

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 changing Section
5 21-14 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-14) (from Ch. 122, par. 21-14)

7 Sec. 21-14. Registration and renewal of certificates.

8 (a) A limited four-year certificate or a certificate issued
9 after July 1, 1955, shall be renewable at its expiration or
10 within 60 days thereafter by the county superintendent of
11 schools having supervision and control over the school where
12 the teacher is teaching upon certified evidence of meeting the
13 requirements for renewal as required by this Act and prescribed
14 by the State Board of Education in consultation with the State
15 Teacher Certification Board. An elementary supervisory
16 certificate shall not be renewed at the end of the first
17 four-year period covered by the certificate unless the holder
18 thereof has filed certified evidence with the State Teacher
19 Certification Board that he has a master's degree or that he
20 has earned 8 semester hours of credit in the field of
21 educational administration and supervision in a recognized
22 institution of higher learning. The holder shall continue to
23 earn 8 semester hours of credit each four-year period until

1 such time as he has earned a master's degree.

2 All certificates not renewed as provided in this Section or
3 registered in accordance with this Code shall lapse after a
4 period of 6 months from the expiration of the last year of
5 registration. Such certificates may be immediately reinstated
6 upon payment by the applicant to the State Board of Education
7 of (1) any and all back fees, including without limitation
8 registration fees, owed from the time of expiration of the
9 certificate until the date of reinstatement; and (2) a \$500
10 penalty or the demonstration of proficiency by completing 9
11 semester hours of coursework from a regionally accredited
12 institution of higher education in the content area that most
13 aligns with the educator's endorsement area or areas; provided
14 that, until September 1, 2012, certificates that have lapsed
15 solely for the failure to pay a registration fee may be
16 immediately reinstated upon payment only of any and all back
17 fees, including without limitation registration fees, owed
18 from the time of expiration of the certificate until the date
19 of reinstatement. Penalty ~~Any and all back fees and penalty~~
20 amounts shall be deposited by the State Board of Education into
21 the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund. Beginning on the
22 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General
23 Assembly, all back fees for registration must be paid and kept
24 in accordance with Sections 3-12 and 21-16 of this Code. Any
25 certificate may be voluntarily surrendered by the certificate
26 holder. A voluntarily surrendered certificate shall be treated

1 as a revoked certificate.

2 (b) When those teaching certificates issued before
3 February 15, 2000 are renewed for the first time after February
4 15, 2000, all such teaching certificates shall be exchanged for
5 Standard Teaching Certificates as provided in subsection (c) of
6 Section 21-2. All Initial and Standard Teaching Certificates,
7 including those issued to persons who previously held teaching
8 certificates issued before February 15, 2000, shall be
9 renewable under the conditions set forth in this subsection
10 (b).

11 Initial Teaching Certificates are valid for 4 years of
12 teaching, as provided in subsection (b) of Section 21-2 of this
13 Code, and are renewable every 4 years until the person
14 completes 4 years of teaching. If the holder of an Initial
15 Certificate has completed 4 years of teaching but has not
16 completed the requirements set forth in paragraph (2) of
17 subsection (c) of Section 21-2 of this Code, then the Initial
18 Certificate may be reinstated for one year, during which the
19 requirements must be met. A holder of an Initial Certificate
20 who has not completed 4 years of teaching may continuously
21 register the certificate for additional 4-year periods without
22 penalty. Initial Certificates that are not registered shall
23 lapse consistent with subsection (a) of this Section and may be
24 reinstated only in accordance with subsection (a). Standard
25 Teaching Certificates are renewable every 5 years as provided
26 in subsection (c) of Section 21-2 and subsection (c) of this

1 Section. For purposes of this Section, "teaching" is defined as
2 employment and performance of services in an Illinois public or
3 State-operated elementary school, secondary school, or
4 cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or board
5 of control, in a certificated teaching position, or a charter
6 school operating in compliance with the Charter Schools Law.

