



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB0725

Introduced 2/6/2009, by Rep. Jim Watson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

See Index

Amends the School Code to encourage school boards to implement American Sign Language (ASL) courses into school foreign language curriculum. Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. In provisions concerning admissions requirements, provides that ASL constitutes a foreign language for the purposes of meeting those requirements. Requires the governing board of each public university to award academic credit for the successful completion of any ASL course offered or approved by the university, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the university. Imposes conditions on any rulemaking authority. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

LRB096 04615 NHT 14672 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds and declares the
3 following:

4 (a) Illinois has over one million deaf and hard of
5 hearing residents;

6 (b) American Sign Language (ASL) is a fully-developed,
7 visual-gestural language with distinct grammar, syntax,
8 and symbols and is one of hundreds of signed languages in
9 the world;

10 (c) The American deaf community is a group of citizens
11 who are members of a unique culture who share ASL as their
12 common language; and

13 (d) High school graduation requirements under Section
14 27-22 of the School Code require students to take one year
15 of music, art, vocational education, or a foreign language,
16 which includes ASL; and

17 WHEREAS, The General Assembly hereby also declares the
18 purpose and intent of this amendatory Act to be as follows:

19 (a) To recognize ASL as the language of the American
20 deaf community; and

21 (b) To authorize and encourage public and independent
22 schools, including post-secondary schools, to offer ASL as
23 a course of study and to accept ASL credits as
24 foreign-language credits; therefore

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

3 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
4 10-20.46 and 34-18.37 as follows:

5 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.46 new)

6 Sec. 10-20.46. American Sign Language courses. School
7 boards are encouraged to implement American Sign Language
8 courses into school foreign language curriculum. Rulemaking
9 authority to implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General
10 Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in
11 accordance with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative
12 Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint
13 Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so
14 adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

15 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.37 new)

16 Sec. 34-18.37. American Sign Language courses. The school
17 board is encouraged to implement American Sign Language courses
18 into school foreign language curriculum. Rulemaking authority
19 to implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly,
20 if any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
21 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
22 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
23 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for

1 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

2 Section 10. The University of Illinois Act is amended by
3 changing Section 8 and by adding Section 45 as follows:

4 (110 ILCS 305/8) (from Ch. 144, par. 29)

5 Sec. 8. Admissions.

6 (a) No student shall be admitted to instruction in any of
7 the departments of the University who shall not have attained
8 to the age of fifteen (15) years, and who shall not previously
9 undergo a satisfactory examination in each of the branches
10 ordinarily taught in the common schools of the state.

11 (b) In addition, commencing in the fall of 1993, no new
12 student shall then or thereafter be admitted to instruction in
13 any of the departments or colleges of the University unless
14 such student also has satisfactorily completed:

15 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
16 the following 5 categories:

17 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
18 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
19 years may be collegiate level instruction;

20 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
21 and government);

22 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
23 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
24 fundamentals of computer programming);

1 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

2 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
3 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
4 music, vocational education or art;

5 (2) except that institutions may admit individual
6 applicants if the institution determines through
7 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
8 outcomes of the coursework taken, including vocational
9 education courses and courses taken in a charter school
10 established under Article 27A of the School Code, that the
11 applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially
12 equivalent to the knowledge and skills expected to be
13 acquired in the high school courses required for admission.
14 The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois shall
15 not discriminate in the University's admissions process
16 against an applicant for admission because of the
17 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
18 under Article 27A of the School Code. Institutions may also
19 admit 1) applicants who did not have an opportunity to
20 complete the minimum college preparatory curriculum in
21 high school, and 2) educationally disadvantaged applicants
22 who are admitted to the formal organized special assistance
23 programs that are tailored to the needs of such students,
24 providing that in either case, the institution
25 incorporates in the applicant's baccalaureate curriculum
26 courses or other academic activities that compensate for

1 course deficiencies; and

2 (3) except that up to 3 of the 15 units of coursework
3 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
4 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
5 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
6 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
7 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

8 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
9 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
10 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
11 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
12 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
13 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

14 (c) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
15 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
16 coursework required by subsection (b).

