

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 School Code is amended by adding Section
5 3-15.17 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/3-15.17 new)

7 Sec. 3-15.17. Civic education advancement.

8 (a) The General Assembly finds that civic education and
9 participation are fundamental elements of a healthy democracy,
10 and schools are in need of support to identify civic learning
11 opportunities and to implement new strategies to prepare and
12 sustain high quality citizenship among their student body.

13 (b) Subject to appropriation, funding for civic education
14 professional development for high school teachers must be
15 provided by line item appropriation made to the State Board of
16 Education for that purpose. When appropriated, the State Board
17 of Education must provide this funding to each regional
18 superintendent of schools based on high school enrollment as
19 reported on the State Board of Education's most recent fall
20 enrollment and housing report, except that 20% of each annual
21 appropriation must be reserved for a school district organized
22 under Article 34 of this Code.

23 (c) In order to establish eligibility for one or more of

1 its schools to receive funding under this Section, a school
2 district shall submit to its regional superintendent of schools
3 an application, accompanied by a completed civic audit, for
4 each school. A regional superintendent shall award funds to a
5 district based on the number of teachers identified by the
6 district to receive professional development multiplied by
7 \$250. A district must not be awarded more than \$3,000 in any
8 year, unless additional funds remain available after all
9 eligible applicants have received funding. A district may not
10 use funds authorized under this Section in any school more than
11 once every 2 years. Funds provided under this Section must be
12 used exclusively for professional development provided by
13 entities that are approved providers for purposes of
14 certificate renewal under Section 21-14 of this Code.

15 (d) The civic audit form and its content must be designed
16 and updated as deemed necessary by the Illinois Civic Mission
17 Coalition. Data from completed civic audits must be processed
18 by the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition. The civic audit must
19 be made available by the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition and
20 must be designed to provide teachers and principals with a
21 blueprint to better understand how current curriculum, service
22 learning, and extracurricular activities are providing civic
23 learning experiences for their students.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law.