7 (c) In compliance with subsection (c) of Section 21-2 of
8 this Code, which provides that a Standard Teaching Certificate
9 may be renewed by the State Teacher Certification Board based
10 upon proof of continuing professional development, the State
11 Board of Education and the State Teacher Certification Board
12 shall jointly:

13 (1) establish a procedure for renewing Standard
14 Teaching Certificates, which shall include but not be
15 limited to annual timelines for the renewal process and the
16 components set forth in subsections (d) through (k) of this
17 Section;

18 (2) establish the standards for certificate renewal;

19 (3) approve or disapprove the providers of continuing
20 professional development activities;

21 (4) determine the maximum credit for each category of
22 continuing professional development activities, based upon
23 recommendations submitted by a continuing professional
24 development activity task force, which shall consist of 6
25 staff members from the State Board of Education, appointed
26 by the State Superintendent of Education, and 6 teacher

1 representatives, 3 of whom are selected by the Illinois
2 Education Association and 3 of whom are selected by the
3 Illinois Federation of Teachers;

4 (5) designate the type and amount of documentation
5 required to show that continuing professional development
6 activities have been completed; and

7 (6) provide, on a timely basis to all Illinois
8 teachers, certificate holders, regional superintendents of
9 schools, school districts, and others with an interest in
10 continuing professional development, information about the
11 standards and requirements established pursuant to this
12 subsection (c).

13 (d) Any Standard Teaching Certificate held by an individual
14 employed and performing services in an Illinois public or
15 State-operated elementary school, secondary school, or
16 cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or board
17 of control in a certificated teaching position or a charter
18 school in compliance with the Charter Schools Law must be
19 maintained Valid and Active through certificate renewal
20 activities specified in the certificate renewal procedure
21 established pursuant to subsection (c) of this Section,
22 provided that a holder of a Valid and Active certificate who is
23 only employed on either a part-time basis or day-to-day basis
24 as a substitute teacher shall pay only the required
25 registration fee to renew his or her certificate and maintain
26 it as Valid and Active. All other Standard Teaching

1 Certificates held may be maintained as Valid and Exempt through
2 the registration process provided for in the certificate
3 renewal procedure established pursuant to subsection (c) of
4 this Section. A Valid and Exempt certificate must be
5 immediately activated, through procedures developed jointly by
6 the State Board of Education and the State Teacher
7 Certification Board, upon the certificate holder becoming
8 employed and performing services in an Illinois public or
9 State-operated elementary school, secondary school, or
10 cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or board
11 of control in a certificated teaching position or a charter
12 school operating in compliance with the Charter Schools Law. A
13 holder of a Valid and Exempt certificate may activate his or
14 her certificate through procedures provided for in the
15 certificate renewal procedure established pursuant to
16 subsection (c) of this Section.

17 (e)(1) A Standard Teaching Certificate that has been
18 maintained as Valid and Active for the 5 years of the
19 certificate's validity shall be renewed as Valid and Active
20 upon the certificate holder: (i) completing an advanced degree
21 from an approved institution in an education-related field;
22 (ii) completing at least 8 semester hours of coursework as
23 described in subdivision (B) of paragraph (3) of this
24 subsection (e); (iii) (blank); (iv) completing the National
25 Board for Professional Teaching Standards process as described
26 in subdivision (D) of paragraph (3) of this subsection (e); or

1 (v) earning 120 continuing professional development units
2 ("CPDU") as described in subdivision (E) of paragraph (3) of
3 this subsection (e). The maximum continuing professional
4 development units for each continuing professional development
5 activity identified in subdivisions (F) through (J) of
6 paragraph (3) of this subsection (e) shall be jointly
7 determined by the State Board of Education and the State
8 Teacher Certification Board. If, however, the certificate
9 holder has maintained the certificate as Valid and Exempt for a
10 portion of the 5-year period of validity, the number of
11 continuing professional development units needed to renew the
12 certificate as Valid and Active shall be proportionately
13 reduced by the amount of time the certificate was Valid and
14 Exempt. Furthermore, if a certificate holder is employed and
15 performs teaching services on a part-time basis for all or a
16 portion of the certificate's 5-year period of validity, the
17 number of continuing professional development units needed to
18 renew the certificate as Valid and Active shall be reduced by
19 50% for the amount of time the certificate holder has been
20 employed and performed teaching services on a part-time basis.
21 Part-time shall be defined as less than 50% of the school day
22 or school term.

