



95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

SB0175

Introduced 1/31/2007, by Sen. Martin A. Sandoval

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 20/4

from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 1404

Amends the Energy Assistance Act. Provides that the Department of Healthcare and Family Services is authorized to institute an outreach program directed at low-income minority heads of households and heads of households age 60 or older. Provides that the program shall be consistent with the purposes and objectives of the Act and with all other specific requirements set forth in these provisions. Provides that as part of the program, the Department shall permit Case Coordination Units, under contract with the Department on Aging, to prepare and submit applications for energy assistance in the names of their clients in accordance with procedures established by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Provides that the Department shall establish a web-based application for use by applicants for energy assistance, their families, or someone acting on their behalf. Effective immediately.

LRB095 07145 DRJ 27272 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Energy Assistance Act is amended by changing
5 Section 4 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 20/4) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 1404)

7 Sec. 4. Energy Assistance Program.

8 (a) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services
9 ~~Economic Opportunity~~ is hereby authorized to institute a
10 program to ensure the availability and affordability of heating
11 and electric service to low income citizens. The Department
12 shall implement the program by rule promulgated pursuant to The
13 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. The program shall be
14 consistent with the purposes and objectives of this Act and
15 with all other specific requirements provided herein. The
16 Department may enter into such contracts and other agreements
17 with local agencies as may be necessary for the purpose of
18 administering the energy assistance program.

19 (b) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as altering or
20 limiting the authority conferred on the Illinois Commerce
21 Commission by the Public Utilities Act to regulate all aspects
22 of the provision of public utility service, including but not
23 limited to the authority to make rules and adjudicate disputes

1 between utilities and customers related to eligibility for
2 utility service, deposits, payment practices, discontinuance
3 of service, and the treatment of arrearages owing for
4 previously rendered utility service.

5 (c) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services is
6 authorized to institute an outreach program directed at
7 low-income minority heads of households and heads of households
8 age 60 or older. The Department shall implement the program
9 through rules adopted pursuant to the Illinois Administrative
10 Procedure Act. The program shall be consistent with the
11 purposes and objectives of this Act and with all other specific
12 requirements set forth in this subsection (c). As part of the
13 program, the Department shall permit Case Coordination Units,
14 under contract with the Department on Aging, to prepare and
15 submit applications for energy assistance in the names of their
16 clients in accordance with procedures established by the
17 Department of Healthcare and Family Services. The Department
18 shall establish a web-based application for use by applicants
19 for energy assistance, their families, or someone acting on
20 their behalf.

21 (Source: P.A. 94-773, eff. 5-18-06; 94-793, eff. 5-19-06;
22 revised 8-3-06.)

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