

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 726

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 726 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Department of Transportation Law of the  
5 Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by adding  
6 Section 2705-207 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2705/2705-207 new)

8 Sec. 2705-207. Regional Transportation Task Force.

9 (a) The Regional Transportation Task Force is created  
10 within the Department.

11 (b) The Task Force shall consist of 11 voting members,  
12 as follows: 3 members appointed by the Governor, one of whom  
13 shall be designated as chair of the task force at the time of  
14 appointment; 2 members appointed by the President of the  
15 Senate; 2 members appointed by the Senate Minority Leader; 2  
16 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
17 Representatives; and 2 members appointed by the House  
18 Minority Leader.

19 The following shall serve, ex officio, as non-voting  
20 members: the Secretary of Transportation; one member  
21 designated by the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS);  
22 one member designated by the Northeastern Illinois Planning

1 Commission (NIPC); one member designated by the Regional  
2 Transportation Authority (RTA); one member designated by the  
3 Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (ISTHA); 2 members of  
4 Congress representing Illinois from different political  
5 parties, as designated by the Governor; and 4 members  
6 designated by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.

7 If a vacancy occurs in the task force membership, the  
8 vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the initial  
9 appointment.

10 (c) The task force may begin to conduct business upon  
11 the appointment of a majority of the voting members,  
12 including the chair.

13 (d) The task force may adopt bylaws; it must meet at  
14 least once each calendar quarter; and it may establish  
15 committees and officers as it deems necessary. For purposes  
16 of task force meetings, a quorum is 6 voting members.  
17 Meetings of the task force are subject to the Open Meetings  
18 Act. The task force must afford an opportunity for public  
19 comment at each of its meetings.

20 (e) Task force members shall serve without compensation,  
21 but may be reimbursed for their reasonable travel expenses  
22 from funds available for that purpose. The Department shall  
23 provide staff and administrative support services to the task  
24 force. The Department and the task force may accept donated  
25 services and other resources from registered not-for-profit  
26 organizations as may be necessary to complete the work of the  
27 task force with minimal expense to the State of Illinois.

28 (f) The task force shall gather information and make  
29 recommendations to the Governor and to the General Assembly  
30 regarding metro area transportation programs in northeastern  
31 Illinois, which includes, without limitation, the counties of  
32 Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will. These  
33 recommendations must include, without limitation:

34 (1) examining the feasibility of merging CATS,

1 NIPC, RTA, and ISTHA into a single agency;

2 (2) identifying areas where functions of these and  
3 other agencies are redundant or unnecessary;

4 (3) identifying methods to promote cost  
5 effectiveness, efficiency, and equality in meeting area  
6 transportation needs; and

7 (4) examining regional and economic impact as it  
8 relates to potential policy implementation.

9 (g) The task force shall submit a report to the Governor  
10 and the General Assembly by March 1, 2004 concerning its  
11 findings and recommendations.

12 (h) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2005.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
14 becoming law."