

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 Children and Family Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 21.2 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/21.2 new)

7 Sec. 21.2. Child welfare training academy.

8 The Department shall establish a child welfare training
9 academy for child protective investigators and supervisors
10 employed by the Department or its contractors.

11 The training efforts of the child welfare training academy
12 shall include, but shall not be limited to, establishing:

13 (1) training curricula on recognizing and responding
14 to cases of child abuse or neglect;

15 (2) cultural competency training that provides tools
16 and other supports to ensure that a child welfare
17 provider's response to and engagement with families and
18 children of color are conducted or provided in a manner
19 that is responsive to the beliefs, interpersonal styles,
20 attitudes, language, and behaviors of the individuals who
21 are receiving services, and are conducted or provided in a
22 manner that has the greatest likelihood of ensuring maximum
23 success of or participation in the child welfare program or

1 services being provided;

2 (3) laboratory training facilities that include mock
3 houses, mock medical facilities, mock courtrooms, and mock
4 forensic interview rooms that allow for simulated,
5 interactive, and intensive training; and

6 (4) minimum standards of competence that a person shall
7 be required to demonstrate prior to receiving
8 certification from the Department.

9 By January 1, 2016, the Department shall adopt rules for
10 the administration of the child welfare training academy that
11 not only establish statewide competence, assessment, and
12 training standards for persons providing child welfare
13 services, but that also ensure that persons who provide child
14 welfare services have the knowledge, skills, professionalism,
15 and abilities to make decisions that keep children safe and
16 secure.

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
18 becoming law.