23 Notwithstanding any other requirements to the contrary, if
24 a Standard Teaching Certificate has been maintained as Valid
25 and Active for the 5 years of the certificate's validity and
26 the certificate holder has completed his or her certificate

1 renewal plan before July 1, 2002, the certificate shall be
2 renewed as Valid and Active.

3 (2) Beginning July 1, 2004, in order to satisfy the
4 requirements for continuing professional development provided
5 for in subsection (c) of Section 21-2 of this Code, each Valid
6 and Active Standard Teaching Certificate holder shall complete
7 professional development activities that address the
8 certificate or those certificates that are required of his or
9 her certificated teaching position, if the certificate holder
10 is employed and performing services in an Illinois public or
11 State-operated elementary school, secondary school, or
12 cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or board
13 of control, or that certificate or those certificates most
14 closely related to his or her teaching position, if the
15 certificate holder is employed in a charter school. Except as
16 otherwise provided in this subsection (e), the certificate
17 holder's activities must address purposes (A), (B), (C), or (D)
18 and must reflect purpose (E) of the following continuing
19 professional development purposes:

20 (A) Advance both the certificate holder's knowledge
21 and skills as a teacher consistent with the Illinois
22 Professional Teaching Standards and the Illinois Content
23 Area Standards in the certificate holder's areas of
24 certification, endorsement, or teaching assignment in
25 order to keep the certificate holder current in those
26 areas.

1 (B) Develop the certificate holder's knowledge and
2 skills in areas determined to be critical for all Illinois
3 teachers, as defined by the State Board of Education, known
4 as "State priorities".

5 (C) Address the knowledge, skills, and goals of the
6 certificate holder's local school improvement plan, if the
7 teacher is employed in an Illinois public or State-operated
8 elementary school, secondary school, or cooperative or
9 joint agreement with a governing body or board of control.

10 (D) Expand the certificate holder's knowledge and
11 skills in an additional teaching field or toward the
12 acquisition of another teaching certificate, endorsement,
13 or relevant education degree.

14 (E) Address the needs of serving students with
15 disabilities, including adapting and modifying the general
16 curriculum related to the Illinois Learning Standards to
17 meet the needs of students with disabilities and serving
18 such students in the least restrictive environment.
19 Teachers who hold certificates endorsed for special
20 education must devote at least 50% of their continuing
21 professional development activities to this purpose.
22 Teachers holding other certificates must devote at least
23 20% of their activities to this purpose.

24 A speech-language pathologist or audiologist who is
25 licensed under the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and
26 Audiology Practice Act and who has met the continuing education

1 requirements of that Act and the rules promulgated under that
2 Act shall be deemed to have satisfied the continuing
3 professional development requirements established by the State
4 Board of Education and the Teacher Certification Board to renew
5 a Standard Certificate.