17 (d) A student who has graduated from high school and has
18 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
19 shall not be required to take the high school level General
20 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
21 admission.

22 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

23 (110 ILCS 305/45 new)

24 Sec. 45. American Sign Language courses. The University
25 shall award academic credit for the successful completion of

1 any American Sign Language course offered or approved by the
2 University, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the
3 foreign language requirements of the University, except for
4 those requirements related to the content of a student's
5 academic major. Rulemaking authority to implement this
6 amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if any, is
7 conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance with all
8 provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act and all
9 rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on Administrative
10 Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for whatever reason,
11 is unauthorized.

12 Section 15. The Southern Illinois University Management
13 Act is amended by changing Section 8e and by adding Section 30
14 as follows:

15 (110 ILCS 520/8e) (from Ch. 144, par. 658e)

16 Sec. 8e. Admissions.

17 (a) Commencing in the fall of 1993, no new student shall
18 then or thereafter be admitted to instruction in any of the
19 departments or colleges of the University unless such student
20 also has satisfactorily completed:

21 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
22 the following 5 categories:

23 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
24 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2

1 years may be collegiate level instruction;

2 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
3 and government);

4 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
5 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
6 fundamentals of computer programming);

7 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

8 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
9 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
10 music, vocational education or art;

11 (2) except that institutions may admit individual
12 applicants if the institution determines through
13 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
14 outcomes of the coursework taken, including vocational
15 education courses and courses taken in a charter school
16 established under Article 27A of the School Code, that the
17 applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially
18 equivalent to the knowledge and skills expected to be
19 acquired in the high school courses required for admission.
20 The Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University shall
21 not discriminate in the University's admissions process
22 against an applicant for admission because of the
23 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
24 under Article 27A of the School Code. Institutions may also
25 admit 1) applicants who did not have an opportunity to
26 complete the minimum college preparatory curriculum in

1 high school, and 2) educationally disadvantaged applicants
2 who are admitted to the formal organized special assistance
3 programs that are tailored to the needs of such students,
4 providing that in either case, the institution
5 incorporates in the applicant's baccalaureate curriculum
6 courses or other academic activities that compensate for
7 course deficiencies; and

8 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
9 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
10 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
11 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
12 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
13 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

14 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
15 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
16 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
17 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
18 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
19 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

20 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
21 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
22 coursework required by subsection (a).

23 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
24 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
25 shall not be required to take the high school level General
26 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to

1 admission.

2 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

3 (110 ILCS 520/30 new)

4 Sec. 30. American Sign Language courses. The University
5 shall award academic credit for the successful completion of
6 any American Sign Language course offered or approved by the
7 University, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the
8 foreign language requirements of the University, except for
9 those requirements related to the content of a student's
10 academic major. Rulemaking authority to implement this
11 amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if any, is
12 conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance with all
13 provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act and all
14 rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on Administrative
15 Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for whatever reason,
16 is unauthorized.

17 Section 20. The Chicago State University Law is amended by
18 changing Section 5-85 and by adding Section 5-140 as follows:

19 (110 ILCS 660/5-85)

20 Sec. 5-85. Admission requirements.

21 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
22 of the departments or colleges of the Chicago State University
23 unless such student also has satisfactorily completed:

1 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
2 the following 5 categories:

3 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
4 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
5 years may be collegiate level instruction;

6 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
7 and government);

8 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
9 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
10 fundamentals of computer programming);

11 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

12 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
13 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
14 music, vocational education or art;

15 (2) except that Chicago State University may admit
16 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
17 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
18 coursework taken, including vocational education courses
19 and courses taken in a charter school established under
20 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
21 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
22 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
23 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
24 Trustees of Chicago State University shall not
25 discriminate in the University's admissions process
26 against an applicant for admission because of the

1 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
2 under Article 27A of the School Code. Chicago State
3 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
4 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
5 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
6 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
7 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
8 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
9 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
10 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
11 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

12 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
13 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
14 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
15 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
16 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
17 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

18 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
19 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
20 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
21 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
22 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
23 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

24 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
25 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
26 coursework required by subsection (a).

