

AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

Section 5. The Economic Development Area Tax Increment Allocation Act is amended by changing Section 6 as follows:

(20 ILCS 620/6) (from Ch. 67 1/2, par. 1006)

Sec. 6. Filing with county clerk; certification of initial equalized assessed value.

(a) The municipality shall file a certified copy of any ordinance authorizing tax increment allocation financing for an economic development project area with the county clerk, and the county clerk shall immediately thereafter determine (1) the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within the economic development project area from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176 of the Property Tax Code, which value shall be the "initial equalized assessed value" of each such piece of property, and (2) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the economic development project area by adding together the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within such economic development project area,

from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions provided under Article 15 ~~by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code, and shall certify such amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property within the economic development project area.

(b) After the county clerk has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property in the economic development project area, then in respect to every taxing district containing an economic development project area, the county clerk or any other official required by law to ascertain the amount of the equalized assessed value of all taxable property within that taxing district for the purpose of computing the rate per cent of tax to be extended upon taxable property within that taxing district, shall in every year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in an economic development project area by including in that amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value" of all taxable real property in such area. The rate per cent of tax determined shall be extended to the current equalized assessed value of all property in the economic development project area in the same manner as the rate per cent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of allocating taxes established under this Section shall terminate when the municipality adopts an ordinance dissolving

the special tax allocation fund for the economic development project area, terminating the economic development project area, and terminating the use of tax increment allocation financing for the economic development project area. This Act shall not be construed as relieving property owners within an economic development project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 10. The Property Tax Code is amended by changing Sections 14-15, 15-10, 15-165, 15-170, 15-172, 15-175, 15-176, 20-15, 20-178, and 21-27, by adding Division 18 to Article 10, and by adding Sections 15-167, 15-168, 15-169, 15-177, 18-178, and 24-35 as follows:

(35 ILCS 200/Art. 10 Div. 18 heading new)

ARTICLE 10 Div. 18. WIND ENERGY PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

(35 ILCS 200/10-600 new)

Sec. 10-600. Definitions. For the purposes of this Division 18:

"Wind energy device" means any device, with a nameplate capacity of at least 0.5 megawatts, that is used in the process of converting kinetic energy from the wind to generate electric power for commercial sale.

"2007 real property cost basis" excludes personal property but represents both the land and real property improvements of a wind energy device and means \$360,000 per megawatt of nameplate capacity.

"Trending factor" means a number equal to the consumer price index (U.S. city average all items) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the December immediately preceding the assessment date, divided by the consumer price index (U.S. city average all items) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for December 2006.

"Trended real property cost basis" means the 2007 real property cost basis multiplied by the trending factor.

"Allowance for physical depreciation" means (i) the actual age in years of the wind energy device on the assessment date divided by 25 years multiplied by (ii) the trended real property cost basis. The physical depreciation, however, may not reduce the value of the wind energy device to less than 30% of the trended real property cost basis.

(35 ILCS 200/10-605 new)

Sec. 10-605. Valuation of wind energy devices. Beginning in assessment year 2007, the fair cash value of wind energy devices shall be determined by subtracting the allowance for physical depreciation from the trended real property cost basis. Functional obsolescence and external obsolescence may further reduce the fair cash value of the wind energy device,

to the extent they are proved by the taxpayer by clear and convincing evidence.

(35 ILCS 200/10-610 new)

Sec. 10-610. Applicability.

(a) The provisions of this Division apply for assessment years 2007 through 2011.

(b) The provisions of this Division do not apply to wind energy devices that are owned by any person or entity that is otherwise exempt from taxation under the Property Tax Code.

(35 ILCS 200/10-615 new)

Sec. 10-615. Wind energy assessable property is not subject to equalization. Wind energy assessable property is not subject to equalization factors applied by the Department or any board of review, assessor, or chief county assessment officer.

(35 ILCS 200/10-620 new)

Sec. 10-620. Platting requirements; parcel identification numbers. The owner of a wind energy device shall, at his or her own expense, use an Illinois registered land surveyor to prepare a plat showing the metes and bounds description, including access routes, of the area immediately surrounding the wind energy device over which that owner has exclusive control; provided that such platting does not constitute a subdivision of land subject to the provisions of the Plat Act

(765 ILCS 205/). Within 60 days after completion of construction of the wind energy device, the owner of the wind energy device shall record the plat and deliver a copy of it to the chief county assessment officer and to the owner of the land surrounding the newly platted area. Upon receiving a copy of the plat, the chief county assessment officer shall issue a separate parcel identification number or numbers for the property containing the wind energy device or devices.

(35 ILCS 200/14-15)

Sec. 14-15. Certificate of error; counties of 3,000,000 or more.

(a) In counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, if, after the assessment is certified pursuant to Section 16-150, but subject to the limitations of subsection (c) of this Section, the county assessor discovers an error or mistake in the assessment, the assessor shall execute a certificate setting forth the nature and cause of the error. The certificate when endorsed by the county assessor, or when endorsed by the county assessor and board of appeals (until the first Monday in December 1998 and the board of review beginning the first Monday in December 1998 and thereafter) where the certificate is executed for any assessment which was the subject of a complaint filed in the board of appeals (until the first Monday in December 1998 and the board of review beginning the first Monday in December 1998 and thereafter) for the tax

year for which the certificate is issued, may, either be certified according to the procedure authorized by this Section or be presented and received in evidence in any court of competent jurisdiction. Certification is authorized, at the discretion of the county assessor, for: (1) certificates of error allowing homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~pursuant to Sections 15-170, 15-172, 15-175, and 15-176;~~ (2) certificates of error on residential property of 6 units or less; (3) certificates of error allowing exemption of the property pursuant to Section 14-25; and (4) other certificates of error reducing assessed value by less than \$100,000. Any certificate of error not certified shall be presented to the court. The county assessor shall develop reasonable procedures for the filing and processing of certificates of error. Prior to the certification or presentation to the court, the county assessor or his or her designee shall execute and include in the certificate of error a statement attesting that all procedural requirements pertaining to the issuance of the certificate of error have been met and that in fact an error exists. When so introduced in evidence such certificate shall become a part of the court records, and shall not be removed from the files except upon the order of the court.

Certificates of error that will be presented to the court shall be filed as an objection in the application for judgment and order of sale for the year in relation to which the certificate is made or as an amendment to the objection under

subsection (b). Certificates of error that are to be certified according to the procedure authorized by this Section need not be presented to the court as an objection or an amendment under subsection (b). The State's Attorney of the county in which the property is situated shall mail a copy of any final judgment entered by the court regarding any certificate of error to the taxpayer of record for the year in question.

Any unpaid taxes after the entry of the final judgment by the court or certification on certificates issued under this Section may be included in a special tax sale, provided that an advertisement is published and a notice is mailed to the person in whose name the taxes were last assessed, in a form and manner substantially similar to the advertisement and notice required under Sections 21-110 and 21-135. The advertisement and sale shall be subject to all provisions of law regulating the annual advertisement and sale of delinquent property, to the extent that those provisions may be made applicable.

A certificate of error certified under this Section shall be given effect by the county treasurer, who shall mark the tax books and, upon receipt of one of the following certificates from the county assessor or the county assessor and the board of review where the board of review is required to endorse the certificate of error, shall issue refunds to the taxpayer accordingly:

"CERTIFICATION

I,, county assessor, hereby certify that the Certificates of Error set out on the attached list have been duly issued to correct an error or mistake in the assessment."

"CERTIFICATION

I,, county assessor, and we,, members of the board of review, hereby certify that the Certificates of Error set out on the attached list have been duly issued to correct an error or mistake in the assessment and that any certificates of error required to be endorsed by the board of review have been so endorsed."

The county treasurer has the power to mark the tax books to reflect the issuance of certificates of error certified according to the procedure authorized in this Section for certificates of error issued under Section 14-25 or certificates of error issued to and including 3 years after the date on which the annual judgment and order of sale for that tax year was first entered. The county treasurer has the power to issue refunds to the taxpayer as set forth above until all refunds authorized by this Section have been completed.

To the extent that the certificate of error obviates the liability for nonpayment of taxes, certification of a certificate of error according to the procedure authorized in

this Section shall operate to vacate any judgment or forfeiture as to that year's taxes, and the warrant books and judgment books shall be marked to reflect that the judgment or forfeiture has been vacated.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this Section shall be construed to prohibit the execution, endorsement, issuance, and adjudication of a certificate of error if (i) the annual judgment and order of sale for the tax year in question is reopened for further proceedings upon consent of the county collector and county assessor, represented by the State's Attorney, and (ii) a new final judgment is subsequently entered pursuant to the certificate. This subsection (b) shall be construed as declarative of existing law and not as a new enactment.

(c) No certificate of error, other than a certificate to establish an exemption under Section 14-25, shall be executed for any tax year more than 3 years after the date on which the annual judgment and order of sale for that tax year was first entered, except that during calendar years 1999 and 2000 a certificate of error may be executed for any tax year, provided that the error or mistake in the assessment was discovered no more than 3 years after the date on which the annual judgment and order of sale for that tax year was first entered.

(d) The time limitation of subsection (c) shall not apply to a certificate of error correcting an assessment to \$1, under Section 10-35, on a parcel that a subdivision or planned

development has acquired by adverse possession, if during the tax year for which the certificate is executed the subdivision or planned development used the parcel as common area, as defined in Section 10-35, and if application for the certificate of error is made prior to December 1, 1997.

(e) The changes made by this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly apply to certificates of error issued before, on, and after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-10)

Sec. 15-10. Exempt property; procedures for certification. All property granted an exemption by the Department pursuant to the requirements of Section 15-5 and described in the Sections following Section 15-30 and preceding Section 16-5, to the extent therein limited, is exempt from taxation. In order to maintain that exempt status, the titleholder or the owner of the beneficial interest of any property that is exempt must file with the chief county assessment officer, on or before January 31 of each year (May 31 in the case of property exempted by Section 15-170), an affidavit stating whether there has been any change in the ownership or use of the property or the status of the owner-resident, or that a disabled veteran who qualifies under Section 15-165 owned and used the property as of January 1 of that year. The nature of any change shall be

stated in the affidavit. Failure to file an affidavit shall, in the discretion of the assessment officer, constitute cause to terminate the exemption of that property, notwithstanding any other provision of this Code. Owners of 5 or more such exempt parcels within a county may file a single annual affidavit in lieu of an affidavit for each parcel. The assessment officer, upon request, shall furnish an affidavit form to the owners, in which the owner may state whether there has been any change in the ownership or use of the property or status of the owner or resident as of January 1 of that year. The owner of 5 or more exempt parcels shall list all the properties giving the same information for each parcel as required of owners who file individual affidavits.

However, titleholders or owners of the beneficial interest in any property exempted under any of the following provisions are not required to submit an annual filing under this Section:

- (1) Section 15-45 (burial grounds) in counties of less than 3,000,000 inhabitants and owned by a not-for-profit organization.
- (2) Section 15-40.
- (3) Section 15-50 (United States property).

If there is a change in use or ownership, however, notice must be filed pursuant to Section 15-20.

An application for homestead exemptions shall be filed as provided in Section 15-170 (senior citizens homestead exemption), Section 15-172 (senior citizens assessment freeze

homestead exemption), and Sections 15-175 (general homestead exemption), ~~and~~ 15-176 (general alternative homestead exemption), and 15-177 (long-time occupant homestead exemption), respectively.

(Source: P.A. 92-333, eff. 8-10-01; 92-729, eff. 7-25-02; 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-165)

Sec. 15-165. Disabled veterans. Property up to an assessed value of \$70,000, owned and used exclusively by a disabled veteran, or the spouse or unmarried surviving spouse of the veteran, as a home, is exempt. As used in this Section, a disabled veteran means a person who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States and whose disability is of such a nature that the Federal Government has authorized payment for purchase or construction of Specially Adapted Housing as set forth in the United States Code, Title 38, Chapter 21, Section 2101.

The exemption applies to housing where Federal funds have been used to purchase or construct special adaptations to suit the veteran's disability.

The exemption also applies to housing that is specially adapted to suit the veteran's disability, and purchased entirely or in part by the proceeds of a sale, casualty loss reimbursement, or other transfer of a home for which the Federal Government had previously authorized payment for

purchase or construction as Specially Adapted Housing.

However, the entire proceeds of the sale, casualty loss reimbursement, or other transfer of that housing shall be applied to the acquisition of subsequent specially adapted housing to the extent that the proceeds equal the purchase price of the subsequently acquired housing.

For purposes of this Section, "unmarried surviving spouse" means the surviving spouse of the veteran at any time after the death of the veteran during which such surviving spouse is not married.

This exemption must be reestablished on an annual basis by certification from the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to the Department, which shall forward a copy of the certification to local assessing officials.

A taxpayer who claims an exemption under Section 15-168 or 15-169 may not claim an exemption under this Section.

(Source: P.A. 94-310, eff. 7-25-05.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-167 new)

Sec. 15-167. Returning Veterans' Homestead Exemption.

(a) Beginning with taxable year 2007, a homestead exemption, limited to a reduction set forth under subsection (b), from the property's value, as equalized or assessed by the Department, is granted for property that is owned and occupied as the principal residence of a veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States who is

liable for paying real estate taxes on the property and is an owner of record of the property or has a legal or equitable interest therein as evidenced by a written instrument, except for a leasehold interest, other than a leasehold interest of land on which a single family residence is located, which is occupied as the principal residence of a veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States who has an ownership interest therein, legal, equitable or as a lessee, and on which he or she is liable for the payment of property taxes. For purposes of the exemption under this Section, "veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a member of the United States Armed Forces, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or a member of the United States Reserve Forces.

(b) In all counties, the reduction is \$5,000 and only for the taxable year in which the veteran returns from active duty in an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States. For land improved with an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized by the Department, must be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a veteran returning from an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a

leasehold interest. In a cooperative where a homestead exemption has been granted, the cooperative association or the management firm of the cooperative or facility shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner or resident who qualified for the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the savings is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(c) Application must be made during the application period in effect for the county of his or her residence. The assessor or chief county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead exemption provided by this Section by application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The determination must be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Department.