6 (3) Continuing professional development activities may
7 include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

8 (A) completion of an advanced degree from an approved
9 institution in an education-related field;

10 (B) at least 8 semester hours of coursework in an
11 approved education-related program, of which at least 2
12 semester hours relate to the continuing professional
13 development purpose set forth in purpose (A) of paragraph
14 (2) of this subsection (e), completion of which means no
15 other continuing professional development activities are
16 required;

17 (C) (blank);

18 (D) completion of the National Board for Professional
19 Teaching Standards ("NBPTS") process for certification or
20 recertification, completion of which means no other
21 continuing professional development activities are
22 required;

23 (E) completion of 120 continuing professional
24 development units that satisfy the continuing professional
25 development purposes set forth in paragraph (2) of this
26 subsection (e) and may include without limitation the

1 activities identified in subdivisions (F) through (J) of
2 this paragraph (3);

3 (F) collaboration and partnership activities related
4 to improving the teacher's knowledge and skills as a
5 teacher, including the following:

6 (i) participating on collaborative planning and
7 professional improvement teams and committees;

8 (ii) peer review and coaching;

9 (iii) mentoring in a formal mentoring program,
10 including service as a consulting teacher
11 participating in a remediation process formulated
12 under Section 24A-5 of this Code;

13 (iv) participating in site-based management or
14 decision making teams, relevant committees, boards, or
15 task forces directly related to school improvement
16 plans;

17 (v) coordinating community resources in schools,
18 if the project is a specific goal of the school
19 improvement plan;

20 (vi) facilitating parent education programs for a
21 school, school district, or regional office of
22 education directly related to student achievement or
23 school improvement plans;

24 (vii) participating in business, school, or
25 community partnerships directly related to student
26 achievement or school improvement plans; or

1 (viii) supervising a student teacher or teacher
2 education candidate in clinical supervision, provided
3 that the supervision may only be counted once during
4 the course of 5 years;

5 (G) college or university coursework related to
6 improving the teacher's knowledge and skills as a teacher
7 as follows:

8 (i) completing undergraduate or graduate credit
9 earned from a regionally accredited institution in
10 coursework relevant to the certificate area being
11 renewed, including coursework that incorporates
12 induction activities and development of a portfolio of
13 both student and teacher work that provides experience
14 in reflective practices, provided the coursework meets
15 Illinois Professional Teaching Standards or Illinois
16 Content Area Standards and supports the essential
17 characteristics of quality professional development;
18 or

19 (ii) teaching college or university courses in
20 areas relevant to the certificate area being renewed,
21 provided that the teaching may only be counted once
22 during the course of 5 years;

23 (H) conferences, workshops, institutes, seminars, and
24 symposiums related to improving the teacher's knowledge
25 and skills as a teacher, subject to disapproval of the
26 activity or event by the State Teacher Certification Board

1 acting jointly with the State Board of Education, including
2 the following:

3 (i) completing non-university credit directly
4 related to student achievement, school improvement
5 plans, or State priorities;

6 (ii) participating in or presenting at workshops,
7 seminars, conferences, institutes, and symposiums;

8 (iii) training as external reviewers for Quality
9 Assurance;

10 (iv) training as reviewers of university teacher
11 preparation programs; or

12 (v) participating in or presenting at in-service
13 training programs on suicide prevention.

14 A teacher, however, may not receive credit for conferences,
15 workshops, institutes, seminars, or symposiums that are
16 designed for entertainment, promotional, or commercial
17 purposes or that are solely inspirational or motivational.

18 The State Superintendent of Education and regional
19 superintendents of schools are authorized to review the
20 activities and events provided or to be provided under this
21 subdivision (H) and to investigate complaints regarding
22 those activities and events, and either the State
23 Superintendent of Education or a regional superintendent
24 of schools may recommend that the State Teacher
25 Certification Board and the State Board of Education
26 jointly disapprove those activities and events considered

1 to be inconsistent with this subdivision (H);

2 (I) other educational experiences related to improving
3 the teacher's knowledge and skills as a teacher, including
4 the following:

5 (i) participating in action research and inquiry
6 projects;

7 (ii) observing programs or teaching in schools,
8 related businesses, or industry that is systematic,
9 purposeful, and relevant to certificate renewal;

10 (iii) traveling related to one's teaching
11 assignment, directly related to student achievement or
12 school improvement plans and approved by the regional
13 superintendent of schools or his or her designee at
14 least 30 days prior to the travel experience, provided
15 that the traveling shall not include time spent
16 commuting to destinations where the learning
17 experience will occur;

