

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 2-3.153 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.153 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.153. Textbook block grant program.

8 (a) The provisions of this Section are in the public  
9 interest, for the public benefit, and serve secular public  
10 purposes.

11 (b) As used in this Section, "textbook" means any book or  
12 book substitute that a pupil uses as a text or text substitute,  
13 including electronic textbooks. "Textbook" includes books,  
14 reusable workbooks, manuals, whether bound or in loose-leaf  
15 form, instructional computer software, and electronic  
16 textbooks and the technological equipment necessary to gain  
17 access to and use electronic textbooks intended as a principal  
18 source of study material for a given class or group of  
19 students. "Textbook" also includes science curriculum  
20 materials in a kit format that includes pre-packaged consumable  
21 materials if (i) it is shown that the materials serve as a  
22 textbook substitute, (ii) the materials are for use by the  
23 pupils as a principal learning source, (iii) each component of

1 the materials is integrally necessary to teach the requirements  
2 of the intended course, (iv) the kit includes teacher guidance  
3 materials, and (v) the purchase of individual consumable  
4 materials is not allowed.

5 (c) Beginning July 1, 2011, subject to annual appropriation  
6 by the General Assembly, the State Board of Education is  
7 authorized to provide annual funding to public school districts  
8 and State-recognized, non-public schools serving students in  
9 grades kindergarten through 12 for the purchase of selected  
10 textbooks. The textbooks authorized to be purchased under this  
11 Section are limited without exception to textbooks that have  
12 been preapproved and designated by the State Board of Education  
13 for use in any public school and that are secular,  
14 non-religious, and non-sectarian. The State Board of Education  
15 shall annually publish a list of the textbooks authorized to be  
16 purchased under this Section. Each public school district and  
17 State-recognized, non-public school shall, subject to  
18 appropriations for that purpose, receive a per pupil grant for  
19 the purchase of secular textbooks. The per pupil grant amount  
20 must be calculated by the State Board of Education utilizing  
21 the total appropriation made for these purposes divided by the  
22 most current student enrollment data available.

23 (d) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as  
24 necessary for the implementation of this Section and to ensure  
25 the religious neutrality of the textbook block grant program,  
26 as well as provide for the monitoring of all textbooks

1 authorized in this Section to be purchased directly by  
2 State-recognized, nonpublic schools serving students in grades  
3 kindergarten through 12.

4 (105 ILCS 5/18-17 rep.)

5 (105 ILCS 5/28-6 rep.)

6 (105 ILCS 5/28-10 rep.)

7 (105 ILCS 5/28-12 rep.)

8 (105 ILCS 5/28-16 rep.)

9 (105 ILCS 5/28-17 rep.)

10 Section 10. The School Code is amended by repealing  
11 Sections 18-17, 28-6, 28-10, 28-12, 28-16, and 28-17.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
13 2011.