

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 Economic Opportunity Act is
5 amended by changing Section 3 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 625/3) (from Ch. 127, par. 2603)

7 Sec. 3. (a) A community action agency is a political
8 subdivision of the State, a combination of political
9 subdivisions, a public agency, or a private nonprofit agency
10 which has the authority under any applicable charter or laws
11 to receive funds pursuant to Section 2 to support community
12 action programs of the type described in Section 4 and is
13 designated as a community action agency.

14 (b) Each community action agency shall administer its
15 community action programs through a Community Action Board
16 consisting of no less than 9 members and no more than 15 ~~to~~ 51
17 members chosen as follows:

18 (1) One-third of the members of the Board shall be
19 elected public officials, currently holding office, or
20 representatives designated by these officials. These
21 members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of
22 the chief elected official of the political subdivision
23 served by the community action agency.

1 (2) At least one-third of the members shall be persons
2 chosen in accordance with democratic selection procedures
3 adequate to assure that they are representative of
4 low-income individuals and families ~~the poor~~ from within
5 the area served.

6 (3) The other members shall be officials or members of
7 business, industry, labor, religious, welfare, education
8 or other major groups or interests in the community. Each
9 member of the Board selected to represent a specific
10 geographic area within a community shall reside in that
11 area.

12 (4) The community action agency through its bylaws
13 shall determine the board tenure of the members selected
14 under subparagraphs (2) or (3).

15 (c) Each community action agency shall consult
16 neighborhood-based organizations composed of residents of the
17 area and members of the groups served by that agency for
18 assistance in the planning, conduct and evaluation of
19 community action programs.

20 (d) A community action agency shall

21 (1) plan and carry out community action programs;

22 (2) address the needs of low-income residents, gather
23 information as to the problems and causes of poverty in
24 the community and, where necessary, establish priorities
25 among projects and activities on the basis of which
26 projects provide the best and most efficient use of

1 resources;

2 (3) encourage organizations engaged in activities
3 related to community action programs to plan for, secure
4 and administer financial assistance available either under
5 Section 2 or from other sources on a common or cooperative
6 basis, provide planning and technical assistance to those
7 organizations, and cooperate with such organizations in
8 undertaking actions to improve upon existing efforts to
9 reduce poverty;

10 (4) initiate and sponsor projects which are responsive
11 to needs of the poor not otherwise being met, with
12 particular emphasis on providing central or common
13 services that can be drawn upon by a variety of related
14 programs, and which offer new approaches or new types of
15 services that can be incorporated into other programs; and

16 (5) join with and encourage business, labor and other
17 private groups and organizations to undertake, together
18 with public officials and agencies, activities supporting
19 community action programs which will result in the
20 additional use of private resources and capabilities in an
21 effort to develop new employment opportunities and
22 stimulate investment that will have a measurable impact on
23 reducing poverty among the residents of areas of
24 concentrated poverty, and provide methods by which
25 residents of those areas can work with private groups,
26 firms, and institutions in seeking solutions to problems

1 of common concern.

2 (Source: P.A. 87-926.)