18 (iv) participating in study groups related to
19 student achievement or school improvement plans;

20 (v) serving on a statewide education-related
21 committee, including but not limited to the State
22 Teacher Certification Board, State Board of Education
23 strategic agenda teams, or the State Advisory Council
24 on Education of Children with Disabilities;

25 (vi) participating in work/learn programs or
26 internships; or

1 (vii) developing a portfolio of student and
2 teacher work;

3 (J) professional leadership experiences related to
4 improving the teacher's knowledge and skills as a teacher,
5 including the following:

6 (i) participating in curriculum development or
7 assessment activities at the school, school district,
8 regional office of education, State, or national
9 level;

10 (ii) participating in team or department
11 leadership in a school or school district;

12 (iii) participating on external or internal school
13 or school district review teams;

14 (iv) publishing educational articles, columns, or
15 books relevant to the certificate area being renewed;
16 or

17 (v) participating in non-strike related
18 professional association or labor organization service
19 or activities related to professional development;

20 (K) receipt of a subsequent Illinois certificate or
21 endorsement pursuant to this Article;

22 (L) completion of requirements for meeting the
23 Illinois criteria for becoming "highly qualified" (for
24 purposes of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public
25 Law 107-110) in an additional teaching area;

26 (M) successful completion of 4 semester hours of

1 graduate-level coursework on the assessment of one's own
2 performance in relation to the Illinois Teaching
3 Standards, as described in clause (B) of paragraph (2) of
4 subsection (c) of Section 21-2 of this Code; or

5 (N) successful completion of a minimum of 4 semester
6 hours of graduate-level coursework addressing preparation
7 to meet the requirements for certification by the National
8 Board for Professional Teaching Standards, as described in
9 clause (C) of paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of Section
10 21-2 of this Code.

11 (4) A person must complete the requirements of this
12 subsection (e) before the expiration of his or her Standard
13 Teaching Certificate and must submit assurance to the regional
14 superintendent of schools or, if applicable, a local
15 professional development committee authorized by the regional
16 superintendent to submit recommendations to him or her for this
17 purpose. The statement of assurance shall contain a list of the
18 activities completed, the provider offering each activity, the
19 number of credits earned for each activity, and the purposes to
20 which each activity is attributed. The certificate holder shall
21 maintain the evidence of completion of each activity for at
22 least one certificate renewal cycle. The certificate holder
23 shall affirm under penalty of perjury that he or she has
24 completed the activities listed and will maintain the required
25 evidence of completion. The State Board of Education or the
26 regional superintendent of schools for each region shall

1 conduct random audits of assurance statements and supporting
2 documentation.

3 (5) (Blank).

4 (6) (Blank).

5 (f) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code, a
6 school district is authorized to enter into an agreement with
7 the exclusive bargaining representative, if any, to form a
8 local professional development committee (LPDC). The
9 membership and terms of members of the LPDC may be determined
10 by the agreement. Provisions regarding LPDCs contained in a
11 collective bargaining agreement in existence on the effective
12 date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly
13 between a school district and the exclusive bargaining
14 representative shall remain in full force and effect for the
15 term of the agreement, unless terminated by mutual agreement.
16 The LPDC shall make recommendations to the regional
17 superintendent of schools on renewal of teaching certificates.
18 The regional superintendent of schools for each region shall
19 perform the following functions:

20 (1) review recommendations for certificate renewal, if
21 any, received from LPDCs;

22 (2) (blank);

23 (3) (blank);

24 (4) (blank);

25 (5) determine whether certificate holders have met the
26 requirements for certificate renewal and notify

1 certificate holders if the decision is not to renew the
2 certificate;

3 (6) provide a certificate holder with the opportunity
4 to appeal a recommendation made by a LPDC, if any, not to
5 renew the certificate to the regional professional
6 development review committee;

7 (7) issue and forward recommendations for renewal or
8 nonrenewal of certificate holders' Standard Teaching
9 Certificates to the State Teacher Certification Board; and

10 (8) (blank).

