

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Opportunities for At-Risk Women Act.

6 Section 5. Task Force. There is created within the
7 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity the Task Force
8 on Opportunities for At-Risk Women, composed of the following
9 members:

10 (1) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives;

12 (2) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
13 House of Representatives;

14 (3) one member appointed by the President of the Senate;

15 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
16 Senate;

17 (5) the Secretary of State, or his or her designee;

18 (6) the Executive Director of the Criminal Justice
19 Information Authority, or his or her designee;

20 (7) the Director of the Department of Children and Family
21 Services, or his or her designee;

22 (8) the Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic
23 Opportunity, or his or her designee;

1 (9) the Director of the Department of Employment Security,
2 or his or her designee;

3 (10) the Director of the Department of Healthcare and
4 Family Services, or his or her designee;

5 (11) the Executive Director of the Community College Board,
6 or his or her designee;

7 (12) the Superintendent of the State Board of Education, or
8 his or her designee; and

9 (13) such other members as the Governor may appoint, who
10 shall be experts with the following backgrounds: educators,
11 prison officials, 21st Century programmers or other after
12 school tutoring programs that are implemented in other counties
13 throughout Illinois, community organization service providers,
14 local college personnel, healthcare personnel, housing
15 authority personnel, and addiction and recovery personnel.

16 Members shall serve for 4-year terms and may be
17 reappointed. Vacancies shall be filled by the respective
18 appointing authorities for the remainder of the current term.
19 Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed
20 for reasonable expenses from funds appropriated for that
21 purpose.

22 Members shall elect from their number a chairperson, and
23 such other officers as they may choose, for a 2-year term. The
24 Task Force shall meet at the call of the chair, but not less
25 than twice per year. The Department of Commerce and Economic
26 Opportunity shall provide administrative support, technical

1 assistance, meeting space, and funding to the Task Force.

2 Section 10. Duties of the Task Force.

3 (a) The Task Force shall strategize and design a plan for
4 the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to partner
5 and outsource with State and local governmental agencies,
6 companies, and organizations that aid in helping at-risk women
7 and their families become successful productive citizens.

8 (b) This partnership will include material distribution of
9 available resources offered in their communities as well as
10 referrals to organizations and companies that provide
11 necessary services to aide in their success. The following are
12 targeted areas of assistance and outsourcing: housing
13 assistance; educational information on enhancement and
14 advancement; parenting and family bonding classes; financial
15 education and literacy, including budgeting; quality
16 afterschool programming, including tutoring; self-esteem and
17 empowerment classes; healthy relationships classes for the
18 entire family, including warning signs and appropriate
19 handling of bullying; integrity classes; social etiquette
20 classes; job preparedness workshops; temperament behavior
21 classes, including anger management; addiction and recovery
22 clinics, including referrals; health education classes; job
23 training opportunities; and the expansion of Redeploy Illinois
24 into Cook County.

25 (c) For the purposes of this Act, "at-risk women" means

1 women who are at increased risk of incarceration because of
2 poverty, abuse, addiction, financial challenges, illiteracy,
3 or other causes. The term "at-risk women" may include, but
4 shall not be limited to, women who have previously been
5 incarcerated.

6 Section 15. Annual report. The Task Force shall report
7 annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on its
8 activities and shall include any recommendations for
9 legislation or rulemaking to facilitate its work in the
10 targeted areas of assistance and outsourcing.