

1 AN ACT concerning state government.

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

4 Section 5. The Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is
6 amended by adding Section 605-430 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-430 new)

8 Sec. 605-430. Funding; study. To ensure the availability of
9 a quality health care workforce to meet present and future
10 health care needs within the State, the Department of Commerce
11 and Economic Opportunity may, subject to appropriation,
12 conduct a study of the current and projected academic training
13 capacity in the State of Illinois specific to the nursing
14 profession. The study shall address the current supply and
15 demand for masters-prepared nurses as nursing school faculty
16 and set specific goals for recruiting and training new nursing
17 faculty throughout the region. The study shall also determine
18 the feasibility of the State engaging in the following
19 activities: (i) the establishment of scholarship funds and
20 work-study programs to help recruit potential new nursing
21 school faculty, (ii) the creation of a system to regularly
22 review and increase nurse faculty salary and benefits to make
23 academic practice competitive with clinical practice, and
24 (iii) the development of career track programs for academia
25 that offer advancement and rewards for nursing school faculty
26 comparable to those in clinical management. The study shall
27 include the collaborative input of hospital and other health
28 care provider associations and public and private educational
29 institutions from throughout the State.

30 Subject to the availability of State funds, the Department
31 of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall complete the study
32 by July 1, 2007 and shall present its findings to the General

1 Assembly for consideration.

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.