

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 State Finance Act is amended by adding  
5 Section 5.570 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 105/5.570 new)

7 Sec. 5.570. The Digital Divide Computer Fund.

8 Section 10. The Eliminate the Digital Divide Law is  
9 amended by changing Section 5-30 and adding Section 5-50 as  
10 follows:

11 (30 ILCS 780/5-30)

12 Sec. 5-30. Community Technology Grant Program.

13 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall  
14 administer the Community Technology Center Grant Program  
15 under which the Department shall make grants in accordance  
16 with this Article for planning, establishment,  
17 administration, and expansion of Community Technology Centers  
18 and for assisting public hospitals, libraries, and park  
19 districts in eliminating the digital divide. The purposes of  
20 the grants shall include, but not be limited to, volunteer  
21 recruitment and management, training and instruction,  
22 infrastructure, and related goods and services for Community  
23 Technology Centers and public hospitals, libraries, and park  
24 districts. The total amount of grants under this Section in  
25 fiscal year 2001 shall not exceed \$2,000,000, except that  
26 this limit on grants shall not apply to grants funded by  
27 appropriations from the Digital Divide Elimination Fund. No  
28 Community Technology Center may receive a grant of more than  
29 \$50,000 under this Section in a particular fiscal year.

1           (b) Public hospitals, libraries, park districts, and  
2 State educational agencies, local educational agencies,  
3 institutions of higher education, and other public and  
4 private nonprofit or for-profit agencies and organizations  
5 are eligible to receive grants under this Program, provided  
6 that a local educational agency or public or private  
7 educational agency or organization must, in order to be  
8 eligible to receive grants under this Program, provide  
9 computer access and educational services using information  
10 technology to the public at one or more of its educational  
11 buildings or facilities at least 12 hours each week. A group  
12 of eligible entities is also eligible to receive a grant if  
13 the group follows the procedures for group applications in 34  
14 CFR 75.127-129 of the Education Department General  
15 Administrative Regulations.

16           To be eligible to apply for a grant, a Community  
17 Technology Center, public hospital, library, or park district  
18 must serve a community in which not less than 40% of the  
19 students are eligible for a free or reduced price lunch  
20 under the national school lunch program or in which not less  
21 than 30% of the students are eligible for a free lunch under  
22 the national school lunch program; however, if funding is  
23 insufficient to approve all grant applications for a  
24 particular fiscal year, the Department may impose a higher  
25 minimum percentage threshold for that fiscal year.  
26 Determinations of communities and determinations of the  
27 percentage of students in a community who are eligible for a  
28 free or reduced price lunch under the national school lunch  
29 program shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the  
30 Department.

31           Any entities that have received a Community Technology  
32 Center grant under the federal Community Technology Centers  
33 Program are also eligible to apply for grants under this  
34 Program.

1           The Department shall provide assistance to Community  
2 Technology Centers in making those determinations for  
3 purposes of applying for grants.

4           (c) Grant applications shall be submitted to the  
5 Department not later than March 15 for the next fiscal year.

6           (d) The Department shall adopt rules setting forth the  
7 required form and contents of grant applications.

8           (e) There is created the Digital Divide Elimination  
9 Advisory Committee. The advisory committee shall consist of  
10 5 members appointed one each by the Governor, the President  
11 of the Senate, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the  
12 House, and the House Minority Leader. The members of the  
13 advisory committee shall receive no compensation for their  
14 services as members of the advisory committee but may be  
15 reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred in serving on  
16 the advisory committee. The Digital Divide Elimination  
17 Advisory Committee shall advise the Department in  
18 establishing criteria and priorities for identifying  
19 recipients of grants under this Act. The advisory committee  
20 shall obtain advice from the technology industry regarding  
21 current technological standards. The advisory committee  
22 shall seek any available federal funding. The advisory  
23 committee shall oversee the implementation and administration  
24 of this Law and the programs created pursuant to this Law.  
25 The advisory committee shall assist the Department of Central  
26 Management Services in the creation of the Internet training  
27 website required under Section 5-50 of this Act. The advisory  
28 committee shall report annually to the Governor and the  
29 General Assembly upon its activities and oversight findings.

30 (Source: P.A. 91-704, eff. 7-1-00; 92-22, eff. 6-30-01.)

31 (30 ILCS 780/5-50 new)

32 Sec. 5-50. Provision of computers.

33 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall

1 establish and administer a program to provide 100,000  
2 computers to persons throughout the State. The Department may  
3 accept computers and other equipment with which to implement  
4 this program. To be eligible for a computer, a person (i)  
5 must reside in a household that includes a student who is  
6 eligible to receive a free lunch under the national school  
7 lunch program and (ii) must lack the computer skills that the  
8 grants awarded under Section 5-30 are designed to facilitate.  
9 The Department shall establish additional eligibility  
10 criteria it deems necessary.

11 (b) The Digital Divide Computer Fund is created as a  
12 special fund within the State treasury. The Fund may be  
13 appropriated only for the provision of computers in  
14 accordance with subsection (a). The Fund may accept moneys  
15 from any source, including public and private entities.

16 (c) The Department of Central Management Services shall  
17 create and maintain a website at which recipients of  
18 computers under this Section may train in the use of  
19 computers.

20 (d) The Department shall track the progress of computer  
21 recipients in the development of computer skills. Three years  
22 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd  
23 General Assembly, the Department shall report to the General  
24 Assembly and the Governor upon its activities under this  
25 Section and its assessment of the development of computer  
26 skills by computer recipients.

27 (e) The Department shall adopt rules necessary for the  
28 implementation of this Section.

29 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
30 becoming law.