

1 AN ACT concerning disabled persons.

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

4 Section 5. The Assistive Technology Evaluation and  
5 Training Centers Act is amended by changing Section 5 as  
6 follows:

7 (20 ILCS 1320/5)

8 Sec. 5. Legislative findings Findings.

9 (a) There are approximately 2,200,000 persons with  
10 disabilities residing in the State of Illinois, most of whom  
11 need assistive technology for daily living, education,  
12 independence, and employment.

13 (b) There is a serious lack of resources within the  
14 State of Illinois, especially outside of the Chicago  
15 metropolitan area, for comprehensive evaluations, training,  
16 and hands-on experience with assistive technology to  
17 determine the appropriateness of assistive technology for  
18 persons with disabilities before they purchase assistive  
19 technology devices.

20 (c) As a result of the serious lack of evaluation and  
21 training resources, a great number of persons with  
22 disabilities in Illinois will do without needed assistive  
23 technology or will purchase inappropriate assistive  
24 technology, thereby diminishing their educational and  
25 employment opportunities and increasing their dependence upon  
26 federal and State support and forcing them to unnecessarily  
27 rely upon community based resources and family members for  
28 financial support and daily living assistance.

29 (d) It is almost always more cost-effective to purchase  
30 appropriate assistive technology for a person with a  
31 disability to enable that person to reach his or her

1 potential for independent living, education, and employment  
2 than to provide public assistance and government-funded  
3 personal care assistance for that person.

4 (Source: P.A. 90-428, eff. 1-1-98.)