

1 AN ACT in relation to caregiving.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Family Caregivers Support Coordinating Council Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Family caregiver" means a family member who provides for  
8 the health and personal care of an elderly or disabled person  
9 (including a disabled child) at the elderly or disabled  
10 person's place of residence. Such care includes, but is not  
11 limited to, food and nutrition, shelter, hygiene, prescribed  
12 medication, and medical care and treatment.

13 "Council" means the Family Caregivers Support  
14 Coordinating Council created under Section 10.

15 Section 10. Council created; purpose. The Family  
16 Caregivers Support Coordinating Council is created. The  
17 purpose of the Council is to coordinate statewide planning,  
18 development, and implementation of family caregiver support  
19 services.

20 Section 15. Council membership.

21 (a) The Council shall consist of the following members,  
22 appointed by the Governor:

23 (1) Three representatives from the Department on  
24 Aging.

25 (2) Three representatives from the Department of  
26 Human Services.

27 (3) One representative from an area agency on aging  
28 as defined in the Illinois Act on the Aging.

1           (4) One representative from the Governor's Planning  
2 Council on Developmental Disabilities.

3           (5) Two consumers of respite care services as  
4 defined in the Respite Program Act.

5           (6) Three family caregivers.

6           (7) Three representatives of organizations that  
7 provide or have an interest or expertise in respite care  
8 services.

9           (b) In appointing members to the Council, the Governor,  
10 to the extent possible, shall consider groups representing  
11 individuals with the following:

12           (1) Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

13           (2) Developmental disabilities.

14           (3) Physical disabilities.

15           (4) Chronic illnesses.

16           (5) Mental or emotional conditions that require  
17 supervision.

18           (6) Vulnerability to abuse or neglect.

19           (c) The Governor shall appoint Council members to serve  
20 for terms of 3 years. Upon the expiration of a member's term,  
21 the Governor may reappoint the member for another term or may  
22 appoint another individual.

23           (d) The Governor shall appoint a chairman of the Council  
24 from among the members.

25           (e) Council members shall serve without compensation,  
26 except that they shall be reimbursed for their reasonable  
27 expenses actually incurred in performing their official  
28 duties.

29           Section 20. Staff support. The Department on Aging and  
30 the Department of Human Services shall provide staff support  
31 to the Council. The 2 departments shall execute an  
32 interagency agreement providing for the shared responsibility  
33 of providing that support.

1 Section 25. Council responsibilities. The Council shall  
2 do the following:

3 (1) Solicit and gather concerns of family caregivers  
4 by conducting surveys, holding public hearings,  
5 establishing a telephone hotline for public access, and  
6 other appropriate means.

7 (2) Develop and distribute to interested parties a  
8 handbook of current respite and other family caregiver  
9 services available in this State.

10 (3) Review successful respite care programs in other  
11 states.

12 (4) Identify best practices and suggest policy  
13 changes to enhance the level of State support for family  
14 caregivers.

15 (5) Develop a model family caregiver support program  
16 that incorporates best practices from existing programs  
17 in this State and in other states.

18 (6) Coordinate activities of existing and proposed  
19 family caregiver support services between the State and  
20 local public agencies.

21 (7) Research available funding sources and explore  
22 possibilities for additional funds.

23 (8) Identify unmet needs and priorities for  
24 additional funds.

25 Section 30. Annual report. By January 1, 2005 and January  
26 1 of each year thereafter, the Council shall submit a report  
27 on its activities to the Governor and the General Assembly.