

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Home Grown Business Opportunity  
5 Act is amended by changing Section 15 and by adding Section 20  
6 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 725/15)

8 Sec. 15. Illinois Home Grown Business Opportunities.

9 (a) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
10 shall develop an economic plan to assist businesses and  
11 municipalities located geographically close to bordering  
12 states.

13 (b) The plan shall take into account relevant economic  
14 data, including input from local economic development  
15 officials, and identify and develop specific strategies for  
16 utilizing the assets of those regions of the State located  
17 geographically close to bordering states, so that those  
18 regions may better compete economically with bordering states.

19 (c) The plan shall include the following:

20 (1) an assessment of the economic development  
21 practices of bordering states;

22 (2) a comparative assessment of the economic  
23 development practices of this State;

1 (3) recommendations for best practices with respect to  
2 economic development, business incentives, business  
3 attraction, and business retention for regions in Illinois  
4 that border at least one other state;

5 (4) identification of existing State services and  
6 resources that would assist businesses and municipalities  
7 in being more economically competitive with bordering  
8 states; ~~and~~

9 (5) any other resource that may assist businesses and  
10 municipalities located geographically close to bordering  
11 states that the Department deems necessary and relevant  
12 under this Act;~~:-~~

13 (6) notification to all small businesses and  
14 municipalities of funding opportunities that the State of  
15 Illinois and the federal government are offering to small  
16 businesses and municipalities; and

17 (7) notification to all small businesses and  
18 municipalities of new restrictions placed upon communities  
19 as it relates to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

20 (d) The information and resources collected and  
21 established by the Department under this Act shall be  
22 available to the public and posted on the Department's  
23 Internet website.

24 (Source: P.A. 100-1084, eff. 1-1-19.)

25 (20 ILCS 725/20 new)

1       Sec. 20. Border Community COVID-19 Mitigation Grant  
2 Program. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
3 shall create the Border Community COVID-19 Mitigation Grant  
4 Program. Subject to appropriation, grants provided under this  
5 Section shall only be provided to businesses and  
6 municipalities located geographically close to bordering  
7 states. The Department shall adopt rules necessary for the  
8 implementation and administration of this Section.