



93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by Ira I. Silverstein

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 700/3004.5

Amends the Technology Advancement and Development Act. Makes a technical change in a Section relating to technology enterprise center requirements.

LRB093 19032 RCE 44767 b

1 AN ACT concerning economic development.

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

4 Section 5. The Technology Advancement and Development Act
5 is amended by changing Section 3004.5 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 700/3004.5)

7 Sec. 3004.5. Illinois Technology Enterprise Centers
8 Requirements.

9 (a) The Department ~~may~~, subject to available appropriated
10 funds, working with the Illinois Coalition, may establish one
11 or more regional technology enterprise development centers
12 whose mission is to assist entrepreneurs, innovators, and
13 start-up firms in high-growth, high technology sectors in
14 furthering the technical or managerial skills of owners; aid
15 the ventures in locating financing; and help new companies with
16 product development and marketing in support of new venture
17 formation within the State.

18 (b) The Department may provide grants or may provide cost
19 share or reimbursements pursuant to this Section to support the
20 operation of technology enterprise development centers. Grants
21 awarded pursuant to this Article may be used to help subsidize
22 expenses, as approved by the Department, for revolving funds,
23 personnel, support costs, capital improvements, equipment,
24 contractual services, commodities, including telecommunication
25 or other costs.

26 (c) Technology enterprise development centers may provide
27 crucial business information at affordable prices for firms
28 that are developing early-stage, technology-oriented
29 manufacturing including (i) general or short-term assistance,
30 general outreach, feasibility studies for new venture
31 formation, and research assistance for new venture creation;
32 (ii) innovation evaluation and market research to evaluate the

1 viability of technology, product, or service or the market
2 potential of technology, product, or service; (iii) technical
3 assistance related to management and operations and strategic
4 partnering and assistance in the implementation of strategic
5 manufacturing and marketing alliances; and (iv) service in
6 locating new technologies or technological solutions.

7 (d) Technology enterprise development centers may provide
8 financial services that include (i) financial packaging to
9 enhance proposals and make companies more competitive for
10 federal or private funding; (ii) access to private investor
11 capital through venture capital events and regional venture
12 capital networking programs; and (iii) management of local
13 for-profit or limited profit seed capital funds.

14 (e) Technology enterprise development centers may address
15 local shortfalls of capital to commercialize new technology by
16 providing pre-seed financing to start-up, technology-based
17 businesses. Financing options could include micro-loans, small
18 grants, and equity investment capital for seed funding, product
19 commercialization and prototype development, and commercial
20 introduction and marketing.

21 (f) The Department may provide grant funds made available
22 to support professional development and capacity building of
23 the technology enterprise development centers within the State
24 as may be required for the administration, operations,
25 research, analysis, or training of the centers.

26 (g) In determining which applicants shall be awarded a
27 grant, the Department shall conduct an evaluation of prior
28 compliance with loan or grant awards; the relationship of a
29 proposed project to the State's future economic growth; the
30 qualifications and expertise of organizations undertaking the
31 effort; the applicant's understanding of the requirements and
32 needs of entrepreneurs, innovators, and start-up firms in
33 high-growth, high technology sectors; the potential of the
34 applicant's project to provide an economic benefit of the
35 State; and the likelihood that the project has a potential for
36 creating new ventures in the State.

1 (h) The Director of the Department shall determine the
2 level of the grant award and shall determine the share of total
3 directly attributable costs of the project that may be
4 considered for funding under this Article.

5 (Source: P.A. 91-476, eff. 8-11-99.)