

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 changing Section 4.01 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 105/4.01) (from Ch. 23, par. 6104.01)

7 Sec. 4.01. Additional powers and duties of the Department.

8 In addition to powers and duties otherwise provided by law, the
9 Department shall have the following powers and duties:

10 (1) To evaluate all programs, services, and facilities for
11 the aged and for minority senior citizens within the State and
12 determine the extent to which present public or private
13 programs, services and facilities meet the needs of the aged.

14 (2) To coordinate and evaluate all programs, services, and
15 facilities for the Aging and for minority senior citizens
16 presently furnished by State agencies and make appropriate
17 recommendations regarding such services, programs and
18 facilities to the Governor and/or the General Assembly.

19 (3) To function as the sole State agency to develop a
20 comprehensive plan to meet the needs of the State's senior
21 citizens and the State's minority senior citizens.

22 (4) To receive and disburse State and federal funds made
23 available directly to the Department including those funds made

1 available under the Older Americans Act and the Senior
2 Community Service Employment Program for providing services
3 for senior citizens and minority senior citizens or for
4 purposes related thereto, and shall develop and administer any
5 State Plan for the Aging required by federal law.

6 (5) To solicit, accept, hold, and administer in behalf of
7 the State any grants or legacies of money, securities, or
8 property to the State of Illinois for services to senior
9 citizens and minority senior citizens or purposes related
10 thereto.

11 (6) To provide consultation and assistance to communities,
12 area agencies on aging, and groups developing local services
13 for senior citizens and minority senior citizens.

14 (7) To promote community education regarding the problems
15 of senior citizens and minority senior citizens through
16 institutes, publications, radio, television and the local
17 press.

18 (8) To cooperate with agencies of the federal government in
19 studies and conferences designed to examine the needs of senior
20 citizens and minority senior citizens and to prepare programs
21 and facilities to meet those needs.

22 (9) To establish and maintain information and referral
23 sources throughout the State when not provided by other
24 agencies.

25 (10) To provide the staff support that may reasonably be
26 required by the Council.

1 (11) To make and enforce rules and regulations necessary
2 and proper to the performance of its duties.

3 (12) To establish and fund programs or projects or
4 experimental facilities that are specially designed as
5 alternatives to institutional care.

6 (13) To develop a training program to train the counselors
7 presently employed by the Department's aging network to provide
8 Medicare beneficiaries with counseling and advocacy in
9 Medicare, private health insurance, and related health care
10 coverage plans. The Department shall report to the General
11 Assembly on the implementation of the training program on or
12 before December 1, 1986.

13 (14) To make a grant to an institution of higher learning
14 to study the feasibility of establishing and implementing an
15 affirmative action employment plan for the recruitment,
16 hiring, training and retraining of persons 60 or more years old
17 for jobs for which their employment would not be precluded by
18 law.

19 (15) To present one award annually in each of the
20 categories of community service, education, the performance
21 and graphic arts, and the labor force to outstanding Illinois
22 senior citizens and minority senior citizens in recognition of
23 their individual contributions to either community service,
24 education, the performance and graphic arts, or the labor
25 force. The awards shall be presented to 4 senior citizens and
26 minority senior citizens selected from a list of 44 nominees

1 compiled annually by the Department. Nominations shall be
2 solicited from senior citizens' service providers, area
3 agencies on aging, senior citizens' centers, and senior
4 citizens' organizations. The Department shall establish a
5 central location within the State to be designated as the
6 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame for the public display of all
7 the annual awards, or replicas thereof.

8 (16) To establish multipurpose senior centers through area
9 agencies on aging and to fund those new and existing
10 multipurpose senior centers through area agencies on aging, the
11 establishment and funding to begin in such areas of the State
12 as the Department shall designate by rule and as specifically
13 appropriated funds become available.

14 (17) To develop the content and format of the
15 acknowledgment regarding non-recourse reverse mortgage loans
16 under Section 6.1 of the Illinois Banking Act; to provide
17 independent consumer information on reverse mortgages and
18 alternatives; and to refer consumers to independent counseling
19 services with expertise in reverse mortgages.

