



## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

SB3429

Introduced 2/14/2014, by Sen. Wm. Sam McCann

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/12-4.47 new

Amends the Administration Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Creates the Workforce Preparation Task Force to study and report on ways that promote the economic self-sufficiency of individuals who receive benefits under the State's General Assistance program, with the underlying intention to reduce the overall number of individuals receiving benefits under the program through increased levels of sustainable employment skills. Requires the Task Force to outline in its final report to the General Assembly and the Governor a 5-year plan that utilizes existing State resources and programs to reduce the overall number of General Assistance recipients by one-third through enrollment in and successful completion of appropriate educational or job-training programs that can directly lead to sustainable employment opportunities in the job market. Provides that the Task Force shall meet on a periodic basis to examine and compile data regarding educational and job-training programs and resources as well as levels of benefits that recipients receive from the State's General Assistance program. Requires the Department of Human Services to maintain a database of information that tracks the overall trends of the 5-year plan and to provide quarterly updates to the public in both electronic and written formats. Contains provisions concerning Task Force membership and reporting requirements. Effective immediately.

LRB098 20051 KTG 55289 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by  
5 adding Section 12-4.47 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/12-4.47 new)

7 Sec. 12-4.47. Workforce Preparation Task Force.

8 (a) The Workforce Preparation Task Force is created.

9 Membership in the Task Force shall include, but shall not be  
10 limited to, the following members:

11 (1) One member appointed by the President of the  
12 Senate.

13 (2) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
14 Senate.

15 (3) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
16 Representatives.

17 (4) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
18 House of Representatives.

19 (5) One member appointed by the Governor.

20 (6) One member appointed by the Illinois Community  
21 College Board.

22 (7) One member appointed by the Illinois State Board of  
23 Education.

1           (8) The Director of the Department of Employment  
2           Security or his or her designee.

3           (9) The Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
4           or his or her designee.

5           Members shall serve without compensation.

6           (b) The Task Force shall study and report to the General  
7           Assembly and the Governor on ways that promote the economic  
8           self-sufficiency of individuals who receive benefits under the  
9           State's General Assistance program, with the underlying  
10           intention to reduce the overall number of individuals receiving  
11           benefits under the program through increased levels of  
12           sustainable employment skills.

13           In its final report, the Task Force shall outline a 5-year  
14           plan that utilizes existing State resources and programs to  
15           reduce the overall number of General Assistance recipients by  
16           one-third through enrollment in and successful completion of  
17           appropriate educational or job-training programs that can  
18           directly lead to sustainable employment opportunities in the  
19           job market. Appropriate educational or job-training programs  
20           include, but are not limited to, the following: GED  
21           certificates, Associate's degrees from a community or business  
22           college, and vocational or apprenticeship certificates from  
23           accredited organizations.

24           The Task Force shall specifically address the needs of the  
25           following groups of individuals in the development of its  
26           5-year plan: at-risk high school students or drop-outs,

1 individuals who do not enroll in a traditional 2-year or 4-year  
2 post-secondary academic program, and teenage mothers. The Task  
3 Force shall develop appropriate timeframes for completion of  
4 educational or job-training programs and link the  
5 discontinuation of a recipient's benefits upon such completion  
6 and transition into the job market.

7 (c) The Task Force shall meet on a periodic basis to  
8 examine and compile data regarding educational and  
9 job-training programs and resources as well as levels of  
10 benefits that recipients receive from the State's General  
11 Assistance program.

12 (d) The Department of Human Services shall provide  
13 administrative support to the Task Force and shall maintain a  
14 database of information that tracks the overall trends of the  
15 5-year plan and provide quarterly updates to the public in both  
16 electronic and written formats.

17 (e) The Task Force shall document its findings and  
18 recommendations in a 5-year plan to the General Assembly and  
19 the Governor by January 1, 2015.

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
21 becoming law.