

1 AN ACT concerning counties.

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

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding
5 Section 5-1078.1 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/5-1078.1 new)

7 Sec. 5-1078.1. Truancy.

8 (a) A county board may enact an ordinance to prohibit
9 any person who is subject to the compulsory school attendance
10 requirements set out in Article 26 of the School Code and who
11 is enrolled in a public, private, or parochial school within
12 the county from absenting himself or herself from school
13 without valid cause.

14 (b) The ordinance may also prohibit a parent, legal
15 guardian, or other person having custody or control of a
16 person who is subject to the compulsory school attendance
17 requirements set out in Article 26 of the School Code and who
18 is enrolled in a public, private, or parochial school within
19 the county from permitting such a person to absent himself or
20 herself from school without valid cause.

21 (c) The ordinance may establish penalties for a
22 violation as provided in Section 5-1113 of the Counties Code.
23 Penalties under the ordinance are not limited by Section
24 26-12 of the School Code.

25 (d) "Valid cause" includes, but is not limited to, the
26 following: illness, observance of a religious holiday, death
27 in the immediate family, family emergency, and other
28 situations beyond the control of the student as determined by
29 the board of education in each district, or other
30 circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent for
31 the safety or health of the student.

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.