

1 AN ACT in relation to public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 5-5.23 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.23 new)

7 Sec. 5-5.23. Prenatal and perinatal care. The Department
8 of Public Aid may provide reimbursement under this Article
9 for all prenatal and perinatal health care services that are
10 provided for the purpose of preventing low-birthweight
11 infants, reducing the need for neonatal intensive care
12 hospital services, and promoting perinatal health. These
13 services may include comprehensive risk assessments for
14 pregnant women, women with infants, and infants, lactation
15 counseling, nutrition counseling, childbirth support,
16 psychosocial counseling, treatment and prevention of
17 periodontal disease, and other support services that have
18 been proven to improve birth outcomes. The Department shall
19 maximize the use of preventive prenatal and perinatal health
20 care services consistent with federal statutes, rules, and
21 regulations. The Department shall develop a plan for prenatal
22 and perinatal preventive health care and shall present the
23 plan to the General Assembly by January 1, 2004. On or before
24 January 1, 2006 and every 2 years thereafter, the Department
25 shall report to the General Assembly concerning the
26 effectiveness of prenatal and perinatal health care services
27 reimbursed under this Section in preventing low-birthweight
28 infants and reducing the need for neonatal intensive care
29 hospital services. Each such report shall include an
30 evaluation of how the ratio of expenditures for treating
31 low-birthweight infants compared with the investment in

1 promoting healthy births and infants in local community areas
2 throughout Illinois relates to healthy infant development in
3 those areas.

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
5 becoming law.