

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 adding Section
5 2-3.167 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.167 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.167. Advisory Committee on Workforce Shortages.

8 (a) The General Assembly recognizes that this State's
9 commitment to enabling all citizens to succeed in a
10 comprehensive career development system will play a vital role
11 in ensuring a continual wealth of prosperity, innovation, and
12 opportunity to our communities. Illinois Career and Technical
13 Education (CTE) programs educate over 300,000 high school
14 students annually through programs aimed to increase career
15 development in fields such as agriculture, business marketing
16 and computer sciences, family and consumer sciences, health
17 science technology, and engineering education. In 2014, 95.3%
18 of the students enrolled in CTE graduated from high school;
19 77.0% of CTE special needs students graduated from high school.
20 This includes students with disabilities,
21 economically-disadvantaged students, students-as-parents,
22 students preparing for nontraditional fields, displaced
23 homemakers, and limited English proficiency students.

1 The General Assembly also recognizes the importance of
2 providing quality college and career readiness programs for its
3 citizens. It is imperative to focus on allotting resources to
4 core, front-line services that will have an immediate impact on
5 both the student and the community at large. Career and
6 Technical Education programs are dedicated to serving this
7 State's citizens by aligning challenging secondary education
8 curricula with relevant career and technical training that
9 adequately prepares students to succeed in postsecondary
10 education. CTE students routinely continue into postsecondary
11 education. In 2014, more than 65.9% of CTE concentrators
12 enrolled in either 2-year or 4-year institutions, according to
13 National Student Clearinghouse data. In order to properly serve
14 the educational needs of every citizen, the General Assembly
15 intends to rededicate itself to funding Career and Technical
16 Education programs that are both meaningful and essential to
17 the long-term sustainability of this State's workforce.

18 (b) The Advisory Committee on Workforce Shortages is
19 established to conduct a review of existing career and
20 technical education programs administered by the State and make
21 recommendations on industry-recognized certification programs
22 designed to mitigate workforce shortages in Illinois. The
23 Advisory Committee shall consist of the following members:

24 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
25 President of the Senate.

26 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the Minority

1 Leader of the Senate.

2 (3) One member of the House of Representatives,
3 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

4 (4) One member of the House of Representatives,
5 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
6 Representatives.

7 (5) One representative from the State Board of
8 Education, appointed by the State Superintendent of
9 Education.

10 (6) One representative from the Illinois Community
11 College Board, appointed by the Executive Director of the
12 Illinois Community College Board.

13 (7) One representative from the Department of
14 Employment Security, appointed by the Director of
15 Employment Security.

16 (8) Two State experts in career and technical education
17 and vocational training, appointed by the Governor.

18 (9) One representative from a statewide organization
19 representing Illinois career and technical educators,
20 appointed by the Governor.

21 (10) Three representatives from statewide
22 organizations representing a diverse range of professions,
23 which may include, but are not limited to, manufacturers
24 and health care professionals, appointed by the Governor.

25 Members of the Advisory Committee shall serve without
26 compensation and shall not be reimbursed for their expenses.

1 (c) The Advisory Committee on Workforce Shortages shall
2 meet initially at the call of the State Superintendent of
3 Education. At this initial meeting, the Advisory Committee
4 shall elect a member as presiding officer of the Advisory
5 Committee by a majority vote of the membership of the Advisory
6 Committee. Thereafter, the Advisory Committee shall meet at the
7 call of the presiding officer.

8 (d) The State Board of Education shall provide
9 administrative and other support to the Advisory Committee on
10 Workforce Shortages.

11 (e) The Advisory Committee on Workforce Shortages shall:

12 (1) conduct a thorough review of:

13 (A) the existing career and technical education
14 programs administered by the Illinois Community
15 College Board in which support is provided by the
16 Illinois Community College Board to this State's
17 community colleges, with a focus on the degrees and
18 certificates that have been reviewed and approved by
19 the Illinois Community College Board; and

20 (B) the existing career and technical education
21 programs administered by the State Board of Education
22 in which support is provided by the State Board of
23 Education to this State's elementary and secondary
24 schools, with a focus on the degrees and certificates
25 that have been reviewed and approved by the State Board
26 of Education;

1 (2) identify industries and occupations within this
2 State that face workforce shortages or shortages of
3 adequately trained, entry-level workers;

4 (3) make recommendations on industry-recognized
5 certification programs designed to mitigate workforce
6 shortages in any of the industries or occupations
7 identified under item (2) of this subsection (e);

8 (4) consider the following when making its
9 recommendations:

10 (A) the areas of this State with residual high
11 unemployment rates;

12 (B) costs to the State associated with
13 implementing new programs designed to mitigate
14 workforce shortages in any of the industries or
15 occupations identified under item (2) of this
16 subsection (e); and

17 (C) integrated learning, dual-credit
18 opportunities, and potential opportunities for
19 continuing education at the baccalaureate level; and

20 (5) on or before December 31, 2016, submit a report to
21 the General Assembly and the Governor on specific
22 recommendations for changes to the current law or other
23 legislative measures.

24 (f) The Advisory Committee on Workforce Shortages is
25 abolished and this Section is repealed on January 1, 2017.

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.