(d) The exemption under this Section is in addition to any other homestead exemption provided in this Article 15. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(35 ILCS 200/15-168 new)

Sec. 15-168. Disabled persons' homestead exemption.

(a) Beginning with taxable year 2007, an annual homestead exemption is granted to disabled persons in the amount of \$2,000, except as provided in subsection (c), to be deducted

from the property's value as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. The disabled person shall receive the homestead exemption upon meeting the following requirements:

(1) The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the disabled person.

(2) The disabled person must be liable for paying the real estate taxes on the property.

(3) The disabled person must be an owner of record of the property or have a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written instrument. In the case of a leasehold interest in property, the lease must be for a single family residence.

A person who is disabled during the taxable year is eligible to apply for this homestead exemption during that taxable year. Application must be made during the application period in effect for the county of residence. If a homestead exemption has been granted under this Section and the person awarded the exemption subsequently becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act, then the exemption shall continue (i) so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse or (ii) if the residence remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person qualified for the homestead exemption.

(b) For the purposes of this Section, "disabled person" means a person unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of a medically determinable physical or

mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. Disabled persons filing claims under this Act shall submit proof of disability in such form and manner as the Department shall by rule and regulation prescribe. Proof that a claimant is eligible to receive disability benefits under the Federal Social Security Act shall constitute proof of disability for purposes of this Act. Issuance of an Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card stating that the claimant is under a Class 2 disability, as defined in Section 4A of The Illinois Identification Card Act, shall constitute proof that the person named thereon is a disabled person for purposes of this Act. A disabled person not covered under the Federal Social Security Act and not presenting a Disabled Person Identification Card stating that the claimant is under a Class 2 disability shall be examined by a physician designated by the Department, and his status as a disabled person determined using the same standards as used by the Social Security Administration. The costs of any required examination shall be borne by the claimant.

(c) For land improved with (i) an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative or (ii) a life care facility as defined under Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act that is considered to be a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized or assessed by the Department, shall be multiplied by the number of apartments or

units occupied by a disabled person. The disabled person shall receive the homestead exemption upon meeting the following requirements:

(1) The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the disabled person.

(2) The disabled person must be liable by contract with the owner or owners of record for paying the apportioned property taxes on the property of the cooperative or life care facility. In the case of a life care facility, the disabled person must be liable for paying the apportioned property taxes under a life care contract as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act.

(3) The disabled person must be an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building. A leasehold interest does not meet this requirement.

If a homestead exemption is granted under this subsection, the cooperative association or management firm shall credit the savings resulting from the exemption to the apportioned tax liability of the qualifying disabled person. The chief county assessment officer may request reasonable proof that the association or firm has properly credited the exemption. A person who willfully refuses to credit an exemption to the qualified disabled person is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(d) The chief county assessment officer shall determine the eligibility of property to receive the homestead exemption

according to guidelines established by the Department. After a person has received an exemption under this Section, an annual verification of eligibility for the exemption shall be mailed to the taxpayer.

In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the chief county assessment officer shall provide to each person granted a homestead exemption under this Section a form to designate any other person to receive a duplicate of any notice of delinquency in the payment of taxes assessed and levied under this Code on the person's qualifying property. The duplicate notice shall be in addition to the notice required to be provided to the person receiving the exemption and shall be given in the manner required by this Code. The person filing the request for the duplicate notice shall pay an administrative fee of \$5 to the chief county assessment officer. The assessment officer shall then file the executed designation with the county collector, who shall issue the duplicate notices as indicated by the designation. A designation may be rescinded by the disabled person in the manner required by the chief county assessment officer.

(e) A taxpayer who claims an exemption under Section 15-165 or 15-169 may not claim an exemption under this Section.

(35 ILCS 200/15-169 new)

Sec. 15-169. Disabled veterans standard homestead exemption.

(a) Beginning with taxable year 2007, an annual homestead exemption, limited to the amounts set forth in subsection (b), is granted for property that is used as a qualified residence by a disabled veteran.

(b) The amount of the exemption under this Section is as follows:

(1) for veterans with a service-connected disability of at least 75%, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is \$5,000; and

(2) for veterans with a service-connected disability of at least 50%, but less than 75%, as certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the annual exemption is \$2,500.

(c) The tax exemption under this Section carries over to the benefit of the veteran's surviving spouse as long as the spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead, permanently resides thereon, and does not remarry. If the surviving spouse sells the property, an exemption not to exceed the amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to his or her new residence as long as it is used as his or her primary residence and he or she does not remarry.

(d) The exemption under this Section applies for taxable year 2007 and thereafter. A taxpayer who claims an exemption under Section 15-165 or 15-168 may not claim an exemption under

this Section.

(e) Application must be made during the application period in effect for the county of his or her residence. The assessor or chief county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead exemption provided by this Section by application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. The determination must be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Department.

(f) For the purposes of this Section:

"Qualified residence" means real property, but less any portion of that property that is used for commercial purposes, with an equalized assessed value of less than \$250,000 that is the disabled veteran's primary residence. Property rented for more than 6 months is presumed to be used for commercial purposes.

"Veteran" means an Illinois resident who has served as a member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or State active duty, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or a member of the United States Reserve Forces and who has received an honorable discharge.

(35 ILCS 200/15-170)

Sec. 15-170. Senior Citizens Homestead Exemption. An annual homestead exemption limited, except as described here with relation to cooperatives or life care facilities, to a

maximum reduction set forth below from the property's value, as equalized or assessed by the Department, is granted for property that is occupied as a residence by a person 65 years of age or older who is liable for paying real estate taxes on the property and is an owner of record of the property or has a legal or equitable interest therein as evidenced by a written instrument, except for a leasehold interest, other than a leasehold interest of land on which a single family residence is located, which is occupied as a residence by a person 65 years or older who has an ownership interest therein, legal, equitable or as a lessee, and on which he or she is liable for the payment of property taxes. Before taxable year 2004, the maximum reduction shall be \$2,500 in counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants and \$2,000 in all other counties. For taxable years 2004 through 2005, the maximum reduction shall be \$3,000 in all counties. For taxable years 2006 and 2007 ~~thereafter~~, the maximum reduction shall be \$3,500 and, for taxable years 2008 and thereafter, the maximum reduction is \$4,000 in all counties.

For land improved with an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized by the Department, shall be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a person 65 years of age or older who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable

interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. For land improved with a life care facility, the maximum reduction from the value of the property, as equalized by the Department, shall be multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by persons 65 years of age or older, irrespective of any legal, equitable, or leasehold interest in the facility, who are liable, under a contract with the owner or owners of record of the facility, for paying property taxes on the property. In a cooperative or a life care facility where a homestead exemption has been granted, the cooperative association or the management firm of the cooperative or facility shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner or resident who qualified for the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the savings shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor. Under this Section and Sections 15-175, ~~and~~ 15-176, and 15-177 "life care facility" means a facility as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act, with which the applicant for the homestead exemption has a life care contract as defined in that Act.

When a homestead exemption has been granted under this Section and the person qualifying subsequently becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act, the exemption shall continue so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse if the spouse is 65 years of age or older, or if the residence

remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person qualified for the homestead exemption.

A person who will be 65 years of age during the current assessment year shall be eligible to apply for the homestead exemption during that assessment year. Application shall be made during the application period in effect for the county of his residence.

Beginning with assessment year 2003, for taxes payable in 2004, property that is first occupied as a residence after January 1 of any assessment year by a person who is eligible for the senior citizens homestead exemption under this Section must be granted a pro-rata exemption for the assessment year. The amount of the pro-rata exemption is the exemption allowed in the county under this Section divided by 365 and multiplied by the number of days during the assessment year the property is occupied as a residence by a person eligible for the exemption under this Section. The chief county assessment officer must adopt reasonable procedures to establish eligibility for this pro-rata exemption.

The assessor or chief county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of a life care facility to receive the benefits provided by this Section, by affidavit, application, visual inspection, questionnaire or other reasonable methods in order to insure that the tax savings resulting from the exemption are credited by the management firm to the apportioned tax liability of each qualifying

resident. The assessor may request reasonable proof that the management firm has so credited the exemption.

The chief county assessment officer of each county with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants shall provide to each person allowed a homestead exemption under this Section a form to designate any other person to receive a duplicate of any notice of delinquency in the payment of taxes assessed and levied under this Code on the property of the person receiving the exemption. The duplicate notice shall be in addition to the notice required to be provided to the person receiving the exemption, and shall be given in the manner required by this Code. The person filing the request for the duplicate notice shall pay a fee of \$5 to cover administrative costs to the supervisor of assessments, who shall then file the executed designation with the county collector. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, the filing of such an executed designation requires the county collector to provide duplicate notices as indicated by the designation. A designation may be rescinded by the person who executed such designation at any time, in the manner and form required by the chief county assessment officer.

The assessor or chief county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead exemption provided by this Section by application, visual inspection, questionnaire or other reasonable methods. The determination shall be made in

accordance with guidelines established by the Department.

In counties with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the county board may by resolution provide that if a person has been granted a homestead exemption under this Section, the person qualifying need not reapply for the exemption.

In counties with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if the assessor or chief county assessment officer requires annual application for verification of eligibility for an exemption once granted under this Section, the application shall be mailed to the taxpayer.

The assessor or chief county assessment officer shall notify each person who qualifies for an exemption under this Section that the person may also qualify for deferral of real estate taxes under the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Act. The notice shall set forth the qualifications needed for deferral of real estate taxes, the address and telephone number of county collector, and a statement that applications for deferral of real estate taxes may be obtained from the county collector.

Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(Source: P.A. 93-511, eff. 8-11-03; 93-715, eff. 7-12-04; 94-794, eff. 5-22-06.)

Sec. 15-172. Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption.

(a) This Section may be cited as the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption.

(b) As used in this Section:

"Applicant" means an individual who has filed an application under this Section.

"Base amount" means the base year equalized assessed value of the residence plus the first year's equalized assessed value of any added improvements which increased the assessed value of the residence after the base year.

"Base year" means the taxable year prior to the taxable year for which the applicant first qualifies and applies for the exemption provided that in the prior taxable year the property was improved with a permanent structure that was occupied as a residence by the applicant who was liable for paying real property taxes on the property and who was either (i) an owner of record of the property or had legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written instrument or (ii) had a legal or equitable interest as a lessee in the parcel of property that was single family residence. If in any subsequent taxable year for which the applicant applies and qualifies for the exemption the equalized assessed value of the residence is less than the equalized assessed value in the existing base year (provided that such equalized assessed value is not based on an assessed value that

results from a temporary irregularity in the property that reduces the assessed value for one or more taxable years), then that subsequent taxable year shall become the base year until a new base year is established under the terms of this paragraph. For taxable year 1999 only, the Chief County Assessment Officer shall review (i) all taxable years for which the applicant applied and qualified for the exemption and (ii) the existing base year. The assessment officer shall select as the new base year the year with the lowest equalized assessed value. An equalized assessed value that is based on an assessed value that results from a temporary irregularity in the property that reduces the assessed value for one or more taxable years shall not be considered the lowest equalized assessed value. The selected year shall be the base year for taxable year 1999 and thereafter until a new base year is established under the terms of this paragraph.

"Chief County Assessment Officer" means the County Assessor or Supervisor of Assessments of the county in which the property is located.

"Equalized assessed value" means the assessed value as equalized by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

"Household" means the applicant, the spouse of the applicant, and all persons using the residence of the applicant as their principal place of residence.

"Household income" means the combined income of the members of a household for the calendar year preceding the taxable

year.

"Income" has the same meaning as provided in Section 3.07 of the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act, except that, beginning in assessment year 2001, "income" does not include veteran's benefits.

"Internal Revenue Code of 1986" means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any successor law or laws relating to federal income taxes in effect for the year preceding the taxable year.

"Life care facility that qualifies as a cooperative" means a facility as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act.

"Maximum income limitation" means:

- (1) \$35,000 prior to taxable year 1999;
- (2) \$40,000 in taxable years 1999 through 2003;
- (3) \$45,000 in taxable years 2004 through 2005;
- (4) \$50,000 in taxable years 2006 and 2007; and
- (5) \$55,000 in taxable year 2008 and thereafter.

"Residence" means the principal dwelling place and appurtenant structures used for residential purposes in this State occupied on January 1 of the taxable year by a household and so much of the surrounding land, constituting the parcel upon which the dwelling place is situated, as is used for residential purposes. If the Chief County Assessment Officer has established a specific legal description for a portion of

property constituting the residence, then that portion of property shall be deemed the residence for the purposes of this Section.

"Taxable year" means the calendar year during which ad valorem property taxes payable in the next succeeding year are levied.

(c) Beginning in taxable year 1994, a senior citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption is granted for real property that is improved with a permanent structure that is occupied as a residence by an applicant who (i) is 65 years of age or older during the taxable year, (ii) has a household income that does not exceed the maximum income limitation ~~of \$35,000 or less prior to taxable year 1999, \$40,000 or less in taxable years 1999 through 2003, \$45,000 or less in taxable year 2004 and 2005, and \$50,000 or less in taxable year 2006 and thereafter,~~ (iii) is liable for paying real property taxes on the property, and (iv) is an owner of record of the property or has a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written instrument. This homestead exemption shall also apply to a leasehold interest in a parcel of property improved with a permanent structure that is a single family residence that is occupied as a residence by a person who (i) is 65 years of age or older during the taxable year, (ii) has a household income that does not exceed the maximum income limitation ~~of \$35,000 or less prior to taxable year 1999, \$40,000 or less in taxable years 1999 through 2003,~~

~~\$45,000 or less in taxable year 2004 and 2005, and \$50,000 or less in taxable year 2006 and thereafter,~~ (iii) has a legal or equitable ownership interest in the property as lessee, and (iv) is liable for the payment of real property taxes on that property.

In counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, the amount of the exemption for all taxable years is the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount. In all other counties, the amount of the exemption is as follows: (i) through ~~Through~~ taxable year 2005 and for taxable year 2007 and thereafter, the amount of this exemption shall be the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount; and (ii) for. ~~For~~ taxable year 2006 ~~and thereafter,~~ the amount of the exemption is as follows:

(1) For an applicant who has a household income of \$45,000 or less, the amount of the exemption is the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount.

(2) For an applicant who has a household income exceeding \$45,000 but not exceeding \$46,250, the amount of the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.8.

(3) For an applicant who has a household income

exceeding \$46,250 but not exceeding \$47,500, the amount of the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.6.

(4) For an applicant who has a household income exceeding \$47,500 but not exceeding \$48,750, the amount of the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.4.

(5) For an applicant who has a household income exceeding \$48,750 but not exceeding \$50,000, the amount of the exemption is (i) the equalized assessed value of the residence in the taxable year for which application is made minus the base amount (ii) multiplied by 0.2.

When the applicant is a surviving spouse of an applicant for a prior year for the same residence for which an exemption under this Section has been granted, the base year and base amount for that residence are the same as for the applicant for the prior year.

Each year at the time the assessment books are certified to the County Clerk, the Board of Review or Board of Appeals shall give to the County Clerk a list of the assessed values of improvements on each parcel qualifying for this exemption that were added after the base year for this parcel and that increased the assessed value of the property.

In the case of land improved with an apartment building

owned and operated as a cooperative or a building that is a life care facility that qualifies as a cooperative, the maximum reduction from the equalized assessed value of the property is limited to the sum of the reductions calculated for each unit occupied as a residence by a person or persons (i) 65 years of age or older, (ii) with a household income that does not exceed the maximum income limitation ~~of \$35,000 or less prior to taxable year 1999, \$40,000 or less in taxable years 1999 through 2003, \$45,000 or less in taxable year 2004 and 2005, and \$50,000 or less in taxable year 2006 and thereafter,~~ (iii) who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying real property taxes on the property, and (iv) who is an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. In the instance of a cooperative where a homestead exemption has been granted under this Section, the cooperative association or its management firm shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner who qualified for the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to credit that savings to an owner who qualifies for the exemption is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

When a homestead exemption has been granted under this Section and an applicant then becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act, the exemption shall be granted in subsequent years so long as the residence (i)

continues to be occupied by the qualified applicant's spouse or (ii) if remaining unoccupied, is still owned by the qualified applicant for the homestead exemption.

Beginning January 1, 1997, when an individual dies who would have qualified for an exemption under this Section, and the surviving spouse does not independently qualify for this exemption because of age, the exemption under this Section shall be granted to the surviving spouse for the taxable year preceding and the taxable year of the death, provided that, except for age, the surviving spouse meets all other qualifications for the granting of this exemption for those years.

When married persons maintain separate residences, the exemption provided for in this Section may be claimed by only one of such persons and for only one residence.

For taxable year 1994 only, in counties having less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, to receive the exemption, a person shall submit an application by February 15, 1995 to the Chief County Assessment Officer of the county in which the property is located. In counties having 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, for taxable year 1994 and all subsequent taxable years, to receive the exemption, a person may submit an application to the Chief County Assessment Officer of the county in which the property is located during such period as may be specified by the Chief County Assessment Officer. The Chief County Assessment Officer in counties of 3,000,000 or more inhabitants shall annually

give notice of the application period by mail or by publication. In counties having less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, beginning with taxable year 1995 and thereafter, to receive the exemption, a person shall submit an application by July 1 of each taxable year to the Chief County Assessment Officer of the county in which the property is located. A county may, by ordinance, establish a date for submission of applications that is different than July 1. The applicant shall submit with the application an affidavit of the applicant's total household income, age, marital status (and if married the name and address of the applicant's spouse, if known), and principal dwelling place of members of the household on January 1 of the taxable year. The Department shall establish, by rule, a method for verifying the accuracy of affidavits filed by applicants under this Section, and the Chief County Assessment Officer may conduct audits of any taxpayer claiming an exemption under this Section to verify that the taxpayer is eligible to receive the exemption. Each application shall contain or be verified by a written declaration that it is made under the penalties of perjury. A taxpayer's signing a fraudulent application under this Act is perjury, as defined in Section 32-2 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The applications shall be clearly marked as applications for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption and must contain a notice that any taxpayer who receives the exemption is subject to an audit by the Chief County Assessment Officer.

Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, in counties having fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if an applicant fails to file the application required by this Section in a timely manner and this failure to file is due to a mental or physical condition sufficiently severe so as to render the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner, the Chief County Assessment Officer may extend the filing deadline for a period of 30 days after the applicant regains the capability to file the application, but in no case may the filing deadline be extended beyond 3 months of the original filing deadline. In order to receive the extension provided in this paragraph, the applicant shall provide the Chief County Assessment Officer with a signed statement from the applicant's physician stating the nature and extent of the condition, that, in the physician's opinion, the condition was so severe that it rendered the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner, and the date on which the applicant regained the capability to file the application.

Beginning January 1, 1998, notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, in counties having fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if an applicant fails to file the application required by this Section in a timely manner and this failure to file is due to a mental or physical condition sufficiently severe so as to render the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner, the Chief County Assessment Officer may extend the filing deadline for a period

of 3 months. In order to receive the extension provided in this paragraph, the applicant shall provide the Chief County Assessment Officer with a signed statement from the applicant's physician stating the nature and extent of the condition, and that, in the physician's opinion, the condition was so severe that it rendered the applicant incapable of filing the application in a timely manner.

In counties having less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if an applicant was denied an exemption in taxable year 1994 and the denial occurred due to an error on the part of an assessment official, or his or her agent or employee, then beginning in taxable year 1997 the applicant's base year, for purposes of determining the amount of the exemption, shall be 1993 rather than 1994. In addition, in taxable year 1997, the applicant's exemption shall also include an amount equal to (i) the amount of any exemption denied to the applicant in taxable year 1995 as a result of using 1994, rather than 1993, as the base year, (ii) the amount of any exemption denied to the applicant in taxable year 1996 as a result of using 1994, rather than 1993, as the base year, and (iii) the amount of the exemption erroneously denied for taxable year 1994.

For purposes of this Section, a person who will be 65 years of age during the current taxable year shall be eligible to apply for the homestead exemption during that taxable year. Application shall be made during the application period in effect for the county of his or her residence.

The Chief County Assessment Officer may determine the eligibility of a life care facility that qualifies as a cooperative to receive the benefits provided by this Section by use of an affidavit, application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable method in order to insure that the tax savings resulting from the exemption are credited by the management firm to the apportioned tax liability of each qualifying resident. The Chief County Assessment Officer may request reasonable proof that the management firm has so credited that exemption.

Except as provided in this Section, all information received by the chief county assessment officer or the Department from applications filed under this Section, or from any investigation conducted under the provisions of this Section, shall be confidential, except for official purposes or pursuant to official procedures for collection of any State or local tax or enforcement of any civil or criminal penalty or sanction imposed by this Act or by any statute or ordinance imposing a State or local tax. Any person who divulges any such information in any manner, except in accordance with a proper judicial order, is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

Nothing contained in this Section shall prevent the Director or chief county assessment officer from publishing or making available reasonable statistics concerning the operation of the exemption contained in this Section in which the contents of claims are grouped into aggregates in such a

way that information contained in any individual claim shall not be disclosed.

(d) Each Chief County Assessment Officer shall annually publish a notice of availability of the exemption provided under this Section. The notice shall be published at least 60 days but no more than 75 days prior to the date on which the application must be submitted to the Chief County Assessment Officer of the county in which the property is located. The notice shall appear in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04; 94-794, eff. 5-22-06.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-175)

Sec. 15-175. General homestead exemption. Except as provided in Sections 15-176 and 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~, homestead property is entitled to an annual homestead exemption limited, except as described here with relation to cooperatives, to a reduction in the equalized assessed value of homestead property equal to the increase in equalized assessed value for the current assessment year above the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977, up to the maximum reduction set forth below. If however, the 1977 equalized assessed value upon which taxes were paid is subsequently

determined by local assessing officials, the Property Tax Appeal Board, or a court to have been excessive, the equalized assessed value which should have been placed on the property for 1977 shall be used to determine the amount of the exemption.

Except as provided in Section 15-176, the maximum reduction before taxable year 2004 shall be \$4,500 in counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants and \$3,500 in all other counties. Except as provided in Sections 15-176 and 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~, for taxable years 2004 through 2007 ~~and thereafter~~, the maximum reduction shall be \$5,000, for taxable year 2008, the maximum reduction is \$5,500, and, for taxable years 2009 and thereafter, the maximum reduction is \$6,000 in all counties. If a county has elected to subject itself to the provisions of Section 15-176 as provided in subsection (k) of that Section, then, for the first taxable year only after the provisions of Section 15-176 no longer apply, for owners who, for the taxable year, have not been granted a senior citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption under Section 15-172 or a long-time occupant homestead exemption under Section 15-177, there shall be an additional exemption of \$5,000 for owners with a household income of \$30,000 or less. ~~If a county has elected to subject itself to the provisions of Section 15-176 as provided in subsection (k) of that Section, then, for the first taxable year only after the provisions of Section 15-176 no longer apply, for owners (i) who have not been granted a senior~~

~~citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption under Section 15-172 for the taxable year and (ii) whose qualified property has an assessed valuation that has increased by more than 20% over the previous assessed valuation of the property, there shall be an additional exemption of \$5,000 for owners with a household income of \$30,000 or less. For purposes of this paragraph, "household income" has the meaning set forth in this Section 15-175.~~

In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, if, based on the most recent assessment, the equalized assessed value of the homestead property for the current assessment year is greater than the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977, the owner of the property shall automatically receive the exemption granted under this Section in an amount equal to the increase over the 1977 assessment up to the maximum reduction set forth in this Section.

If in any assessment year beginning with the 2000 assessment year, homestead property has a pro-rata valuation under Section 9-180 resulting in an increase in the assessed valuation, a reduction in equalized assessed valuation equal to the increase in equalized assessed value of the property for the year of the pro-rata valuation above the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977 shall be applied to the property on a proportionate basis for the period the property qualified as homestead property during the assessment year. The maximum proportionate homestead exemption shall not exceed the maximum

homestead exemption allowed in the county under this Section divided by 365 and multiplied by the number of days the property qualified as homestead property.

"Homestead property" under this Section includes residential property that is occupied by its owner or owners as his or their principal dwelling place, or that is a leasehold interest on which a single family residence is situated, which is occupied as a residence by a person who has an ownership interest therein, legal or equitable or as a lessee, and on which the person is liable for the payment of property taxes. For land improved with an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative or a building which is a life care facility as defined in Section 15-170 and considered to be a cooperative under Section 15-170, the maximum reduction from the equalized assessed value shall be limited to the increase in the value above the equalized assessed value of the property for 1977, up to the maximum reduction set forth above, multiplied by the number of apartments or units occupied by a person or persons who is liable, by contract with the owner or owners of record, for paying property taxes on the property and is an owner of record of a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building, other than a leasehold interest. For purposes of this Section, the term "life care facility" has the meaning stated in Section 15-170.

"Household", as used in this Section, means the owner, the spouse of the owner, and all persons using the residence of the

owner as their principal place of residence.

"Household income", as used in this Section, means the combined income of the members of a household for the calendar year preceding the taxable year.

"Income", as used in this Section, has the same meaning as provided in Section 3.07 of the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act, except that "income" does not include veteran's benefits.

In a cooperative where a homestead exemption has been granted, the cooperative association or its management firm shall credit the savings resulting from that exemption only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner who qualified for the exemption. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the savings shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

Where married persons maintain and reside in separate residences qualifying as homestead property, each residence shall receive 50% of the total reduction in equalized assessed valuation provided by this Section.

In all counties, the assessor or chief county assessment officer may determine the eligibility of residential property to receive the homestead exemption and the amount of the exemption by application, visual inspection, questionnaire or other reasonable methods. The determination shall be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Department, provided that the taxpayer applying for an additional general exemption under this Section shall submit to the chief county

assessment officer an application with an affidavit of the applicant's total household income, age, marital status (and, if married, the name and address of the applicant's spouse, if known), and principal dwelling place of members of the household on January 1 of the taxable year. The Department shall issue guidelines establishing a method for verifying the accuracy of the affidavits filed by applicants under this paragraph. The applications shall be clearly marked as applications for the Additional General Homestead Exemption.

In counties with fewer than 3,000,000 inhabitants, in the event of a sale of homestead property the homestead exemption shall remain in effect for the remainder of the assessment year of the sale. The assessor or chief county assessment officer may require the new owner of the property to apply for the homestead exemption for the following assessment year.

Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-176)

Sec. 15-176. Alternative general homestead exemption.

(a) For the assessment years as determined under subsection (j), in any county that has elected, by an ordinance in accordance with subsection (k), to be subject to the provisions of this Section in lieu of the provisions of Section 15-175,

homestead property is entitled to an annual homestead exemption equal to a reduction in the property's equalized assessed value calculated as provided in this Section.

(b) As used in this Section:

(1) "Assessor" means the supervisor of assessments or the chief county assessment officer of each county.

(2) "Adjusted homestead value" means the lesser of the following values:

(A) The property's base homestead value increased by 7% for each tax year after the base year through and including the current tax year, or, if the property is sold or ownership is otherwise transferred, the property's base homestead value increased by 7% for each tax year after the year of the sale or transfer through and including the current tax year. The increase by 7% each year is an increase by 7% over the prior year.

(B) The property's equalized assessed value for the current tax year minus: (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax year 2003; ~~or~~ (ii) \$5,000 in all counties in tax years year 2004 and 2005; and (iii) the lesser of the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175 or an amount equal to the increase in the equalized assessed value for the current tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977 in tax year 2006 and thereafter.

(3) "Base homestead value".

