

1 AN ACT in relation to economic development.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Enterprise Zone Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 4 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 655/4) (from Ch. 67 1/2, par. 604)

7 Sec. 4. Qualifications for Enterprise Zones. (1) An area  
8 is qualified to become an enterprise zone which:

9 (a) is a contiguous area, provided that a zone area may  
10 exclude wholly surrounded territory within its boundaries;

11 (b) comprises a minimum of one-half square mile and not  
12 more than 12 square miles, or 15 square miles if the zone is  
13 located within the jurisdiction of 4 or more counties or  
14 municipalities, in total area, exclusive of lakes and  
15 waterways; however, in such cases where the enterprise zone  
16 is a joint effort of three or more units of government, or  
17 two or more units of government if situated in a township  
18 which is divided by a municipality of 1,000,000 or more  
19 inhabitants, and where the certification has been in effect  
20 at least one year, the total area shall comprise a minimum of  
21 one-half square mile and not more than thirteen square miles  
22 in total area exclusive of lakes and waterways;

23 (c) is a depressed area;

24 (d) satisfies any additional criteria established by  
25 regulation of the Department consistent with the purposes of  
26 this Act; and

27 (e) is (1) entirely within a municipality or (2)  
28 entirely within the unincorporated areas of a county, except  
29 where reasonable need is established for such zone to cover  
30 portions of more than one municipality or county or (3) both  
31 comprises (i) all or part of a municipality and (ii) an

1 unincorporated area of a county.

2 (2) Any criteria established by the Department or by law  
3 which utilize the rate of unemployment for a particular area  
4 shall provide that all persons who are not presently employed  
5 and have exhausted all unemployment benefits shall be  
6 considered unemployed, whether or not such persons are  
7 actively seeking employment. In addition, in a county with a  
8 population of 150,000 or less based on the 2000 federal  
9 decennial census, any criteria established by the Department  
10 or by law that use the rate of unemployment for a particular  
11 area must count as unemployed any reduction in the number of  
12 persons in the labor force in that area over the previous 12  
13 months.

14 (Source: P.A. 86-803.)

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
16 becoming law.