1 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
2 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
3 shall not be required to take the high school level General
4 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
5 admission.

6 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

7 (110 ILCS 660/5-140 new)

8 Sec. 5-140. American Sign Language courses. The University
9 shall award academic credit for the successful completion of
10 any American Sign Language course offered or approved by the
11 University, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the
12 foreign language requirements of the University, except for
13 those requirements related to the content of a student's
14 academic major. Rulemaking authority to implement this
15 amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if any, is
16 conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance with all
17 provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act and all
18 rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on Administrative
19 Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for whatever reason,
20 is unauthorized.

21 Section 25. The Eastern Illinois University Law is amended
22 by changing Section 10-85 and by adding Section 10-140 as
23 follows:

1 (110 ILCS 665/10-85)

2 Sec. 10-85. Admission requirements.

3 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
4 of the departments or colleges of the Eastern Illinois
5 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
6 completed:

7 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
8 the following 5 categories:

9 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
10 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
11 years may be collegiate level instruction;

12 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
13 and government);

14 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
15 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
16 fundamentals of computer programming);

17 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

18 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
19 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
20 music, vocational education or art;

21 (2) except that Eastern Illinois University may admit
22 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
23 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
24 coursework taken, including vocational education courses
25 and courses taken in a charter school established under
26 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant

1 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
2 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
3 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
4 Trustees of Eastern Illinois University shall not
5 discriminate in the University's admissions process
6 against an applicant for admission because of the
7 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
8 under Article 27A of the School Code. Eastern Illinois
9 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
10 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
11 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
12 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
13 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
14 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
15 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
16 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
17 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

18 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
19 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
20 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
21 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
22 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
23 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

24 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
25 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
26 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois

1 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
2 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
3 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

4 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
5 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
6 coursework required by subsection (a).

7 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
8 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
9 shall not be required to take the high school level General
10 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
11 admission.

12 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

13 (110 ILCS 665/10-140 new)

14 Sec. 10-140. American Sign Language courses. The
15 University shall award academic credit for the successful
16 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
17 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
18 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
19 University, except for those requirements related to the
20 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
21 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
22 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
23 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
24 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
25 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for

1 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

2 Section 30. The Governors State University Law is amended
3 by changing Section 15-85 and by adding Section 15-140 as
4 follows:

5 (110 ILCS 670/15-85)

6 Sec. 15-85. Admission requirements.

7 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
8 of the departments or colleges of the Governors State
9 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
10 completed:

11 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
12 the following 5 categories:

13 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
14 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
15 years may be collegiate level instruction;

16 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
17 and government);

18 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
19 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
20 fundamentals of computer programming);

21 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

22 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
23 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
24 music, vocational education or art;

1 (2) except that Governors State University may admit
2 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
3 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
4 coursework taken, including vocational education courses
5 and courses taken in a charter school established under
6 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
7 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
8 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
9 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
10 Trustees of Governors State University shall not
11 discriminate in the University's admissions process
12 against an applicant for admission because of the
13 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
14 under Article 27A of the School Code. Governors State
15 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
16 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
17 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
18 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
19 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
20 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
21 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
22 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
23 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

24 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
25 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
26 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from

1 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
2 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
3 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

4 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
5 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
6 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
7 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
8 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
9 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

10 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
11 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
12 coursework required by subsection (a).

13 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
14 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
15 shall not be required to take the high school level General
16 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
17 admission.

18 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

19 (110 ILCS 670/15-140 new)

20 Sec. 15-140. American Sign Language courses. The
21 University shall award academic credit for the successful
22 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
23 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
24 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
25 University, except for those requirements related to the

1 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
2 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
3 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
4 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
5 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
6 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for
7 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

8 Section 35. The Illinois State University Law is amended by
9 changing Section 20-85 and by adding Section 20-145 as follows:

10 (110 ILCS 675/20-85)

11 Sec. 20-85. Admission requirements.

12 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
13 of the departments or colleges of the Illinois State University
14 unless such student also has satisfactorily completed:

15 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
16 the following 5 categories:

17 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
18 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
19 years may be collegiate level instruction;

20 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
21 and government);

22 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
23 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
24 fundamentals of computer programming);