(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b) (3) (A-5) or (b) (3) (B), "base homestead value" means the equalized assessed value of the property for the base year prior to exemptions, minus (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax year 2003, ~~or~~ (ii) \$5,000 in all counties in tax years year 2004 and 2005, or (iii) the lesser of the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175 or an amount equal to the increase in the equalized assessed value for the current tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977 in tax year 2006 and thereafter, provided that it was assessed for that year as residential property qualified for any of the homestead exemptions under Sections 15-170 through 15-175 of this Code, then in force, and further provided that the property's assessment was not based on a reduced assessed value resulting from a temporary irregularity in the property for that year. Except as provided in subdivision (b) (3) (B), if the property did not have a residential equalized assessed value for the base year, then "base homestead value" means the base homestead value established by the assessor under subsection (c).

(A-5) On or before September 1, 2007, in Cook County, the base homestead value, as set forth under

subdivision (b) (3) (A) and except as provided under subdivision (b) (3) (B), must be recalculated as the equalized assessed value of the property for the base year, prior to exemptions, minus:

(1) if the general assessment year for the property was 2003, the lesser of (i) \$4,500 or (ii) the amount equal to the increase in equalized assessed value for the 2002 tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977;

(2) if the general assessment year for the property was 2004, the lesser of (i) \$4,500 or (ii) the amount equal to the increase in equalized assessed value for the 2003 tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977;

(3) if the general assessment year for the property was 2005, the lesser of (i) \$5,000 or (ii) the amount equal to the increase in equalized assessed value for the 2004 tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977.

(B) If the property is sold or ownership is otherwise transferred, other than sales or transfers between spouses or between a parent and a child, "base homestead value" means the equalized assessed value of the property at the time of the sale or transfer prior to exemptions, minus: (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax year 2003; ~~or~~ (ii)

\$5,000 in all counties in tax ~~years~~ year 2004 and 2005; and (iii) the lesser of the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175 or an amount equal to the increase in the equalized assessed value for the current tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977 in tax year 2006 and thereafter, provided that it was assessed as residential property qualified for any of the homestead exemptions under Sections 15-170 through 15-175 of this Code, then in force, and further provided that the property's assessment was not based on a reduced assessed value resulting from a temporary irregularity in the property.

(3.5) "Base year" means (i) tax year 2002 in Cook County or (ii) tax year 2005 or 2006 ~~2002 or 2003~~ in all other counties in accordance with the designation made by the county as provided in subsection (k).

(4) "Current tax year" means the tax year for which the exemption under this Section is being applied.

(5) "Equalized assessed value" means the property's assessed value as equalized by the Department.

(6) "Homestead" or "homestead property" means:

(A) Residential property that as of January 1 of the tax year is occupied by its owner or owners as his, her, or their principal dwelling place, or that is a leasehold interest on which a single family residence

is situated, that is occupied as a residence by a person who has a legal or equitable interest therein evidenced by a written instrument, as an owner or as a lessee, and on which the person is liable for the payment of property taxes. Residential units in an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, or as a life care facility, which are occupied by persons who hold a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building or life care facility as owners or lessees, and who are liable by contract for the payment of property taxes, shall be included within this definition of homestead property.

(B) A homestead includes the dwelling place, appurtenant structures, and so much of the surrounding land constituting the parcel on which the dwelling place is situated as is used for residential purposes. If the assessor has established a specific legal description for a portion of property constituting the homestead, then the homestead shall be limited to the property within that description.

(7) "Life care facility" means a facility as defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act.

(c) If the property did not have a residential equalized assessed value for the base year as provided in subdivision (b) (3) (A) of this Section, then the assessor shall first determine an initial value for the property by comparison with

assessed values for the base year of other properties having physical and economic characteristics similar to those of the subject property, so that the initial value is uniform in relation to assessed values of those other properties for the base year. The product of the initial value multiplied by the equalized factor for the base year for homestead properties in that county, less: (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax years year 2003; ~~or~~ (ii) \$5,000 in all counties in tax year 2004 and 2005; and (iii) the lesser of the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175 or an amount equal to the increase in the equalized assessed value for the current tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977 in tax year 2006 and thereafter, is the base homestead value.

For any tax year for which the assessor determines or adjusts an initial value and hence a base homestead value under this subsection (c), the initial value shall be subject to review by the same procedures applicable to assessed values established under this Code for that tax year.

(d) The base homestead value shall remain constant, except that the assessor may revise it under the following circumstances:

(1) If the equalized assessed value of a homestead property for the current tax year is less than the previous base homestead value for that property, then the current equalized assessed value (provided it is not based on a

reduced assessed value resulting from a temporary irregularity in the property) shall become the base homestead value in subsequent tax years.

(2) For any year in which new buildings, structures, or other improvements are constructed on the homestead property that would increase its assessed value, the assessor shall adjust the base homestead value as provided in subsection (c) of this Section with due regard to the value added by the new improvements.

(3) If the property is sold or ownership is otherwise transferred, the base homestead value of the property shall be adjusted as provided in subdivision (b) (3) (B). This item (3) does not apply to sales or transfers between spouses or between a parent and a child.

(4) the recalculation required in Cook County under subdivision (b) (3) (A-5).

(e) The amount of the exemption under this Section is the equalized assessed value of the homestead property for the current tax year, minus the adjusted homestead value, with the following exceptions:

(1) In Cook County, the ~~The~~ exemption under this Section shall not exceed \$20,000 for any taxable year through tax year:

(i) 2005, if the general assessment year for the property is 2003;

(ii) 2006, if the general assessment year for the

property is 2004; or

(iii) 2007, if the general assessment year for the property is 2005.

(1.1) Thereafter, in Cook County, and in all other counties, the exemption is as follows:

(i) if the general assessment year for the property is 2006, then the exemption may not exceed: \$33,000 for taxable year 2006; \$26,000 for taxable year 2007; and \$20,000 for taxable year 2008;

(ii) if the general assessment year for the property is 2007, then the exemption may not exceed: \$33,000 for taxable year 2007; \$26,000 for taxable year 2008; and \$20,000 for taxable year 2009; and

(iii) if the general assessment year for the property is 2008, then the exemption may not exceed: \$33,000 for taxable year 2008; \$26,000 for taxable year 2009; and \$20,000 for taxable year 2010.

(1.5) In Cook County, for the 2006 taxable year only, the maximum amount of the exemption set forth under subsection (e) (1.1) (i) of this Section may be increased: (i) by \$7,000 if the equalized assessed value of the property in that taxable year exceeds the equalized assessed value of that property in 2002 by 100% or more; or (ii) by \$2,000 if the equalized assessed value of the property in that taxable year exceeds the equalized assessed value of that property in 2002 by more than 80% but less than 100%.

(2) In the case of homestead property that also qualifies for the exemption under Section 15-172, the property is entitled to the exemption under this Section, limited to the amount of (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax year 2003, ~~or~~ (ii) \$5,000 in all counties in tax years year 2004 and 2005, or (iii) the lesser of the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175 or an amount equal to the increase in the equalized assessed value for the current tax year above the equalized assessed value for 1977 in tax year 2006 and thereafter.

(f) In the case of an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, or as a life care facility, that contains residential units that qualify as homestead property under this Section, the maximum cumulative exemption amount attributed to the entire building or facility shall not exceed the sum of the exemptions calculated for each qualified residential unit. The cooperative association, management firm, or other person or entity that manages or controls the cooperative apartment building or life care facility shall credit the exemption attributable to each residential unit only to the apportioned tax liability of the owner or other person responsible for payment of taxes as to that unit. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the exemption is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(g) When married persons maintain separate residences, the

exemption provided under this Section shall be claimed by only one such person and for only one residence.

(h) In the event of a sale or other transfer in ownership of the homestead property, the exemption under this Section shall remain in effect for the remainder of the tax year and be calculated using the same base homestead value in which the sale or transfer occurs, but (other than for sales or transfers between spouses or between a parent and a child) shall be calculated for any subsequent tax year using the new base homestead value as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B). The assessor may require the new owner of the property to apply for the exemption in the following year.

(i) The assessor may determine whether property qualifies as a homestead under this Section by application, visual inspection, questionnaire, or other reasonable methods. Each year, at the time the assessment books are certified to the county clerk by the board of review, the assessor shall furnish to the county clerk a list of the properties qualified for the homestead exemption under this Section. The list shall note the base homestead value of each property to be used in the calculation of the exemption for the current tax year.

(j) In counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, the provisions of this Section apply as follows:

(1) If the general assessment year for the property is 2003, this Section applies for assessment years 2003, 2004, ~~and 2005,~~ 2006, 2007, and 2008. Thereafter, the provisions

of Section 15-175 apply.

(2) If the general assessment year for the property is 2004, this Section applies for assessment years 2004, 2005, ~~and 2006,~~ 2007, 2008, and 2009. Thereafter, the provisions of Section 15-175 apply.

(3) If the general assessment year for the property is 2005, this Section applies for assessment years 2005, 2006, ~~and 2007,~~ 2008, 2009, and 2010. Thereafter, the provisions of Section 15-175 apply.

In counties with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, this Section applies for assessment years (i) 2006, 2007, and 2008, ~~and 2009 if tax year 2005~~ 2003, 2004, and 2005 ~~if 2002~~ is the designated base year or (ii) 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 ~~if tax year 2006~~ 2004, 2005, and 2006 ~~if 2003~~ is the designated base year. Thereafter, the provisions of Section 15-175 apply.

(k) To be subject to the provisions of this Section in lieu of Section 15-175, a county must adopt an ordinance to subject itself to the provisions of this Section within 6 months after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly ~~93rd General Assembly~~. In a county other than Cook County, the ordinance must designate either tax year 2005 ~~2002~~ or tax year 2006 ~~2003~~ as the base year.

(l) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(35 ILCS 200/15-177 new)

Sec. 15-177. The long-time occupant homestead exemption.

(a) If the county has elected, under Section 15-176, to be subject to the provisions of the alternative general homestead exemption, then, for taxable years 2007 and thereafter, regardless of whether the exemption under Section 15-176 applies, qualified homestead property is entitled to an annual homestead exemption equal to a reduction in the property's equalized assessed value calculated as provided in this Section.

(b) As used in this Section:

"Adjusted homestead value" means the lesser of the following values:

(1) The property's base homestead value increased by:

(i) 10% for each taxable year after the base year through and including the current tax year for qualified taxpayers with a household income of more than \$75,000 but not exceeding \$100,000; or (ii) 7% for each taxable year after the base year through and including the current tax year for qualified taxpayers with a household income of \$75,000 or less. The increase each year is an increase over the prior year; or

(2) The property's equalized assessed value for the current tax year minus the general homestead deduction.

"Base homestead value" means:

(1) if the property did not have an adjusted homestead value under Section 15-176 for the base year, then an amount equal to the equalized assessed value of the property for the base year prior to exemptions, minus the general homestead deduction, provided that the property's assessment was not based on a reduced assessed value resulting from a temporary irregularity in the property for that year; or

(2) if the property had an adjusted homestead value under Section 15-176 for the base year, then an amount equal to the adjusted homestead value of the property under Section 15-176 for the base year.

"Base year" means the taxable year prior to the taxable year in which the taxpayer first qualifies for the exemption under this Section.

"Current taxable year" means the taxable year for which the exemption under this Section is being applied.

"Equalized assessed value" means the property's assessed value as equalized by the Department.

"Homestead" or "homestead property" means residential property that as of January 1 of the tax year is occupied by a qualified taxpayer as his or her principal dwelling place, or that is a leasehold interest on which a single family residence is situated, that is occupied as a residence by a qualified taxpayer who has a legal or equitable interest therein evidenced by a written instrument, as an owner or as a lessee,

and on which the person is liable for the payment of property taxes. Residential units in an apartment building owned and operated as a cooperative, or as a life care facility, which are occupied by persons who hold a legal or equitable interest in the cooperative apartment building or life care facility as owners or lessees, and who are liable by contract for the payment of property taxes, are included within this definition of homestead property. A homestead includes the dwelling place, appurtenant structures, and so much of the surrounding land constituting the parcel on which the dwelling place is situated as is used for residential purposes. If the assessor has established a specific legal description for a portion of property constituting the homestead, then the homestead is limited to the property within that description.

"Household income" has the meaning set forth under Section 15-172 of this Code.

"General homestead deduction" means the amount of the general homestead exemption under Section 15-175.

"Life care facility" means a facility defined in Section 2 of the Life Care Facilities Act.

"Qualified homestead property" means homestead property owned by a qualified taxpayer.

"Qualified taxpayer" means any individual:

(1) who, for at least 10 continuous years as of January 1 of the taxable year, has occupied the same homestead property as a principal residence and domicile or who, for

at least 5 continuous years as of January 1 of the taxable year, has occupied the same homestead property as a principal residence and domicile if that person received assistance in the acquisition of the property as part of a government or nonprofit housing program; and

(2) who has a household income of \$100,000 or less.

(c) The base homestead value must remain constant, except that the assessor may revise it under any of the following circumstances:

(1) If the equalized assessed value of a homestead property for the current tax year is less than the previous base homestead value for that property, then the current equalized assessed value (provided it is not based on a reduced assessed value resulting from a temporary irregularity in the property) becomes the base homestead value in subsequent tax years.

(2) For any year in which new buildings, structures, or other improvements are constructed on the homestead property that would increase its assessed value, the assessor shall adjust the base homestead value with due regard to the value added by the new improvements.

(d) The amount of the exemption under this Section is the greater of: (i) the equalized assessed value of the homestead property for the current tax year minus the adjusted homestead value; or (ii) the general homestead deduction.

