

1 AN ACT concerning immigrant assistance.

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

4 Section 5. The Attorney General Act is amended by adding  
5 Section 6.6 as follows:

6 (15 ILCS 205/6.6 new)

7 Sec. 6.6. Immigrant Assistance Program.

8 (a) Purpose and policy. The immigrant population of the  
9 State of Illinois constitutes a significant portion of the  
10 population of the State. These immigrants often require  
11 assistance in order to obtain the government services to  
12 which they are entitled under the law. It is imperative that  
13 State government is aware of the needs of the State's  
14 immigrant community and sensitive to the barriers that may  
15 prevent them from seeking and obtaining services. The Office  
16 of the Attorney General should be equipped to assist  
17 immigrants by increasing accessibility to the Office and  
18 providing outreach services to the community, which will  
19 serve to educate immigrants as to their rights and  
20 responsibilities as residents of the State.

21 (b) Immigrant Assistance Program. Within the Office of  
22 the Attorney General, there shall be established an Immigrant  
23 Assistance Program, which shall be charged with the  
24 responsibility of assessing the needs of the State's  
25 immigrant community with regard to access to government and  
26 other services. In addition, the Immigrant Assistance Program  
27 shall be empowered to provide education and outreach services  
28 to the immigrant community of the State, subject to funding  
29 availability. These services may include, but are not limited  
30 to, consumer issues, civil rights issues, employee rights,  
31 and other issues of particular interest to the immigrant

1 communities in the State.

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

3 becoming law.