1 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

2 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
3 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
4 music, vocational education or art;

5 (2) except that Illinois State University may admit
6 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
7 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
8 coursework taken, including vocational education courses
9 and courses taken in a charter school established under
10 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
11 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
12 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
13 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
14 Trustees of Illinois State University shall not
15 discriminate in the University's admissions process
16 against an applicant for admission because of the
17 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
18 under Article 27A of the School Code. Illinois State
19 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
20 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
21 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
22 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
23 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
24 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
25 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
26 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic

1 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

2 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
3 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
4 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
5 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
6 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
7 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

8 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
9 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
10 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
11 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
12 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
13 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

14 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
15 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
16 coursework required by subsection (a).

17 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
18 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
19 shall not be required to take the high school level General
20 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
21 admission.

22 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

23 (110 ILCS 675/20-145 new)

24 Sec. 20-145. American Sign Language courses. The
25 University shall award academic credit for the successful

1 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
2 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
3 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
4 University, except for those requirements related to the
5 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
6 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
7 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
8 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
9 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
10 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for
11 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

12 Section 40. The Northeastern Illinois University Law is
13 amended by changing Section 25-85 and by adding Section 25-140
14 as follows:

15 (110 ILCS 680/25-85)

16 Sec. 25-85. Admission requirements.

17 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
18 of the departments or colleges of the Northeastern Illinois
19 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
20 completed:

21 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
22 the following 5 categories:

23 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
24 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2

1 years may be collegiate level instruction;

2 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
3 and government);

4 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
5 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
6 fundamentals of computer programming);

7 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

8 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
9 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
10 music, vocational education or art;

11 (2) except that Northeastern Illinois University may
12 admit individual applicants if it determines through
13 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
14 outcomes of the coursework taken, including vocational
15 education courses and courses taken in a charter school
16 established under Article 27A of the School Code, that the
17 applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially
18 equivalent to the knowledge and skills expected to be
19 acquired in the high school courses required for admission.
20 The Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University
21 shall not discriminate in the University's admissions
22 process against an applicant for admission because of the
23 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
24 under Article 27A of the School Code. Northeastern Illinois
25 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
26 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory

1 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
2 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
3 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
4 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
5 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
6 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
7 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

8 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
9 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
10 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
11 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
12 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
13 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

14 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
15 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
16 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
17 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
18 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
19 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

20 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
21 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
22 coursework required by subsection (a).

23 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
24 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
25 shall not be required to take the high school level General
26 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to

1 admission.

2 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

3 (110 ILCS 680/25-140 new)

4 Sec. 25-140. American Sign Language courses. The
5 University shall award academic credit for the successful
6 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
7 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
8 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
9 University, except for those requirements related to the
10 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
11 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
12 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
13 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
14 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
15 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for
16 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

17 Section 45. The Northern Illinois University Law is amended
18 by changing Section 30-85 and by adding Section 30-150 as
19 follows:

20 (110 ILCS 685/30-85)

21 Sec. 30-85. Admission requirements.

22 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
23 of the departments or colleges of the Northern Illinois

1 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
2 completed:

3 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
4 the following 5 categories:

5 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
6 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
7 years may be collegiate level instruction;

8 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
9 and government);

10 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
11 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
12 fundamentals of computer programming);

13 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

14 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
15 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
16 music, vocational education or art;

17 (2) except that Northern Illinois University may admit
18 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
19 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
20 coursework taken, including vocational education courses
21 and courses taken in a charter school established under
22 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
23 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
24 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
25 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
26 Trustees of Northern Illinois University shall not

1 discriminate in the University's admissions process
2 against an applicant for admission because of the
3 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
4 under Article 27A of the School Code. Northern Illinois
5 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
6 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
7 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
8 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
9 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
10 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
11 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
12 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
13 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

14 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
15 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
16 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
17 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
18 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
19 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

20 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
21 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
22 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
23 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
24 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
25 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

26 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall

1 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
2 coursework required by subsection (a).

3 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
4 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
5 shall not be required to take the high school level General
6 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
7 admission.