(e) In the case of an apartment building owned and operated

as a cooperative, or as a life care facility, that contains residential units that qualify as homestead property of a qualified taxpayer under this Section, the maximum cumulative exemption amount attributed to the entire building or facility shall not exceed the sum of the exemptions calculated for each unit that is a qualified homestead property. The cooperative association, management firm, or other person or entity that manages or controls the cooperative apartment building or life care facility shall credit the exemption attributable to each residential unit only to the apportioned tax liability of the qualified taxpayer as to that unit. Any person who willfully refuses to so credit the exemption is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(f) When married persons maintain separate residences, the exemption provided under this Section may be claimed by only one such person and for only one residence. No person who receives an exemption under Section 15-172 of this Code may receive an exemption under this Section. No person who receives an exemption under this Section may receive an exemption under Section 15-175 or 15-176 of this Code.

(g) In the event of a sale or other transfer in ownership of the homestead property between spouses or between a parent and a child, the exemption under this Section remains in effect if the new owner has a household income of \$100,000 or less.

(h) In the event of a sale or other transfer in ownership of the homestead property other than subsection (g) of this

Section, the exemption under this Section shall remain in effect for the remainder of the tax year and be calculated using the same base homestead value in which the sale or transfer occurs.

(i) To receive the exemption, a person must submit an application to the county assessor during the period specified by the county assessor.

The county assessor shall annually give notice of the application period by mail or by publication.

The taxpayer must submit, with the application, an affidavit of the taxpayer's total household income, marital status (and if married the name and address of the applicant's spouse, if known), and principal dwelling place of members of the household on January 1 of the taxable year. The Department shall establish, by rule, a method for verifying the accuracy of affidavits filed by applicants under this Section, and the Chief County Assessment Officer may conduct audits of any taxpayer claiming an exemption under this Section to verify that the taxpayer is eligible to receive the exemption. Each application shall contain or be verified by a written declaration that it is made under the penalties of perjury. A taxpayer's signing a fraudulent application under this Act is perjury, as defined in Section 32-2 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The applications shall be clearly marked as applications for the Long-time Occupant Homestead Exemption and must contain a notice that any taxpayer who receives the exemption is

subject to an audit by the Chief County Assessment Officer.

(j) Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of the State Mandates Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this Section.

(35 ILCS 200/18-178 new)

Sec. 18-178. Abatement for the residence of a surviving spouse of a fallen police officer or rescue worker.

(a) The governing body of any county or municipality may, by ordinance, order the county clerk to abate any percentage of the taxes levied by the county or municipality on each parcel of qualified property within the boundaries of the county or municipality that is owned by the surviving spouse of a fallen police officer or rescue worker.

(b) The governing body may provide, by ordinance, for the percentage amount and duration of an abatement under this Section and for any other provision necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section. Upon passing an ordinance under this Section, the county or municipality must deliver a certified copy of the ordinance to the county clerk.

(c) As used in this Section:

"Fallen police officer or rescue worker" means an individual who dies:

(1) as a result of or in the course of employment as a police officer; or

(2) while in the active service of a fire, rescue, or

emergency medical service.

"Fallen police officer or rescue worker", however, does not include any individual whose death was the result of that individual's own willful misconduct or abuse of alcohol or drugs.

"Qualified property" means a parcel of real property that is occupied by not more than 2 families, that is used as the principal residence by a surviving spouse, and that:

(1) was owned by the fallen police officer or rescue worker or surviving spouse at the time of the police officer's or rescue worker's death;

(2) was acquired by the surviving spouse within 2 years after the police officer's or rescue worker's death if the surviving spouse was domiciled in the State at the time of that death; or

(3) was acquired more than 2 years after the police officer's or rescue worker's death if surviving spouse qualified for an abatement for a former qualified property located in that municipality.

"Surviving spouse" means a spouse, who has not remarried, of a fallen police officer or rescue worker.

(35 ILCS 200/20-15)

Sec. 20-15. Information on bill or separate statement. There shall be printed on each bill, or on a separate slip which shall be mailed with the bill:

(a) a statement itemizing the rate at which taxes have been extended for each of the taxing districts in the county in whose district the property is located, and in those counties utilizing electronic data processing equipment the dollar amount of tax due from the person assessed allocable to each of those taxing districts, including a separate statement of the dollar amount of tax due which is allocable to a tax levied under the Illinois Local Library Act or to any other tax levied by a municipality or township for public library purposes,

(b) a separate statement for each of the taxing districts of the dollar amount of tax due which is allocable to a tax levied under the Illinois Pension Code or to any other tax levied by a municipality or township for public pension or retirement purposes,

(c) the total tax rate,

(d) the total amount of tax due, and

(e) the amount by which the total tax and the tax allocable to each taxing district differs from the taxpayer's last prior tax bill.

The county treasurer shall ensure that only those taxing districts in which a parcel of property is located shall be listed on the bill for that property.

In all counties the statement shall also provide:

(1) the property index number or other suitable description,

- (2) the assessment of the property,
- (3) the equalization factors imposed by the county and by the Department, and
- (4) the equalized assessment resulting from the application of the equalization factors to the basic assessment.

In all counties which do not classify property for purposes of taxation, for property on which a single family residence is situated the statement shall also include a statement to reflect the fair cash value determined for the property. In all counties which classify property for purposes of taxation in accordance with Section 4 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution, for parcels of residential property in the lowest assessment classification the statement shall also include a statement to reflect the fair cash value determined for the property.

In all counties, the statement must include information that certain taxpayers may be eligible for tax exemptions, abatements, and other assistance programs and that, for more information, taxpayers should consult with the office of their township or county assessor and with the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In all counties, the statement shall include information that certain taxpayers may be eligible for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act and that applications are available from the

Illinois Department on Aging ~~of Revenue~~.

In counties which use the estimated or accelerated billing methods, these statements shall only be provided with the final installment of taxes due. The provisions of this Section create a mandatory statutory duty. They are not merely directory or discretionary. The failure or neglect of the collector to mail the bill, or the failure of the taxpayer to receive the bill, shall not affect the validity of any tax, or the liability for the payment of any tax.

(Source: P.A. 91-699, eff. 1-1-01.)

(35 ILCS 200/20-178)

Sec. 20-178. Certificate of error; refund; interest. When the county collector makes any refunds due on certificates of error issued under Sections 14-15 through 14-25 that have been either certified or adjudicated, the county collector shall pay the taxpayer interest on the amount of the refund at the rate of 0.5% per month.

No interest shall be due under this Section for any time prior to 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly. For certificates of error issued prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly, the county collector shall pay the taxpayer interest from 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly until the date the refund is paid. For certificates of error issued on or after

the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly, interest shall be paid from 60 days after the certificate of error is issued by the chief county assessment officer to the date the refund is made. To cover the cost of interest, the county collector shall proportionately reduce the distribution of taxes collected for each taxing district in which the property is situated.

This Section shall not apply to any certificate of error granting a homestead exemption under Section 15-170, 15-172, 15-175, ~~or 15-176,~~ or 15-177.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(35 ILCS 200/21-27)

Sec. 21-27. Waiver of interest penalty.

(a) On the recommendation of the county treasurer, the county board may adopt a resolution under which an interest penalty for the delinquent payment of taxes for any year that otherwise would be imposed under Section 21-15, 21-20, or 21-25 shall be waived in the case of any person who meets all of the following criteria:

(1) The person is determined eligible for a grant under the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act with respect to the taxes for that year.

(2) The person requests, in writing, on a form approved by the county treasurer, a waiver of the interest penalty,

and the request is filed with the county treasurer on or before the first day of the month that an installment of taxes is due.

(3) The person pays the installment of taxes due, in full, on or before the third day of the month that the installment is due.

(4) The county treasurer approves the request for a waiver.

(b) With respect to property that qualifies as a brownfield site under Section 58.2 of the Environmental Protection Act, the county board, upon the recommendation of the county treasurer, may, within 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly, adopt a resolution to waive an interest penalty for the delinquent payment of taxes for any year prior to the 2008 taxable year that otherwise would be imposed under Section 21-15, 21-20, or 21-25 if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) the property has delinquent taxes and an outstanding interest penalty and the amount of that interest penalty is so large as to, possibly, result in all of the taxes becoming uncollectible;

(2) the property is part of a redevelopment plan of a unit of local government and that unit of local government does not oppose the waiver of the interest penalty;

(3) the redevelopment of the property will benefit the public interest by remediating the brownfield

contamination;

(4) the taxpayer delivers to the county treasurer (i) a written request for a waiver of the interest penalty, on a form approved by the county treasurer, and (ii) a copy of the redevelopment plan for the property;

(5) the taxpayer pays, in full, the amount of up to the amount of the first 2 installments of taxes due, to be held in escrow pending the approval of the waiver, and enters into an agreement with the county treasurer setting forth a schedule for the payment of any remaining taxes due; and

(6) the county treasurer approves the request for a waiver.

(Source: Incorporates P.A. 88-221; 88-670, eff. 12-2-94)

(35 ILCS 200/24-35 new)

Sec. 24-35. Property Tax Reform and Relief Task Force.

(a) There is created the Property Tax Reform and Relief Task Force consisting of 9 members appointed as follows: 3 members appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated as the chair of the Task Force upon appointment; 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(b) The Task Force shall conduct a study of the property tax system in Illinois and investigate methods of reducing the

reliance on property taxes and alternative methods of funding.

(c) The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their reasonable and necessary expenses from funds appropriated for that purpose.

(d) The Task Force shall submit its findings to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2010, at which time the Task Force is dissolved.

(e) The Department of Revenue shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.

Section 15. The County Economic Development Project Area Property Tax Allocation Act is amended by changing Section 6 as follows:

(55 ILCS 85/6) (from Ch. 34, par. 7006)

Sec. 6. Filing with county clerk; certification of initial equalized assessed value.

(a) The county shall file a certified copy of any ordinance authorizing property tax allocation financing for an economic development project area with the county clerk, and the county clerk shall immediately thereafter determine (1) the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within the economic development project area from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code, which

value shall be the "initial equalized assessed value" of each such piece of property, and (2) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the economic development project area by adding together the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within such economic development project area, from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176 of the Property Tax Code. Upon receiving written notice from the Department of its approval and certification of such economic development project area, the county clerk shall immediately certify such amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable property within the economic development project area.

(b) After the county clerk has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property in the economic development project area, then in respect to every taxing district containing an economic development project area, the county clerk or any other official required by law to ascertain the amount of the equalized assessed value of all taxable property within that taxing district for the purpose of computing the rate percent of tax to be extended upon taxable property within the taxing district, shall in every year that property tax allocation financing is in effect ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in an economic development project area by including in that amount the lower of the

current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value" of all taxable real property in such area. The rate percent of tax determined shall be extended to the current equalized assessed value of all property in the economic development project area in the same manner as the rate percent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of allocating taxes established under this Section shall terminate when the county adopts an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the economic development project area. This Act shall not be construed as relieving property owners within an economic development project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 17. The County Economic Development Project Area Tax Increment Allocation Act of 1991 is amended by changing Section 45 as follows:

(55 ILCS 90/45) (from Ch. 34, par. 8045)

Sec. 45. Filing with county clerk; certification of initial equalized assessed value.

(a) A county that has by ordinance approved an economic development plan, established an economic development project

area, and adopted tax increment allocation financing for that area shall file certified copies of the ordinance or ordinances with the county clerk. Upon receiving the ordinance or ordinances, the county clerk shall immediately determine (i) the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within the economic development project area from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code (that value being the "initial equalized assessed value" of each such piece of property) and (ii) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the economic development project area by adding together the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within the economic development project area, from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code, and shall certify that amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property within the economic development project area.

(b) After the county clerk has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property in the economic development project area, then in respect to every taxing district containing an economic development project area, the county clerk or any other official required by law to ascertain the amount of the equalized assessed value of all

taxable property within the taxing district for the purpose of computing the rate per cent of tax to be extended upon taxable property within the taxing district shall, in every year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect, ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in an economic development project area by including in that amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value" of all taxable real property in the area. The rate per cent of tax determined shall be extended to the current equalized assessed value of all property in the economic development project area in the same manner as the rate per cent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of extending taxes established under this Section shall terminate when the county adopts an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the economic development project area. This Act shall not be construed as relieving property owners within an economic development project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 20. The Illinois Municipal Code is amended by changing Sections 11-74.4-8, 11-74.4-9, and 11-74.6-40 as follows:

(65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-8) (from Ch. 24, par. 11-74.4-8)

Sec. 11-74.4-8. Tax increment allocation financing. A municipality may not adopt tax increment financing in a redevelopment project area after the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1997 that will encompass an area that is currently included in an enterprise zone created under the Illinois Enterprise Zone Act unless that municipality, pursuant to Section 5.4 of the Illinois Enterprise Zone Act, amends the enterprise zone designating ordinance to limit the eligibility for tax abatements as provided in Section 5.4.1 of the Illinois Enterprise Zone Act. A municipality, at the time a redevelopment project area is designated, may adopt tax increment allocation financing by passing an ordinance providing that the ad valorem taxes, if any, arising from the levies upon taxable real property in such redevelopment project area by taxing districts and tax rates determined in the manner provided in paragraph (c) of Section 11-74.4-9 each year after the effective date of the ordinance until redevelopment project costs and all municipal obligations financing redevelopment project costs incurred under this Division have been paid shall be divided as follows:

(a) That portion of taxes levied upon each taxable lot, block, tract or parcel of real property which is attributable to the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the initial equalized assessed value of each such taxable lot, block, tract or parcel of real property in the redevelopment

project area shall be allocated to and when collected shall be paid by the county collector to the respective affected taxing districts in the manner required by law in the absence of the adoption of tax increment allocation financing.

