human Services maintains a
12 statewide database known as the Prioritization of Urgency
13 of Need for Services that records information about
14 individuals with developmental disabilities who are
15 potentially in need of services.

16 (2) The Department of Human Services uses the data on
17 Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services to select
18 individuals for services as funding becomes available, to
19 develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan
20 for future needs.

21 (3) Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services is
22 available for children and adults with a developmental
23 disability who have an unmet service need anticipated in

1 the next 5 years.

2 (4) Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services is
3 the first step toward getting developmental disabilities
4 services in this State. If individuals are not on the
5 Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services waiting
6 list, they are not in queue for State developmental
7 disabilities services.

8 (5) Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services may
9 be underutilized by children and their parents or
10 guardians due to lack of awareness or lack of information.

11 (b) The State Board of Education may work with school
12 districts to inform all students with developmental
13 disabilities and their parents or guardians about the
14 Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services database.

15 (c) Subject to appropriation, the Department of Human
16 Services and State Board of Education shall develop and
17 implement an online, computer-based training program for at
18 least one designated employee in every public school in this
19 State to educate him or her about the Prioritization of
20 Urgency of Need for Services database and steps to be taken to
21 ensure children and adolescents are enrolled. The training
22 shall include instruction for at least one designated employee
23 in every public school in contacting the appropriate
24 developmental disabilities Independent Service Coordination
25 agency to enroll children and adolescents in the database. At
26 least one designated employee in every public school shall

1 ensure the opportunity to enroll in the Prioritization of
2 Urgency of Need for Services database is discussed during
3 annual individualized education program (IEP) meetings for all
4 children and adolescents believed to have a developmental
5 disability.

6 (d) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
7 Department of Human Services, through school districts, shall
8 provide to inform parents and guardians of students a copy of
9 the Department of Human Services's guide titled "Understanding
10 PUNS: A Guide to Prioritization for Urgency of Need for
11 Services" each year at the annual review meeting for the
12 student's individualized education program ~~through school~~
13 ~~districts about the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for~~
14 ~~Services waiting list,~~ including the consideration required in
15 subsection (e) of this Section.

16 (e) The Department of Human Services shall consider the
17 length of time spent on the Prioritization of Urgency of Need
18 for Services waiting list, in addition to other factors
19 considered, when selecting individuals on the list for
20 services.

21 (Source: P.A. 99-144, eff. 1-1-16; 99-642, eff. 7-28-16;
22 99-716, eff. 1-1-17.)

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
24 becoming law.