

1 AN ACT concerning technology.

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

4 Section 5. The Eliminate the Digital Divide Law is  
5 amended by changing Section 5-3 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 780/5-3)

7 Sec. 5-3. Statement of legislative findings and  
8 purposes. The General Assembly finds that the growth of high  
9 technology industry, including computers, the Internet, and  
10 advanced telecommunications, has created a division in  
11 society. Those persons who are able to master the tools of  
12 the new digital technology and have access to the technology  
13 have benefited in the form of improved employment  
14 possibilities and a higher standard of life. Those who are  
15 unfamiliar with the new technologies, or do not have access  
16 to them, are increasingly constrained to marginal employment  
17 and a standard of living near the poverty level. This  
18 "digital divide" parallels existing economic, racial, and  
19 gender divisions in society, with the more privileged members  
20 of society having much greater opportunity to benefit from  
21 the new technologies than those who are less favorably  
22 situated. It is the purpose of this Law to establish  
23 educational and economic development initiatives that will  
24 bridge the digital divide, making possible a society in which  
25 all individuals can benefit from the opportunities provided  
26 by the new technologies.

27 (Source: P.A. 91-704, eff. 7-1-00.)