(b) Except from a tax levied by a township to retire bonds issued to satisfy court-ordered damages, that portion, if any, of such taxes which is attributable to the increase in the current equalized assessed valuation of each taxable lot, block, tract or parcel of real property in the redevelopment project area over and above the initial equalized assessed value of each property in the project area shall be allocated to and when collected shall be paid to the municipal treasurer who shall deposit said taxes into a special fund called the special tax allocation fund of the municipality for the purpose of paying redevelopment project costs and obligations incurred in the payment thereof. In any county with a population of 3,000,000 or more that has adopted a procedure for collecting taxes that provides for one or more of the installments of the taxes to be billed and collected on an estimated basis, the municipal treasurer shall be paid for deposit in the special tax allocation fund of the municipality, from the taxes collected from estimated bills issued for property in the redevelopment project area, the difference between the amount actually collected from each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within the redevelopment project area and an amount determined by multiplying the rate at which taxes

were last extended against the taxable lot, block, track, or parcel of real property in the manner provided in subsection (c) of Section 11-74.4-9 by the initial equalized assessed value of the property divided by the number of installments in which real estate taxes are billed and collected within the county; provided that the payments on or before December 31, 1999 to a municipal treasurer shall be made only if each of the following conditions are met:

(1) The total equalized assessed value of the redevelopment project area as last determined was not less than 175% of the total initial equalized assessed value.

(2) Not more than 50% of the total equalized assessed value of the redevelopment project area as last determined is attributable to a piece of property assigned a single real estate index number.

(3) The municipal clerk has certified to the county clerk that the municipality has issued its obligations to which there has been pledged the incremental property taxes of the redevelopment project area or taxes levied and collected on any or all property in the municipality or the full faith and credit of the municipality to pay or secure payment for all or a portion of the redevelopment project costs. The certification shall be filed annually no later than September 1 for the estimated taxes to be distributed in the following year; however, for the year 1992 the certification shall be made at any time on or before March

31, 1992.

(4) The municipality has not requested that the total initial equalized assessed value of real property be adjusted as provided in subsection (b) of Section 11-74.4-9.

The conditions of paragraphs (1) through (4) do not apply after December 31, 1999 to payments to a municipal treasurer made by a county with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants that has adopted an estimated billing procedure for collecting taxes. If a county that has adopted the estimated billing procedure makes an erroneous overpayment of tax revenue to the municipal treasurer, then the county may seek a refund of that overpayment. The county shall send the municipal treasurer a notice of liability for the overpayment on or before the mailing date of the next real estate tax bill within the county. The refund shall be limited to the amount of the overpayment.

It is the intent of this Division that after the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1988 a municipality's own ad valorem tax arising from levies on taxable real property be included in the determination of incremental revenue in the manner provided in paragraph (c) of Section 11-74.4-9. If the municipality does not extend such a tax, it shall annually deposit in the municipality's Special Tax Increment Fund an amount equal to 10% of the total contributions to the fund from all other taxing districts in that year. The annual 10% deposit

required by this paragraph shall be limited to the actual amount of municipally produced incremental tax revenues available to the municipality from taxpayers located in the redevelopment project area in that year if: (a) the plan for the area restricts the use of the property primarily to industrial purposes, (b) the municipality establishing the redevelopment project area is a home-rule community with a 1990 population of between 25,000 and 50,000, (c) the municipality is wholly located within a county with a 1990 population of over 750,000 and (d) the redevelopment project area was established by the municipality prior to June 1, 1990. This payment shall be in lieu of a contribution of ad valorem taxes on real property. If no such payment is made, any redevelopment project area of the municipality shall be dissolved.

If a municipality has adopted tax increment allocation financing by ordinance and the County Clerk thereafter certifies the "total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted" of the taxable real property within such redevelopment project area in the manner provided in paragraph (b) of Section 11-74.4-9, each year after the date of the certification of the total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted until redevelopment project costs and all municipal obligations financing redevelopment project costs have been paid the ad valorem taxes, if any, arising from the levies upon the taxable real property in such redevelopment project area by taxing districts and tax rates determined in the manner

provided in paragraph (c) of Section 11-74.4-9 shall be divided as follows:

(1) That portion of the taxes levied upon each taxable lot, block, tract or parcel of real property which is attributable to the lower of the current equalized assessed value or "current equalized assessed value as adjusted" or the initial equalized assessed value of each such taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property existing at the time tax increment financing was adopted, minus the total current homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code in the redevelopment project area shall be allocated to and when collected shall be paid by the county collector to the respective affected taxing districts in the manner required by law in the absence of the adoption of tax increment allocation financing.

(2) That portion, if any, of such taxes which is attributable to the increase in the current equalized assessed valuation of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property in the redevelopment project area, over and above the initial equalized assessed value of each property existing at the time tax increment financing was adopted, minus the total current homestead exemptions pertaining to each piece of property provided by Article 15 ~~Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code in the redevelopment project area, shall be allocated

to and when collected shall be paid to the municipal Treasurer, who shall deposit said taxes into a special fund called the special tax allocation fund of the municipality for the purpose of paying redevelopment project costs and obligations incurred in the payment thereof.

The municipality may pledge in the ordinance the funds in and to be deposited in the special tax allocation fund for the payment of such costs and obligations. No part of the current equalized assessed valuation of each property in the redevelopment project area attributable to any increase above the total initial equalized assessed value, or the total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted, of such properties shall be used in calculating the general State school aid formula, provided for in Section 18-8 of the School Code, until such time as all redevelopment project costs have been paid as provided for in this Section.

Whenever a municipality issues bonds for the purpose of financing redevelopment project costs, such municipality may provide by ordinance for the appointment of a trustee, which may be any trust company within the State, and for the establishment of such funds or accounts to be maintained by such trustee as the municipality shall deem necessary to provide for the security and payment of the bonds. If such municipality provides for the appointment of a trustee, such trustee shall be considered the assignee of any payments assigned by the municipality pursuant to such ordinance and

this Section. Any amounts paid to such trustee as assignee shall be deposited in the funds or accounts established pursuant to such trust agreement, and shall be held by such trustee in trust for the benefit of the holders of the bonds, and such holders shall have a lien on and a security interest in such funds or accounts so long as the bonds remain outstanding and unpaid. Upon retirement of the bonds, the trustee shall pay over any excess amounts held to the municipality for deposit in the special tax allocation fund.

When such redevelopment projects costs, including without limitation all municipal obligations financing redevelopment project costs incurred under this Division, have been paid, all surplus funds then remaining in the special tax allocation fund shall be distributed by being paid by the municipal treasurer to the Department of Revenue, the municipality and the county collector; first to the Department of Revenue and the municipality in direct proportion to the tax incremental revenue received from the State and the municipality, but not to exceed the total incremental revenue received from the State or the municipality less any annual surplus distribution of incremental revenue previously made; with any remaining funds to be paid to the County Collector who shall immediately thereafter pay said funds to the taxing districts in the redevelopment project area in the same manner and proportion as the most recent distribution by the county collector to the affected districts of real property taxes from real property in

the redevelopment project area.

Upon the payment of all redevelopment project costs, the retirement of obligations, the distribution of any excess monies pursuant to this Section, and final closing of the books and records of the redevelopment project area, the municipality shall adopt an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the redevelopment project area and terminating the designation of the redevelopment project area as a redevelopment project area. Title to real or personal property and public improvements acquired by or for the municipality as a result of the redevelopment project and plan shall vest in the municipality when acquired and shall continue to be held by the municipality after the redevelopment project area has been terminated. Municipalities shall notify affected taxing districts prior to November 1 if the redevelopment project area is to be terminated by December 31 of that same year. If a municipality extends estimated dates of completion of a redevelopment project and retirement of obligations to finance a redevelopment project, as allowed by this amendatory Act of 1993, that extension shall not extend the property tax increment allocation financing authorized by this Section. Thereafter the rates of the taxing districts shall be extended and taxes levied, collected and distributed in the manner applicable in the absence of the adoption of tax increment allocation financing.

Nothing in this Section shall be construed as relieving

property in such redevelopment project areas from being assessed as provided in the Property Tax Code or as relieving owners of such property from paying a uniform rate of taxes, as required by Section 4 of Article 9 of the Illinois Constitution.

(Source: P.A. 92-16, eff. 6-28-01; 93-298, eff. 7-23-03; 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-9) (from Ch. 24, par. 11-74.4-9)

Sec. 11-74.4-9. Equalized assessed value of property.

(a) If a municipality by ordinance provides for tax increment allocation financing pursuant to Section 11-74.4-8, the county clerk immediately thereafter shall determine (1) the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within such redevelopment project area from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code, which value shall be the "initial equalized assessed value" of each such piece of property, and (2) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within such redevelopment project area by adding together the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within such project area, from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176 of the Property Tax Code, and shall

certify such amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property within such project area.

(b) In reference to any municipality which has adopted tax increment financing after January 1, 1978, and in respect to which the county clerk has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the property in the redevelopment area, the municipality may thereafter request the clerk in writing to adjust the initial equalized value of all taxable real property within the redevelopment project area by deducting therefrom the exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided for by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code applicable to each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within such redevelopment project area. The county clerk shall immediately after the written request to adjust the total initial equalized value is received determine the total homestead exemptions in the redevelopment project area provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176 of the Property Tax Code by adding together the homestead exemptions provided by said Sections on each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within such redevelopment project area and then shall deduct the total of said exemptions from the total initial equalized assessed value. The county clerk shall then promptly certify such amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted" of the taxable real property within such redevelopment project area.

(c) After the county clerk has certified the "total initial

equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property in such area, then in respect to every taxing district containing a redevelopment project area, the county clerk or any other official required by law to ascertain the amount of the equalized assessed value of all taxable property within such district for the purpose of computing the rate per cent of tax to be extended upon taxable property within such district, shall in every year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in a redevelopment project area by including in such amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value" of all taxable real property in such area, except that after he has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted" he shall in the year of said certification if tax rates have not been extended and in every year thereafter that tax increment allocation financing is in effect ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in a redevelopment project area by including in such amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value as adjusted" of all taxable real property in such area. The rate per cent of tax determined shall be extended to the current equalized assessed value of all property in the redevelopment project area in the same manner as the rate per cent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of extending taxes

established under this Section shall terminate when the municipality adopts an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the redevelopment project area. This Division shall not be construed as relieving property owners within a redevelopment project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

(65 ILCS 5/11-74.6-40)

Sec. 11-74.6-40. Equalized assessed value determination; property tax extension.

(a) If a municipality by ordinance provides for tax increment allocation financing under Section 11-74.6-35, the county clerk immediately thereafter:

(1) shall determine the initial equalized assessed value of each parcel of real property in the redevelopment project area, which is the most recently established equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of taxable real property within the redevelopment project area, minus the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code; and

(2) shall certify to the municipality the total initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the redevelopment project area.

(b) Any municipality that has established a vacant industrial buildings conservation area may, by ordinance passed after the adoption of tax increment allocation financing, provide that the county clerk immediately thereafter shall again determine:

(1) the updated initial equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property, which is the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract or parcel of real property within the vacant industrial buildings conservation area; and

(2) the total updated initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the redevelopment project area, which is the total of the updated initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the vacant industrial buildings conservation area.

The county clerk shall certify to the municipality the total updated initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the industrial buildings conservation area.

(c) After the county clerk has certified the total initial equalized assessed value or the total updated initial equalized assessed value of the taxable real property in the area, for each taxing district in which a redevelopment project area is situated, the county clerk or any other official required by law to determine the amount of the equalized assessed value of all taxable property within the district for the purpose of

computing the percentage rate of tax to be extended upon taxable property within the district, shall in every year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect determine the total equalized assessed value of taxable property in a redevelopment project area by including in that amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified total initial equalized assessed value or, if the total of updated equalized assessed value has been certified, the total updated initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property in the redevelopment project area. After he has certified the total initial equalized assessed value he shall in the year of that certification, if tax rates have not been extended, and in every subsequent year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect, determine the amount of equalized assessed value of taxable property in a redevelopment project area by including in that amount the lower of the current total equalized assessed value or the certified total initial equalized assessed value or, if the total of updated initial equalized assessed values have been certified, the total updated initial equalized assessed value of all taxable real property in the redevelopment project area.

(d) The percentage rate of tax determined shall be extended on the current equalized assessed value of all property in the redevelopment project area in the same manner as the rate per cent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of extending taxes established

under this Section shall terminate when the municipality adopts an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the redevelopment project area. This Law shall not be construed as relieving property owners within a redevelopment project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 25. The Economic Development Project Area Tax Increment Allocation Act of 1995 is amended by changing Section 45 as follows:

(65 ILCS 110/45)

Sec. 45. Filing with county clerk; certification of initial equalized assessed value.

(a) A municipality that has by ordinance approved an economic development plan, established an economic development project area, and adopted tax increment allocation financing for that area shall file certified copies of the ordinance or ordinances with the county clerk. Upon receiving the ordinance or ordinances, the county clerk shall immediately determine (i) the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within the economic development project area from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions under Article 15 ~~provided by Sections~~

~~15-170, 15-175, and 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code (that value being the "initial equalized assessed value" of each such piece of property) and (ii) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable real property within the economic development project area by adding together the most recently ascertained equalized assessed value of each taxable lot, block, tract, or parcel of real property within the economic development project area, from which shall be deducted the homestead exemptions provided by Sections 15-170, 15-175, and 15-176 of the Property Tax Code, and shall certify that amount as the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property within the economic development project area.

(b) After the county clerk has certified the "total initial equalized assessed value" of the taxable real property in the economic development project area, then in respect to every taxing district containing an economic development project area, the county clerk or any other official required by law to ascertain the amount of the equalized assessed value of all taxable property within the taxing district for the purpose of computing the rate per cent of tax to be extended upon taxable property within the taxing district shall, in every year that tax increment allocation financing is in effect, ascertain the amount of value of taxable property in an economic development project area by including in that amount the lower of the current equalized assessed value or the certified "total initial equalized assessed value" of all taxable real property

in the area. The rate per cent of tax determined shall be extended to the current equalized assessed value of all property in the economic development project area in the same manner as the rate per cent of tax is extended to all other taxable property in the taxing district. The method of extending taxes established under this Section shall terminate when the municipality adopts an ordinance dissolving the special tax allocation fund for the economic development project area. This Act shall not be construed as relieving owners or lessees of property within an economic development project area from paying a uniform rate of taxes upon the current equalized assessed value of their taxable property as provided in the Property Tax Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 30. The School Code is amended by changing Section 18-8.05 as follows:

(105 ILCS 5/18-8.05)

Sec. 18-8.05. Basis for apportionment of general State financial aid and supplemental general State aid to the common schools for the 1998-1999 and subsequent school years.

