

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 Illinois Act on the Aging is amended by
5 adding Section 8.08 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 105/8.08 new)

7 Sec. 8.08. Older direct care worker recognition. The
8 Department shall present one award annually to older direct
9 care workers in each of the following categories: Older
10 American Act Services, Home Health Services, Community Care
11 Program Services, Nursing Homes, and programs that provide
12 housing with services licensed or certified by the State. The
13 Department shall solicit nominations from associations
14 representing providers of the named services or settings and
15 trade associations representing applicable direct care
16 workers. Nominations shall be presented in a format designated
17 by the Department. Direct care workers honored with this award
18 must be 55 years of age or older and shall be recognized for
19 their dedication and commitment to improving the quality of
20 aging in Illinois above and beyond the confines of their job
21 description. Award recipients shall be honored before their
22 peers at the Governor's Conference on Aging or at a similar
23 venue, shall have their pictures displayed on the Department's

1 website with their permission, and shall receive a letter of
2 commendation from the Governor. The Department shall consult
3 with the Coordinating Committee of State Agencies Serving Older
4 Persons to determine which of the nominees shall be the
5 recipient in each category of service provision or setting. The
6 Department shall include the recipients of these awards in all
7 Senior Hall of Fame displays required by the Act on Aging.
8 Except as otherwise prohibited by law, the Department may
9 solicit private sector funding to underwrite the cost of all
10 awards and recognition materials and shall request that all
11 associations representing providers of the named services or
12 settings and trade associations applicable to direct care
13 workers publicize the awards and the award recipients in
14 communications with their members.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
16 becoming law.