

1 AN ACT concerning unemployment.

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

4 Section 5. The Unemployment Insurance Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 1900 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 405/1900) (from Ch. 48, par. 640)

7 Sec. 1900. Disclosure of information.

8 A. Except as provided in this Section, information  
9 obtained from any individual or employing unit during the  
10 administration of this Act shall:

- 11 1. be confidential,
- 12 2. not be published or open to public inspection,
- 13 3. not be used in any court in any pending action  
14 or proceeding,
- 15 4. not be admissible in evidence in any action or  
16 proceeding other than one arising out of this Act.

17 B. No finding, determination, decision, ruling or order  
18 (including any finding of fact, statement or conclusion made  
19 therein) issued pursuant to this Act shall be admissible or  
20 used in evidence in any action other than one arising out of  
21 this Act, nor shall it be binding or conclusive except as  
22 provided in this Act, nor shall it constitute res judicata,  
23 regardless of whether the actions were between the same or  
24 related parties or involved the same facts.

25 C. Any officer or employee of this State, any officer or  
26 employee of any entity authorized to obtain information  
27 pursuant to this Section, and any agent of this State or of  
28 such entity who, except with authority of the Director under  
29 this Section, shall disclose information shall be guilty of a  
30 Class B misdemeanor and shall be disqualified from holding  
31 any appointment or employment by the State.

1           D. An individual or his duly authorized agent may be  
2 supplied with information from records only to the extent  
3 necessary for the proper presentation of his claim for  
4 benefits or with his existing or prospective rights to  
5 benefits. Discretion to disclose this information belongs  
6 solely to the Director and is not subject to a release or  
7 waiver by the individual. Notwithstanding any other provision  
8 to the contrary, an individual or his or her duly authorized  
9 agent may be supplied with a statement of the amount of  
10 benefits paid to the individual during the 18 months  
11 preceding the date of his or her request.

12           E. An employing unit may be furnished with information,  
13 only if deemed by the Director as necessary to enable it to  
14 fully discharge its obligations or safeguard its rights under  
15 the Act. Discretion to disclose this information belongs  
16 solely to the Director and is not subject to a release or  
17 waiver by the employing unit.

18           F. The Director may furnish any information that he may  
19 deem proper to any public officer or public agency of this or  
20 any other State or of the federal government dealing with:

- 21           1. the administration of relief,
- 22           2. public assistance,
- 23           3. unemployment compensation,
- 24           4. a system of public employment offices,
- 25           5. wages and hours of employment, or
- 26           6. a public works program.

27           The Director may make available to the Illinois  
28 Industrial Commission information regarding employers for the  
29 purpose of verifying the insurance coverage required under  
30 the Workers' Compensation Act and Workers' Occupational  
31 Diseases Act.

32           G. The Director may disclose information submitted by  
33 the State or any of its political subdivisions, municipal  
34 corporations, instrumentalities, or school or community

1 college districts, except for information which specifically  
2 identifies an individual claimant.

3 H. The Director shall disclose only that information  
4 required to be disclosed under Section 303 of the Social  
5 Security Act, as amended, including:

6 1. any information required to be given the United  
7 States Department of Labor under Section 303(a)(6); and

8 2. the making available upon request to any agency  
9 of the United States charged with the administration of  
10 public works or assistance through public employment, the  
11 name, address, ordinary occupation and employment status  
12 of each recipient of unemployment compensation, and a  
13 statement of such recipient's right to further  
14 compensation under such law as required by Section  
15 303(a)(7); and

16 3. records to make available to the Railroad  
17 Retirement Board as required by Section 303(c)(1); and

18 4. information that will assure reasonable  
19 cooperation with every agency of the United States  
20 charged with the administration of any unemployment  
21 compensation law as required by Section 303(c)(2); and

22 5. information upon request and on a reimbursable  
23 basis to the United States Department of Agriculture and  
24 to any State food stamp agency concerning any information  
25 required to be furnished by Section 303(d); and

26 6. any wage information upon request and on a  
27 reimbursable basis to any State or local child support  
28 enforcement agency required by Section 303(e); and

29 7. any information required under the income  
30 eligibility and verification system as required by  
31 Section 303(f); and

32 8. information that might be useful in locating an  
33 absent parent or that parent's employer, establishing  
34 paternity or establishing, modifying, or enforcing child

1 support orders for the purpose of a child support  
2 enforcement program under Title IV of the Social Security  
3 Act upon the request of and on a reimbursable basis to  
4 the public agency administering the Federal Parent  
5 Locator Service as required by Section 303(h); and

6 9. information, upon request, to representatives of  
7 any federal, State or local governmental public housing  
8 agency with respect to individuals who have signed the  
9 appropriate consent form approved by the Secretary of  
10 Housing and Urban Development and who are applying for or  
11 participating in any housing assistance program  
12 administered by the United States Department of Housing  
13 and Urban Development as required by Section 303(i).

14 I. The Director, upon the request of a public agency of  
15 Illinois, of the federal government or of any other state  
16 charged with the investigation or enforcement of Section 10-5  
17 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (or a similar federal law or  
18 similar law of another State), may furnish the public agency  
19 information regarding the individual specified in the request  
20 as to:

- 21 1. the current or most recent home address of the  
22 individual, and
- 23 2. the names and addresses of the individual's  
24 employers.