11 (g)(1) Each regional superintendent of schools shall
12 review and concur or nonconcur with each recommendation for
13 renewal or nonrenewal of a Standard Teaching Certificate he or
14 she receives from a local professional development committee,
15 if any, or, if a certificate holder appeals the recommendation
16 to the regional professional development review committee, the
17 recommendation for renewal or nonrenewal he or she receives
18 from a regional professional development review committee and,
19 within 14 days of receipt of the recommendation, shall provide
20 the State Teacher Certification Board with verification of the
21 following, if applicable:

22 (A) the certificate holder has satisfactorily
23 completed professional development and continuing
24 education activities set forth in paragraph (3) of
25 subsection (e) of this Section;

26 (B) the certificate holder has submitted the statement

1 of assurance required under paragraph (4) of subsection (e)
2 of this Section, and this statement has been attached to
3 the application for renewal;

4 (C) the local professional development committee, if
5 any, has recommended the renewal of the certificate
6 holder's Standard Teaching Certificate and forwarded the
7 recommendation to the regional superintendent of schools;

8 (D) the certificate holder has appealed his or her
9 local professional development committee's recommendation
10 of nonrenewal, if any, to the regional professional
11 development review committee and the result of that appeal;

12 (E) the regional superintendent of schools has
13 concurred or nonconcurred with the local professional
14 development committee's or regional professional
15 development review committee's recommendation, if any, to
16 renew or nonrenew the certificate holder's Standard
17 Teaching Certificate and made a recommendation to that
18 effect; and

19 (F) the established registration fee for the Standard
20 Teaching Certificate has been paid.

21 If the notice required by this subsection (g) includes a
22 recommendation of certificate nonrenewal, then, at the same
23 time the regional superintendent of schools provides the State
24 Teacher Certification Board with the notice, he or she shall
25 also notify the certificate holder in writing, by certified
26 mail, return receipt requested, that this notice has been

1 provided to the State Teacher Certification Board.

2 (2) Each certificate holder shall have the right to appeal
3 his or her local professional development committee's
4 recommendation of nonrenewal, if any, to the regional
5 professional development review committee, within 14 days of
6 receipt of notice that the recommendation has been sent to the
7 regional superintendent of schools. Each regional
8 superintendent of schools shall establish a regional
9 professional development review committee or committees for
10 the purpose of advising the regional superintendent of schools,
11 upon request, and handling certificate holder appeals. This
12 committee shall consist of at least 4 classroom teachers, one
13 non-administrative certificated educational employee, 2
14 administrators, and one at-large member who shall be either (i)
15 a parent, (ii) a member of the business community, (iii) a
16 community member, or (iv) an administrator, with preference
17 given to an individual chosen from among those persons listed
18 in items (i), (ii), and (iii) in order to secure representation
19 of an interest not already represented on the committee. The
20 teacher and non-administrative certificated educational
21 employee members of the review committee shall be selected by
22 their exclusive representative, if any, and the administrators
23 and at-large member shall be selected by the regional
24 superintendent of schools. A regional superintendent of
25 schools may add additional members to the committee, provided
26 that the same proportion of teachers to administrators and

1 at-large members on the committee is maintained. Any additional
2 teacher and non-administrative certificated educational
3 employee members shall be selected by their exclusive
4 representative, if any. Vacancies in positions on a regional
5 professional development review committee shall be filled in
6 the same manner as the original selections. Committee members
7 shall serve staggered 3-year terms. All individuals selected to
8 serve on regional professional development review committees
9 must be known to demonstrate the best practices in teaching or
10 their respective field of practice.