20 (18) To develop a pamphlet in English and Spanish which may
21 be used by physicians licensed to practice medicine in all of
22 its branches pursuant to the Medical Practice Act of 1987,
23 pharmacists licensed pursuant to the Pharmacy Practice Act, and
24 Illinois residents 65 years of age or older for the purpose of
25 assisting physicians, pharmacists, and patients in monitoring
26 prescriptions provided by various physicians and to aid persons

1 65 years of age or older in complying with directions for
2 proper use of pharmaceutical prescriptions. The pamphlet may
3 provide space for recording information including but not
4 limited to the following:

5 (a) name and telephone number of the patient;

6 (b) name and telephone number of the prescribing
7 physician;

8 (c) date of prescription;

9 (d) name of drug prescribed;

10 (e) directions for patient compliance; and

11 (f) name and telephone number of dispensing pharmacy.

12 In developing the pamphlet, the Department shall consult
13 with the Illinois State Medical Society, the Center for
14 Minority Health Services, the Illinois Pharmacists Association
15 and senior citizens organizations. The Department shall
16 distribute the pamphlets to physicians, pharmacists and
17 persons 65 years of age or older or various senior citizen
18 organizations throughout the State.

19 (19) To conduct a study of the feasibility of implementing
20 the Senior Companion Program throughout the State.

21 (20) The reimbursement rates paid through the community
22 care program for chore housekeeping services and home care
23 aides shall be the same.

24 (21) From funds appropriated to the Department from the
25 Meals on Wheels Fund, a special fund in the State treasury that
26 is hereby created, and in accordance with State and federal

1 guidelines and the intrastate funding formula, to make grants
2 to area agencies on aging, designated by the Department, for
3 the sole purpose of delivering meals to homebound persons 60
4 years of age and older.

5 (22) To distribute, through its area agencies on aging,
6 information alerting seniors on safety issues regarding
7 emergency weather conditions, including extreme heat and cold,
8 flooding, tornadoes, electrical storms, and other severe storm
9 weather. The information shall include all necessary
10 instructions for safety and all emergency telephone numbers of
11 organizations that will provide additional information and
12 assistance.

13 (23) To develop guidelines for the organization and
14 implementation of Volunteer Services Credit Programs to be
15 administered by Area Agencies on Aging or community based
16 senior service organizations. The Department shall hold public
17 hearings on the proposed guidelines for public comment,
18 suggestion, and determination of public interest. The
19 guidelines shall be based on the findings of other states and
20 of community organizations in Illinois that are currently
21 operating volunteer services credit programs or demonstration
22 volunteer services credit programs. The Department shall offer
23 guidelines for all aspects of the programs including, but not
24 limited to, the following:

25 (a) types of services to be offered by volunteers;

26 (b) types of services to be received upon the

1 redemption of service credits;

2 (c) issues of liability for the volunteers and the
3 administering organizations;

4 (d) methods of tracking service credits earned and
5 service credits redeemed;

6 (e) issues of time limits for redemption of service
7 credits;

8 (f) methods of recruitment of volunteers;

9 (g) utilization of community volunteers, community
10 service groups, and other resources for delivering
11 services to be received by service credit program clients;

12 (h) accountability and assurance that services will be
13 available to individuals who have earned service credits;
14 and

15 (i) volunteer screening and qualifications.

16 The Department shall submit a written copy of the guidelines to
17 the General Assembly by July 1, 1998.

18 (24) To hold conferences, trainings, and other programs for
19 which the Department shall determine by rule a reasonable fee
20 to cover related administrative costs. Rules to implement the
21 fee authority granted by this paragraph (24) must be adopted in
22 accordance with all provisions of the Illinois Administrative
23 Procedure Act and all rules and procedures of the Joint
24 Committee on Administrative Rules; any purported rule not so
25 adopted, for whatever reason, is unauthorized.

26 (Source: P.A. 95-298, eff. 8-20-07; 95-689, eff. 10-29-07;

1 95-876, eff. 8-21-08; 96-918, eff. 6-9-10.)

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.