

1 AN ACT in relation to 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 4-1.6b as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/4-1.6b new)

7 Sec. 4-1.6b. Child Support Pays Program.

8 (a) There is created the Child Support Pays Program  
9 under which the Department shall pay to families receiving  
10 cash assistance under this Article who have earned income an  
11 amount equal to whichever of the following is greater: (1)  
12 50% of the current monthly child support collected on behalf  
13 of the members of the assistance unit; or (2) the amount of  
14 current monthly child support collected on behalf of the  
15 members of the assistance unit required to be paid to the  
16 family pursuant to administrative rule. The child support  
17 passed through to a family pursuant to this Section shall not  
18 affect the family's eligibility for assistance or decrease  
19 any amount otherwise payable as assistance to the family  
20 under this Article until the family's gross income from  
21 employment, non-exempt unearned income, and the gross current  
22 monthly child support collected on the family's behalf equals  
23 or exceeds 3 times the payment level for the assistance unit,  
24 at which point cash assistance to the family may be  
25 terminated.

26 (b) In consultation with the Child Support Advisory  
27 Committee, the Department shall conduct an evaluation of the  
28 Child Support Pays Program by December 31, 2004. The  
29 evaluation shall include but not be limited to:

30 (1) the amount of child support collections on  
31 behalf of children of TANF recipients who have earned

1 income compared with TANF recipients who do not have  
2 earned income;

3 (2) the regularity of child support payments made  
4 on behalf of children of TANF recipients who have earned  
5 income, both with respect to newly established child  
6 support orders and existing orders; and

7 (3) the number of parentage establishments for  
8 children of TANF recipients who have earned income.

9 In order to be able to evaluate the Child Support Pays  
10 Program, the Department shall conduct an outreach program to  
11 publicize the availability of the Program to TANF recipients.