11 (h) (1) The State Teacher Certification Board shall review
12 the regional superintendent of schools' recommendations to
13 renew or nonrenew Standard Teaching Certificates and notify
14 certificate holders in writing whether their certificates have
15 been renewed or nonrenewed within 90 days of receipt of the
16 recommendations, unless a certificate holder has appealed a
17 regional superintendent of schools' recommendation of
18 nonrenewal, as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection
19 (h). The State Teacher Certification Board shall verify that
20 the certificate holder has met the renewal criteria set forth
21 in paragraph (1) of subsection (g) of this Section.

22 (2) Each certificate holder shall have the right to appeal
23 a regional superintendent of school's recommendation to
24 nonrenew his or her Standard Teaching Certificate to the State
25 Teacher Certification Board, within 14 days of receipt of
26 notice that the decision has been sent to the State Teacher

1 Certification Board, which shall hold an appeal hearing within
2 60 days of receipt of the appeal. When such an appeal is taken,
3 the certificate holder's Standard Teaching Certificate shall
4 continue to be valid until the appeal is finally determined.
5 The State Teacher Certification Board shall review the regional
6 superintendent of school's recommendation, the regional
7 professional development review committee's recommendation, if
8 any, and the local professional development committee's
9 recommendation, if any, and all relevant documentation to
10 verify whether the certificate holder has met the renewal
11 criteria set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (g) of this
12 Section. The State Teacher Certification Board may request that
13 the certificate holder appear before it. All actions taken by
14 the State Teacher Certification Board shall require a quorum
15 and be by a simple majority of those present and voting. A
16 record of all votes shall be maintained. The State Teacher
17 Certification Board shall notify the certificate holder in
18 writing, within 7 days of completing the review, whether his or
19 her Standard Teaching Certificate has been renewed or
20 nonrenewed, provided that if the State Teacher Certification
21 Board determines to nonrenew a certificate, the written notice
22 provided to the certificate holder shall be by certified mail,
23 return receipt requested. All certificate renewal or
24 nonrenewal decisions of the State Teacher Certification Board
25 are final and subject to administrative review.

26 (i) Holders of Master Teaching Certificates shall meet the

1 same requirements and follow the same procedures as holders of
2 Standard Teaching Certificates, except that their renewal
3 cycle shall be as set forth in subsection (d) of Section 21-2
4 of this Code and their renewal requirements shall be subject to
5 paragraph (8) of subsection (c) of Section 21-2 of this Code.

6 A holder of a teaching certificate endorsed as a
7 speech-language pathologist who has been granted the
8 Certificate of Clinical Competence by the American
9 Speech-Language Hearing Association may renew his or her
10 Standard Teaching Certificate pursuant to the 10-year renewal
11 cycle set forth in subsection (d) of Section 21-2 of this Code.

12 (j) Holders of Valid and Exempt Standard and Master
13 Teaching Certificates who are not employed and performing
14 services in an Illinois public or State-operated elementary
15 school, secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement
16 with a governing body or board of control, in a certificated
17 teaching position, may voluntarily activate their certificates
18 through the regional superintendent of schools of the regional
19 office of education for the geographic area where their
20 teaching is done. These certificate holders shall follow the
21 same renewal criteria and procedures as all other Standard and
22 Master Teaching Certificate holders, except that their
23 continuing professional development activities need not
24 reflect or address the knowledge, skills, and goals of a local
25 school improvement plan.

26 (k) (Blank).

1 (l) (Blank).

2 (m) The changes made to this Section by this amendatory Act
3 of the 93rd General Assembly that affect renewal of Standard
4 and Master Certificates shall apply to those persons who hold
5 Standard or Master Certificates on or after the effective date
6 of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly and shall
7 be given effect upon renewal of those certificates.

8 (Source: P.A. 96-951, eff. 6-28-10; 97-607, eff. 8-26-11;
9 97-682, eff. 5-8-12.)

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
11 becoming law.