8 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

9 (110 ILCS 685/30-150 new)

10 Sec. 30-150. American Sign Language courses. The
11 University shall award academic credit for the successful
12 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
13 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
14 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
15 University, except for those requirements related to the
16 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
17 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
18 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
19 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure
20 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
21 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for
22 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

23 Section 50. The Western Illinois University Law is amended
24 by changing Section 35-85 and by adding Section 35-145 as

1 follows:

2 (110 ILCS 690/35-85)

3 Sec. 35-85. Admission requirements.

4 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
5 of the departments or colleges of the Western Illinois
6 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
7 completed:

8 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
9 the following 5 categories:

10 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
11 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
12 years may be collegiate level instruction;

13 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
14 and government);

15 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
16 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
17 fundamentals of computer programming);

18 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

19 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language, which
20 shall be deemed to include American Sign Language,
21 music, vocational education or art;

22 (2) except that Western Illinois University may admit
23 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
24 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
25 coursework taken, including vocational education courses

1 and courses taken in a charter school established under
2 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
3 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
4 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
5 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
6 Trustees of Western Illinois University shall not
7 discriminate in the University's admissions process
8 against an applicant for admission because of the
9 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
10 under Article 27A of the School Code. Western Illinois
11 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
12 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
13 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
14 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
15 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
16 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
17 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
18 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
19 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

20 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
21 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
22 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
23 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
24 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
25 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

26 Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of

1 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
2 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
3 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
4 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
5 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

6 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
7 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
8 coursework required by subsection (a).

9 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
10 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT
11 shall not be required to take the high school level General
12 Educational Development (GED) Test as a prerequisite to
13 admission.

14 (Source: P.A. 91-374, eff. 7-30-99.)

15 (110 ILCS 690/35-145 new)

16 Sec. 35-145. American Sign Language courses. The
17 University shall award academic credit for the successful
18 completion of any American Sign Language course offered or
19 approved by the University, which may be applied toward the
20 satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the
21 University, except for those requirements related to the
22 content of a student's academic major. Rulemaking authority to
23 implement this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, if
24 any, is conditioned on the rules being adopted in accordance
25 with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure

1 Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint Committee on
2 Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so adopted, for
3 whatever reason, is unauthorized.

4 Section 55. The Public Community College Act is amended by
5 adding Section 3-29.4 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 805/3-29.4 new)

7 Sec. 3-29.4. American Sign Language courses. To adopt
8 regulations for the awarding of academic credit for the
9 successful completion of any American Sign Language course
10 offered or approved by a community college, which may be
11 applied toward the satisfaction of any foreign language
12 requirements of the community college, except for those
13 requirements related to the content of a student's academic
14 major. Rulemaking authority to implement this amendatory Act of
15 the 96th General Assembly, if any, is conditioned on the rules
16 being adopted in accordance with all provisions of the Illinois
17 Administrative Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of
18 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule
19 not so adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

20 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding
21 Section 8.33 as follows:

22 (30 ILCS 805/8.33 new)

1 Sec. 8.33. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8
2 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the
3 implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of
4 the 96th General Assembly.

1		INDEX
2		Statutes amended in order of appearance
3	105 ILCS 5/10-20.46 new	
4	105 ILCS 5/34-18.37 new	
5	110 ILCS 305/8	from Ch. 144, par. 29
6	110 ILCS 305/45 new	
7	110 ILCS 520/8e	from Ch. 144, par. 658e
8	110 ILCS 520/30 new	
9	110 ILCS 660/5-85	
10	110 ILCS 660/5-140 new	
11	110 ILCS 665/10-85	
12	110 ILCS 665/10-140 new	
13	110 ILCS 670/15-85	
14	110 ILCS 670/15-140 new	
15	110 ILCS 675/20-85	
16	110 ILCS 675/20-145 new	
17	110 ILCS 680/25-85	
18	110 ILCS 680/25-140 new	
19	110 ILCS 685/30-85	
20	110 ILCS 685/30-150 new	
21	110 ILCS 690/35-85	
22	110 ILCS 690/35-145 new	
23	110 ILCS 805/3-29.4 new	
24	30 ILCS 805/8.33 new	