

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 14-17 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/14-17 new)

7 Sec. 14-17. High-Cost Special Education Funding  
8 Commission.

9 (a) The High-Cost Special Education Funding Commission is  
10 created for the purpose of making recommendations to the  
11 Governor and the General Assembly for an alternative funding  
12 structure in this State for high-cost special education  
13 students that is aligned to the principles of the  
14 evidence-based funding formula in Section 18-8.15 in which  
15 school districts furthest away from adequacy receive the  
16 greatest amount of funding.

17 (b) The Commission shall consist of all of the following  
18 members:

19 (1) One representative appointed by the Speaker of the  
20 House of Representatives, who shall serve as  
21 co-chairperson.

22 (2) One representative appointed by the Minority  
23 Leader of the House of Representatives.

1           (3) One senator appointed by the President of the  
2           Senate, who shall serve as co-chairperson.

3           (4) One senator appointed by the Minority Leader of  
4           the Senate.

5           (5) The State Superintendent of Education or a  
6           designee.

7           (6) The Director of the Governor's Office of  
8           Management and Budget or a designee.

9           (7) The Chairperson of the Advisory Council on the  
10          Education of Children with Disabilities or a designee.

11          Additionally, within 60 days after the effective date of  
12          this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, the State  
13          Superintendent of Education shall appoint all of the following  
14          individuals to the Commission:

15           (A) One representative of a statewide association that  
16           represents private special education schools.

17           (B) One representative of a statewide association that  
18           represents special education cooperatives.

19           (C) One educator from a special education cooperative,  
20           recommended by a statewide association that represents  
21           teachers.

22           (D) One educator from a special education cooperative  
23           that is not a member district of a special education  
24           cooperative, recommended by a different statewide  
25           association that represents teachers.

26           (E) One educator or administrator from a nonpublic

1 special education school.

2 (F) One representative of a statewide association that  
3 represents school administrators.

4 (G) One representative of a statewide association that  
5 represents school business officials.

6 (H) One representative of a statewide association that  
7 represents private special education schools in rural  
8 school districts.

9 (I) One representative from a residential program.

10 Members appointed to the Commission must reflect the  
11 racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity of this State.

12 (c) Members of the Commission shall serve without  
13 compensation, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable and  
14 necessary expenses from funds appropriated to the State Board  
15 of Education for that purpose.

16 (d) The State Board of Education shall provide  
17 administrative support to the Commission.

18 (e) To ensure that high-quality services are provided to  
19 ensure equitable outcomes for high-cost special education  
20 students, the Commission shall do all the following:

21 (1) Review the current system of funding high-cost  
22 special education students in this State.

23 (2) Review the needs of high-cost special education  
24 students in this State and the associated costs to ensure  
25 high-quality services are provided to these students.

26 (3) Review how other states fund high-cost special

1       education students.

2           (4) If available, review other proposals and best  
3       practices for funding high-cost special education  
4       students.

5       (f) On or before November 30, 2021, the Commission shall  
6       report its recommendations to the Governor and the General  
7       Assembly.

8       (g) This Section is repealed on December 31, 2022.

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