(A) General Provisions.

(1) The provisions of this Section apply to the 1998-1999 and subsequent school years. The system of general State

financial aid provided for in this Section is designed to assure that, through a combination of State financial aid and required local resources, the financial support provided each pupil in Average Daily Attendance equals or exceeds a prescribed per pupil Foundation Level. This formula approach imputes a level of per pupil Available Local Resources and provides for the basis to calculate a per pupil level of general State financial aid that, when added to Available Local Resources, equals or exceeds the Foundation Level. The amount of per pupil general State financial aid for school districts, in general, varies in inverse relation to Available Local Resources. Per pupil amounts are based upon each school district's Average Daily Attendance as that term is defined in this Section.

(2) In addition to general State financial aid, school districts with specified levels or concentrations of pupils from low income households are eligible to receive supplemental general State financial aid grants as provided pursuant to subsection (H). The supplemental State aid grants provided for school districts under subsection (H) shall be appropriated for distribution to school districts as part of the same line item in which the general State financial aid of school districts is appropriated under this Section.

(3) To receive financial assistance under this Section, school districts are required to file claims with the State Board of Education, subject to the following requirements:

(a) Any school district which fails for any given school year to maintain school as required by law, or to maintain a recognized school is not eligible to file for such school year any claim upon the Common School Fund. In case of nonrecognition of one or more attendance centers in a school district otherwise operating recognized schools, the claim of the district shall be reduced in the proportion which the Average Daily Attendance in the attendance center or centers bear to the Average Daily Attendance in the school district. A "recognized school" means any public school which meets the standards as established for recognition by the State Board of Education. A school district or attendance center not having recognition status at the end of a school term is entitled to receive State aid payments due upon a legal claim which was filed while it was recognized.

(b) School district claims filed under this Section are subject to Sections 18-9 and 18-12, except as otherwise provided in this Section.

(c) If a school district operates a full year school under Section 10-19.1, the general State aid to the school district shall be determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with this Section as near as may be applicable.

(d) (Blank).

(4) Except as provided in subsections (H) and (L), the

board of any district receiving any of the grants provided for in this Section may apply those funds to any fund so received for which that board is authorized to make expenditures by law.

School districts are not required to exert a minimum Operating Tax Rate in order to qualify for assistance under this Section.

(5) As used in this Section the following terms, when capitalized, shall have the meaning ascribed herein:

(a) "Average Daily Attendance": A count of pupil attendance in school, averaged as provided for in subsection (C) and utilized in deriving per pupil financial support levels.

(b) "Available Local Resources": A computation of local financial support, calculated on the basis of Average Daily Attendance and derived as provided pursuant to subsection (D).

(c) "Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes": Funds paid to local school districts pursuant to "An Act in relation to the abolition of ad valorem personal property tax and the replacement of revenues lost thereby, and amending and repealing certain Acts and parts of Acts in connection therewith", certified August 14, 1979, as amended (Public Act 81-1st S.S.-1).

(d) "Foundation Level": A prescribed level of per pupil financial support as provided for in subsection (B).

(e) "Operating Tax Rate": All school district property

taxes extended for all purposes, except Bond and Interest, Summer School, Rent, Capital Improvement, and Vocational Education Building purposes.

(B) Foundation Level.

(1) The Foundation Level is a figure established by the State representing the minimum level of per pupil financial support that should be available to provide for the basic education of each pupil in Average Daily Attendance. As set forth in this Section, each school district is assumed to exert a sufficient local taxing effort such that, in combination with the aggregate of general State financial aid provided the district, an aggregate of State and local resources are available to meet the basic education needs of pupils in the district.

(2) For the 1998-1999 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,225. For the 1999-2000 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,325. For the 2000-2001 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,425. For the 2001-2002 school year and 2002-2003 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,560. For the 2003-2004 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,810. For the 2004-2005 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$4,964. For the 2005-2006 school year, the Foundation Level of support is \$5,164.

(3) For the 2006-2007 school year and each school year

thereafter, the Foundation Level of support is \$5,334 or such greater amount as may be established by law by the General Assembly.

(C) Average Daily Attendance.

(1) For purposes of calculating general State aid pursuant to subsection (E), an Average Daily Attendance figure shall be utilized. The Average Daily Attendance figure for formula calculation purposes shall be the monthly average of the actual number of pupils in attendance of each school district, as further averaged for the best 3 months of pupil attendance for each school district. In compiling the figures for the number of pupils in attendance, school districts and the State Board of Education shall, for purposes of general State aid funding, conform attendance figures to the requirements of subsection (F).

(2) The Average Daily Attendance figures utilized in subsection (E) shall be the requisite attendance data for the school year immediately preceding the school year for which general State aid is being calculated or the average of the attendance data for the 3 preceding school years, whichever is greater. The Average Daily Attendance figures utilized in subsection (H) shall be the requisite attendance data for the school year immediately preceding the school year for which general State aid is being calculated.

(D) Available Local Resources.

(1) For purposes of calculating general State aid pursuant to subsection (E), a representation of Available Local Resources per pupil, as that term is defined and determined in this subsection, shall be utilized. Available Local Resources per pupil shall include a calculated dollar amount representing local school district revenues from local property taxes and from Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes, expressed on the basis of pupils in Average Daily Attendance. Calculation of Available Local Resources shall exclude any tax amnesty funds received as a result of Public Act 93-26.

(2) In determining a school district's revenue from local property taxes, the State Board of Education shall utilize the equalized assessed valuation of all taxable property of each school district as of September 30 of the previous year. The equalized assessed valuation utilized shall be obtained and determined as provided in subsection (G).

(3) For school districts maintaining grades kindergarten through 12, local property tax revenues per pupil shall be calculated as the product of the applicable equalized assessed valuation for the district multiplied by 3.00%, and divided by the district's Average Daily Attendance figure. For school districts maintaining grades kindergarten through 8, local property tax revenues per pupil shall be calculated as the product of the applicable equalized assessed valuation for the district multiplied by 2.30%, and divided by the district's

Average Daily Attendance figure. For school districts maintaining grades 9 through 12, local property tax revenues per pupil shall be the applicable equalized assessed valuation of the district multiplied by 1.05%, and divided by the district's Average Daily Attendance figure.

For partial elementary unit districts created pursuant to Article 11E of this Code, local property tax revenues per pupil shall be calculated as the product of the equalized assessed valuation for property within the elementary and high school classification of the partial elementary unit district multiplied by 2.06% and divided by the Average Daily Attendance figure for grades kindergarten through 8, plus the product of the equalized assessed valuation for property within the high school only classification of the partial elementary unit district multiplied by 0.94% and divided by the Average Daily Attendance figure for grades 9 through 12.

(4) The Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes paid to each school district during the calendar year 2 years before the calendar year in which a school year begins, divided by the Average Daily Attendance figure for that district, shall be added to the local property tax revenues per pupil as derived by the application of the immediately preceding paragraph (3). The sum of these per pupil figures for each school district shall constitute Available Local Resources as that term is utilized in subsection (E) in the calculation of general State aid.

(E) Computation of General State Aid.

(1) For each school year, the amount of general State aid allotted to a school district shall be computed by the State Board of Education as provided in this subsection.

(2) For any school district for which Available Local Resources per pupil is less than the product of 0.93 times the Foundation Level, general State aid for that district shall be calculated as an amount equal to the Foundation Level minus Available Local Resources, multiplied by the Average Daily Attendance of the school district.

(3) For any school district for which Available Local Resources per pupil is equal to or greater than the product of 0.93 times the Foundation Level and less than the product of 1.75 times the Foundation Level, the general State aid per pupil shall be a decimal proportion of the Foundation Level derived using a linear algorithm. Under this linear algorithm, the calculated general State aid per pupil shall decline in direct linear fashion from 0.07 times the Foundation Level for a school district with Available Local Resources equal to the product of 0.93 times the Foundation Level, to 0.05 times the Foundation Level for a school district with Available Local Resources equal to the product of 1.75 times the Foundation Level. The allocation of general State aid for school districts subject to this paragraph 3 shall be the calculated general State aid per pupil figure multiplied by the Average Daily

Attendance of the school district.

(4) For any school district for which Available Local Resources per pupil equals or exceeds the product of 1.75 times the Foundation Level, the general State aid for the school district shall be calculated as the product of \$218 multiplied by the Average Daily Attendance of the school district.

(5) The amount of general State aid allocated to a school district for the 1999-2000 school year meeting the requirements set forth in paragraph (4) of subsection (G) shall be increased by an amount equal to the general State aid that would have been received by the district for the 1998-1999 school year by utilizing the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation as calculated in paragraph (4) of subsection (G) less the general State aid allotted for the 1998-1999 school year. This amount shall be deemed a one time increase, and shall not affect any future general State aid allocations.

(F) Compilation of Average Daily Attendance.

(1) Each school district shall, by July 1 of each year, submit to the State Board of Education, on forms prescribed by the State Board of Education, attendance figures for the school year that began in the preceding calendar year. The attendance information so transmitted shall identify the average daily attendance figures for each month of the school year. Beginning with the general State aid claim form for the 2002-2003 school year, districts shall calculate Average Daily Attendance as

provided in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of this paragraph (1).

(a) In districts that do not hold year-round classes, days of attendance in August shall be added to the month of September and any days of attendance in June shall be added to the month of May.

(b) In districts in which all buildings hold year-round classes, days of attendance in July and August shall be added to the month of September and any days of attendance in June shall be added to the month of May.

(c) In districts in which some buildings, but not all, hold year-round classes, for the non-year-round buildings, days of attendance in August shall be added to the month of September and any days of attendance in June shall be added to the month of May. The average daily attendance for the year-round buildings shall be computed as provided in subdivision (b) of this paragraph (1). To calculate the Average Daily Attendance for the district, the average daily attendance for the year-round buildings shall be multiplied by the days in session for the non-year-round buildings for each month and added to the monthly attendance of the non-year-round buildings.

Except as otherwise provided in this Section, days of attendance by pupils shall be counted only for sessions of not less than 5 clock hours of school work per day under direct supervision of: (i) teachers, or (ii) non-teaching personnel or

volunteer personnel when engaging in non-teaching duties and supervising in those instances specified in subsection (a) of Section 10-22.34 and paragraph 10 of Section 34-18, with pupils of legal school age and in kindergarten and grades 1 through 12.

Days of attendance by tuition pupils shall be accredited only to the districts that pay the tuition to a recognized school.

(2) Days of attendance by pupils of less than 5 clock hours of school shall be subject to the following provisions in the compilation of Average Daily Attendance.

(a) Pupils regularly enrolled in a public school for only a part of the school day may be counted on the basis of 1/6 day for every class hour of instruction of 40 minutes or more attended pursuant to such enrollment, unless a pupil is enrolled in a block-schedule format of 80 minutes or more of instruction, in which case the pupil may be counted on the basis of the proportion of minutes of school work completed each day to the minimum number of minutes that school work is required to be held that day.

(b) Days of attendance may be less than 5 clock hours on the opening and closing of the school term, and upon the first day of pupil attendance, if preceded by a day or days utilized as an institute or teachers' workshop.

(c) A session of 4 or more clock hours may be counted as a day of attendance upon certification by the regional

superintendent, and approved by the State Superintendent of Education to the extent that the district has been forced to use daily multiple sessions.

(d) A session of 3 or more clock hours may be counted as a day of attendance (1) when the remainder of the school day or at least 2 hours in the evening of that day is utilized for an in-service training program for teachers, up to a maximum of 5 days per school year of which a maximum of 4 days of such 5 days may be used for parent-teacher conferences, provided a district conducts an in-service training program for teachers which has been approved by the State Superintendent of Education; or, in lieu of 4 such days, 2 full days may be used, in which event each such day may be counted as a day of attendance; and (2) when days in addition to those provided in item (1) are scheduled by a school pursuant to its school improvement plan adopted under Article 34 or its revised or amended school improvement plan adopted under Article 2, provided that (i) such sessions of 3 or more clock hours are scheduled to occur at regular intervals, (ii) the remainder of the school days in which such sessions occur are utilized for in-service training programs or other staff development activities for teachers, and (iii) a sufficient number of minutes of school work under the direct supervision of teachers are added to the school days between such regularly scheduled sessions to accumulate

not less than the number of minutes by which such sessions of 3 or more clock hours fall short of 5 clock hours. Any full days used for the purposes of this paragraph shall not be considered for computing average daily attendance. Days scheduled for in-service training programs, staff development activities, or parent-teacher conferences may be scheduled separately for different grade levels and different attendance centers of the district.

(e) A session of not less than one clock hour of teaching hospitalized or homebound pupils on-site or by telephone to the classroom may be counted as 1/2 day of attendance, however these pupils must receive 4 or more clock hours of instruction to be counted for a full day of attendance.

(f) A session of at least 4 clock hours may be counted as a day of attendance for first grade pupils, and pupils in full day kindergartens, and a session of 2 or more hours may be counted as 1/2 day of attendance by pupils in kindergartens which provide only 1/2 day of attendance.

(g) For children with disabilities who are below the age of 6 years and who cannot attend 2 or more clock hours because of their disability or immaturity, a session of not less than one clock hour may be counted as 1/2 day of attendance; however for such children whose educational needs so require a session of 4 or more clock hours may be counted as a full day of attendance.

(h) A recognized kindergarten which provides for only 1/2 day of attendance by each pupil shall not have more than 1/2 day of attendance counted in any one day. However, kindergartens may count 2 1/2 days of attendance in any 5 consecutive school days. When a pupil attends such a kindergarten for 2 half days on any one school day, the pupil shall have the following day as a day absent from school, unless the school district obtains permission in writing from the State Superintendent of Education. Attendance at kindergartens which provide for a full day of attendance by each pupil shall be counted the same as attendance by first grade pupils. Only the first year of attendance in one kindergarten shall be counted, except in case of children who entered the kindergarten in their fifth year whose educational development requires a second year of kindergarten as determined under the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education.

