

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is  
5 amended by adding Section 65.75 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/65.75 new)

7 Sec. 65.75. Grant for a person raised by a grandparent.

8 (a) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider  
9 applications for grant assistance under this Section. An  
10 applicant is eligible for a grant under this Section if the  
11 Commission finds that the applicant:

12 (1) has been in the legal custody of his or her  
13 grandparent and received public aid assistance under the  
14 Illinois Public Aid Code for a period of at least the  
15 consecutive 12 months preceding the initial application  
16 for assistance under this Section;

17 (2) has graduated from high school with a cumulative  
18 grade point average of at least a 2.7 on a 4.0 scale or its  
19 equivalent;

20 (3) has been recommended for assistance under this  
21 Section by the principal or other appropriate  
22 administrative officer of his or her high school; and

23 (4) is enrolled in or plans to enroll in an institution  
24 of higher learning in this State full-time.

25 (b) Applicants who are determined to be eligible for  
26 assistance under this Section shall receive, subject to  
27 appropriation, a renewable grant of \$1,000 to be applied to  
28 tuition and mandatory fees and paid directly to the institution  
29 of higher learning at which the applicant is enrolled. However,  
30 the total amount of assistance awarded by the Commission under  
31 this Section to an individual in any fiscal year, when added to  
32 other financial assistance awarded by the Commission to that

1 individual for that fiscal year, must not exceed the cost of  
2 attendance at the institution of higher learning at which the  
3 student is enrolled.

4 (c) A grant awarded under this Section may be renewed for a  
5 total of up to 4 years of full-time enrollment. All of the  
6 following are conditions of grant renewal:

7 (1) The student must provide the Commission with a  
8 recommendation for the grant by an academic counselor,  
9 advisor, or instructor at the student's institution of  
10 higher learning.

11 (2) The student must have, at the time of renewal, a  
12 cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.7 on a 4.0  
13 scale or its equivalent at the institution of higher  
14 learning.

15 (d) The Commission shall make all necessary and proper  
16 rules not inconsistent with this Section for its effective  
17 implementation.