25 J. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to interfere  
26 with the disclosure of certain records as provided for in  
27 Section 1706 or with the right to make available to the  
28 Internal Revenue Service of the United States Department of  
29 the Treasury, or the Department of Revenue of the State of  
30 Illinois, information obtained under this Act.

31 K. The Department shall make available to the Illinois  
32 Student Assistance Commission, upon request, information in  
33 the possession of the Department that may be necessary or  
34 useful to the Commission in the collection of defaulted or

1 delinquent student loans which the Commission administers.

2 L. The Department shall make available to the State  
3 Employees' Retirement System, the State Universities  
4 Retirement System, and the Teachers' Retirement System of the  
5 State of Illinois, upon request, information in the  
6 possession of the Department that may be necessary or useful  
7 to the System for the purpose of determining whether any  
8 recipient of a disability benefit from the System is  
9 gainfully employed.

10 M. This Section shall be applicable to the information  
11 obtained in the administration of the State employment  
12 service, except that the Director may publish or release  
13 general labor market information and may furnish information  
14 that he may deem proper to an individual, public officer or  
15 public agency of this or any other State or the federal  
16 government (in addition to those public officers or public  
17 agencies specified in this Section) as he prescribes by Rule.

18 N. The Director may require such safeguards as he deems  
19 proper to insure that information disclosed pursuant to this  
20 Section is used only for the purposes set forth in this  
21 Section.

22 O. The Department may contract with one or more consumer  
23 reporting agencies to provide secure electronic access to  
24 information provided to the Department by employing units.  
25 The information provided by a consumer reporting agency to  
26 private and governmental entities shall be limited to the  
27 amount of wages paid by each employing unit (with the  
28 employing unit's name and address) for each of or up to the  
29 last 16 quarters. The information is subject to the privacy  
30 rules of the State and federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.  
31 Any user of the information shall, prior to obtaining the  
32 wage report information, obtain a written consent from the  
33 individual to which that wage report information pertains.  
34 The written consent shall prominently contain language

1 specifying the following:

2 (1) if consent is granted, the individual's wage and  
3 employment history information shall be released to  
4 specified parties;

5 (2) authorization by the individual is necessary for  
6 the release of wage and employment history information;

7 (3) the release is made for the sole purpose of a  
8 specific application or transaction;

9 (4) Department files containing wage and employment  
10 history information submitted by employers may be  
11 accessed; and

12 (5) the identity and address of parties authorized  
13 to receive the released information (Blank).

14 The information released shall only be used to verify the  
15 accuracy of the wage or employment information previously  
16 provided by an individual in connection with a specific  
17 transaction to satisfy its user's standard underwriting  
18 requirements or those imposed upon the user, and to satisfy  
19 user's obligations, under applicable State or federal fair  
20 credit reporting laws.

21 When releasing information to the consumer reporting  
22 agency, the Department shall establish minimum audit,  
23 security, net worth, and liability insurance standards,  
24 technological requirements, and any other terms and  
25 conditions deemed necessary in the discretion of the  
26 Department to safeguard the confidentiality of the  
27 information and to otherwise serve the public interest.

28 P. Within 30 days after the effective date of this  
29 amendatory Act of 1993 and annually thereafter, the  
30 Department shall provide to the Department of Financial  
31 Institutions a list of individuals or entities that, for the  
32 most recently completed calendar year, report to the  
33 Department as paying wages to workers. The lists shall be  
34 deemed confidential and may not be disclosed to any other

1 person.

2 Q. The Director shall make available to an elected  
3 federal official the name and address of an individual or  
4 entity that is located within the jurisdiction from which the  
5 official was elected and that, for the most recently  
6 completed calendar year, has reported to the Department as  
7 paying wages to workers, where the information will be used  
8 in connection with the official duties of the official and  
9 the official requests the information in writing, specifying  
10 the purposes for which it will be used. For purposes of this  
11 subsection, the use of information in connection with the  
12 official duties of an official does not include use of the  
13 information in connection with the solicitation of  
14 contributions or expenditures, in money or in kind, to or on  
15 behalf of a candidate for public or political office or a  
16 political party or with respect to a public question, as  
17 defined in Section 1-3 of the Election Code, or in connection  
18 with any commercial solicitation. Any elected federal  
19 official who, in submitting a request for information covered  
20 by this subsection, knowingly makes a false statement or  
21 fails to disclose a material fact, with the intent to obtain  
22 the information for a purpose not authorized by this  
23 subsection, shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

24 R. The Director may provide to any State or local child  
25 support agency, upon request and on a reimbursable basis,  
26 information that might be useful in locating an absent parent  
27 or that parent's employer, establishing paternity, or  
28 establishing, modifying, or enforcing child support orders.

29 (Source: P.A. 90-425, eff. 8-15-97; 90-488, eff. 8-17-97;  
30 90-655, eff. 7-30-98; 91-342, eff. 1-1-00.)