(i) On the days when the Prairie State Achievement Examination is administered under subsection (c) of Section 2-3.64 of this Code, the day of attendance for a pupil whose school day must be shortened to accommodate required testing procedures may be less than 5 clock hours and shall be counted towards the 176 days of actual pupil attendance required under Section 10-19 of this Code, provided that a sufficient number of minutes of school work in excess of 5 clock hours are first completed on other

school days to compensate for the loss of school work on the examination days.

(G) Equalized Assessed Valuation Data.

(1) For purposes of the calculation of Available Local Resources required pursuant to subsection (D), the State Board of Education shall secure from the Department of Revenue the value as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue of all taxable property of every school district, together with (i) the applicable tax rate used in extending taxes for the funds of the district as of September 30 of the previous year and (ii) the limiting rate for all school districts subject to property tax extension limitations as imposed under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.

The Department of Revenue shall add to the equalized assessed value of all taxable property of each school district situated entirely or partially within a county that is or was subject to the ~~alternative general homestead exemption~~ provisions of Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code (a) an amount equal to the total amount by which the homestead exemption allowed under Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code for real property situated in that school district exceeds the total amount that would have been allowed in that school district if the maximum reduction under Section 15-176 was (i) \$4,500 in Cook County or \$3,500 in all other counties in tax year 2003 or

(ii) \$5,000 in all counties in tax year 2004 and thereafter and
(b) an amount equal to the aggregate amount for the taxable year of all additional exemptions under Section 15-175 of the Property Tax Code for owners with a household income of \$30,000 or less. The county clerk of any county that is or was subject to the ~~alternative general homestead exemption~~ provisions of Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code shall annually calculate and certify to the Department of Revenue for each school district all homestead exemption amounts under Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code and all amounts of additional exemptions under Section 15-175 of the Property Tax Code for owners with a household income of \$30,000 or less. It is the intent of this paragraph that if the general homestead exemption for a parcel of property is determined under Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code rather than Section 15-175, then the calculation of Available Local Resources shall not be affected by the difference, if any, between the amount of the general homestead exemption allowed for that parcel of property under Section 15-176 or 15-177 ~~Section 15-176~~ of the Property Tax Code and the amount that would have been allowed had the general homestead exemption for that parcel of property been determined under Section 15-175 of the Property Tax Code. It is further the intent of this paragraph that if additional exemptions are allowed under Section 15-175 of the Property Tax Code for owners with a household income of less than \$30,000,

then the calculation of Available Local Resources shall not be affected by the difference, if any, because of those additional exemptions.

This equalized assessed valuation, as adjusted further by the requirements of this subsection, shall be utilized in the calculation of Available Local Resources.

(2) The equalized assessed valuation in paragraph (1) shall be adjusted, as applicable, in the following manner:

(a) For the purposes of calculating State aid under this Section, with respect to any part of a school district within a redevelopment project area in respect to which a municipality has adopted tax increment allocation financing pursuant to the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, Sections 11-74.4-1 through 11-74.4-11 of the Illinois Municipal Code or the Industrial Jobs Recovery Law, Sections 11-74.6-1 through 11-74.6-50 of the Illinois Municipal Code, no part of the current equalized assessed valuation of real property located in any such project area which is attributable to an increase above the total initial equalized assessed valuation of such property shall be used as part of the equalized assessed valuation of the district, until such time as all redevelopment project costs have been paid, as provided in Section 11-74.4-8 of the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act or in Section 11-74.6-35 of the Industrial Jobs Recovery Law. For the purpose of the

equalized assessed valuation of the district, the total initial equalized assessed valuation or the current equalized assessed valuation, whichever is lower, shall be used until such time as all redevelopment project costs have been paid.

(b) The real property equalized assessed valuation for a school district shall be adjusted by subtracting from the real property value as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue for the district an amount computed by dividing the amount of any abatement of taxes under Section 18-170 of the Property Tax Code by 3.00% for a district maintaining grades kindergarten through 12, by 2.30% for a district maintaining grades kindergarten through 8, or by 1.05% for a district maintaining grades 9 through 12 and adjusted by an amount computed by dividing the amount of any abatement of taxes under subsection (a) of Section 18-165 of the Property Tax Code by the same percentage rates for district type as specified in this subparagraph (b).

(3) For the 1999-2000 school year and each school year thereafter, if a school district meets all of the criteria of this subsection (G) (3), the school district's Available Local Resources shall be calculated under subsection (D) using the district's Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation as calculated under this subsection (G) (3).

For purposes of this subsection (G) (3) the following terms

shall have the following meanings:

"Budget Year": The school year for which general State aid is calculated and awarded under subsection (E).

"Base Tax Year": The property tax levy year used to calculate the Budget Year allocation of general State aid.

"Preceding Tax Year": The property tax levy year immediately preceding the Base Tax Year.

"Base Tax Year's Tax Extension": The product of the equalized assessed valuation utilized by the County Clerk in the Base Tax Year multiplied by the limiting rate as calculated by the County Clerk and defined in the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.

"Preceding Tax Year's Tax Extension": The product of the equalized assessed valuation utilized by the County Clerk in the Preceding Tax Year multiplied by the Operating Tax Rate as defined in subsection (A).

"Extension Limitation Ratio": A numerical ratio, certified by the County Clerk, in which the numerator is the Base Tax Year's Tax Extension and the denominator is the Preceding Tax Year's Tax Extension.

"Operating Tax Rate": The operating tax rate as defined in subsection (A).

If a school district is subject to property tax extension limitations as imposed under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, the State Board of Education shall calculate the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation of that

district. For the 1999-2000 school year, the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation of a school district as calculated by the State Board of Education shall be equal to the product of the district's 1996 Equalized Assessed Valuation and the district's Extension Limitation Ratio. For the 2000-2001 school year and each school year thereafter, the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation of a school district as calculated by the State Board of Education shall be equal to the product of the Equalized Assessed Valuation last used in the calculation of general State aid and the district's Extension Limitation Ratio. If the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation of a school district as calculated under this subsection (G)(3) is less than the district's equalized assessed valuation as calculated pursuant to subsections (G)(1) and (G)(2), then for purposes of calculating the district's general State aid for the Budget Year pursuant to subsection (E), that Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation shall be utilized to calculate the district's Available Local Resources under subsection (D).

Partial elementary unit districts created in accordance with Article 11E of this Code shall not be eligible for the adjustment in this subsection (G)(3) until the fifth year following the effective date of the reorganization.

(4) For the purposes of calculating general State aid for the 1999-2000 school year only, if a school district experienced a triennial reassessment on the equalized assessed

valuation used in calculating its general State financial aid apportionment for the 1998-1999 school year, the State Board of Education shall calculate the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation that would have been used to calculate the district's 1998-1999 general State aid. This amount shall equal the product of the equalized assessed valuation used to calculate general State aid for the 1997-1998 school year and the district's Extension Limitation Ratio. If the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation of the school district as calculated under this paragraph (4) is less than the district's equalized assessed valuation utilized in calculating the district's 1998-1999 general State aid allocation, then for purposes of calculating the district's general State aid pursuant to paragraph (5) of subsection (E), that Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Valuation shall be utilized to calculate the district's Available Local Resources.

(5) For school districts having a majority of their equalized assessed valuation in any county except Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, or Will, if the amount of general State aid allocated to the school district for the 1999-2000 school year under the provisions of subsection (E), (H), and (J) of this Section is less than the amount of general State aid allocated to the district for the 1998-1999 school year under these subsections, then the general State aid of the district for the 1999-2000 school year only shall be increased by the

difference between these amounts. The total payments made under this paragraph (5) shall not exceed \$14,000,000. Claims shall be prorated if they exceed \$14,000,000.

(H) Supplemental General State Aid.

(1) In addition to the general State aid a school district is allotted pursuant to subsection (E), qualifying school districts shall receive a grant, paid in conjunction with a district's payments of general State aid, for supplemental general State aid based upon the concentration level of children from low-income households within the school district. Supplemental State aid grants provided for school districts under this subsection shall be appropriated for distribution to school districts as part of the same line item in which the general State financial aid of school districts is appropriated under this Section. If the appropriation in any fiscal year for general State aid and supplemental general State aid is insufficient to pay the amounts required under the general State aid and supplemental general State aid calculations, then the State Board of Education shall ensure that each school district receives the full amount due for general State aid and the remainder of the appropriation shall be used for supplemental general State aid, which the State Board of Education shall calculate and pay to eligible districts on a prorated basis.

(1.5) This paragraph (1.5) applies only to those school

years preceding the 2003-2004 school year. For purposes of this subsection (H), the term "Low-Income Concentration Level" shall be the low-income eligible pupil count from the most recently available federal census divided by the Average Daily Attendance of the school district. If, however, (i) the percentage decrease from the 2 most recent federal censuses in the low-income eligible pupil count of a high school district with fewer than 400 students exceeds by 75% or more the percentage change in the total low-income eligible pupil count of contiguous elementary school districts, whose boundaries are coterminous with the high school district, or (ii) a high school district within 2 counties and serving 5 elementary school districts, whose boundaries are coterminous with the high school district, has a percentage decrease from the 2 most recent federal censuses in the low-income eligible pupil count and there is a percentage increase in the total low-income eligible pupil count of a majority of the elementary school districts in excess of 50% from the 2 most recent federal censuses, then the high school district's low-income eligible pupil count from the earlier federal census shall be the number used as the low-income eligible pupil count for the high school district, for purposes of this subsection (H). The changes made to this paragraph (1) by Public Act 92-28 shall apply to supplemental general State aid grants for school years preceding the 2003-2004 school year that are paid in fiscal year 1999 or thereafter and to any State aid payments made in

fiscal year 1994 through fiscal year 1998 pursuant to subsection 1(n) of Section 18-8 of this Code (which was repealed on July 1, 1998), and any high school district that is affected by Public Act 92-28 is entitled to a recomputation of its supplemental general State aid grant or State aid paid in any of those fiscal years. This recomputation shall not be affected by any other funding.

(1.10) This paragraph (1.10) applies to the 2003-2004 school year and each school year thereafter. For purposes of this subsection (H), the term "Low-Income Concentration Level" shall, for each fiscal year, be the low-income eligible pupil count as of July 1 of the immediately preceding fiscal year (as determined by the Department of Human Services based on the number of pupils who are eligible for at least one of the following low income programs: Medicaid, KidCare, TANF, or Food Stamps, excluding pupils who are eligible for services provided by the Department of Children and Family Services, averaged over the 2 immediately preceding fiscal years for fiscal year 2004 and over the 3 immediately preceding fiscal years for each fiscal year thereafter) divided by the Average Daily Attendance of the school district.

(2) Supplemental general State aid pursuant to this subsection (H) shall be provided as follows for the 1998-1999, 1999-2000, and 2000-2001 school years only:

(a) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 20% and less than 35%, the

grant for any school year shall be \$800 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(b) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 35% and less than 50%, the grant for the 1998-1999 school year shall be \$1,100 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(c) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 50% and less than 60%, the grant for the 1998-99 school year shall be \$1,500 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(d) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of 60% or more, the grant for the 1998-99 school year shall be \$1,900 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(e) For the 1999-2000 school year, the per pupil amount specified in subparagraphs (b), (c), and (d) immediately above shall be increased to \$1,243, \$1,600, and \$2,000, respectively.

(f) For the 2000-2001 school year, the per pupil amounts specified in subparagraphs (b), (c), and (d) immediately above shall be \$1,273, \$1,640, and \$2,050, respectively.

(2.5) Supplemental general State aid pursuant to this subsection (H) shall be provided as follows for the 2002-2003 school year:

(a) For any school district with a Low Income

Concentration Level of less than 10%, the grant for each school year shall be \$355 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(b) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 10% and less than 20%, the grant for each school year shall be \$675 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(c) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 20% and less than 35%, the grant for each school year shall be \$1,330 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(d) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 35% and less than 50%, the grant for each school year shall be \$1,362 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(e) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of at least 50% and less than 60%, the grant for each school year shall be \$1,680 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(f) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of 60% or more, the grant for each school year shall be \$2,080 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(2.10) Except as otherwise provided, supplemental general State aid pursuant to this subsection (H) shall be provided as follows for the 2003-2004 school year and each school year

thereafter:

(a) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level of 15% or less, the grant for each school year shall be \$355 multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

(b) For any school district with a Low Income Concentration Level greater than 15%, the grant for each school year shall be \$294.25 added to the product of \$2,700 and the square of the Low Income Concentration Level, all multiplied by the low income eligible pupil count.

For the 2003-2004 school year, 2004-2005 school year, 2005-2006 school year, and 2006-2007 school year only, the grant shall be no less than the grant for the 2002-2003 school year. For the 2007-2008 school year only, the grant shall be no less than the grant for the 2002-2003 school year multiplied by 0.66. For the 2008-2009 school year only, the grant shall be no less than the grant for the 2002-2003 school year multiplied by 0.33. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph to the contrary, if for any school year supplemental general State aid grants are prorated as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection (H), then the grants under this paragraph shall be prorated.

For the 2003-2004 school year only, the grant shall be no greater than the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year added to the product of 0.25 multiplied by the difference between the grant amount calculated under subsection (a) or (b)

of this paragraph (2.10), whichever is applicable, and the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year. For the 2004-2005 school year only, the grant shall be no greater than the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year added to the product of 0.50 multiplied by the difference between the grant amount calculated under subsection (a) or (b) of this paragraph (2.10), whichever is applicable, and the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year. For the 2005-2006 school year only, the grant shall be no greater than the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year added to the product of 0.75 multiplied by the difference between the grant amount calculated under subsection (a) or (b) of this paragraph (2.10), whichever is applicable, and the grant received during the 2002-2003 school year.

(3) School districts with an Average Daily Attendance of more than 1,000 and less than 50,000 that qualify for supplemental general State aid pursuant to this subsection shall submit a plan to the State Board of Education prior to October 30 of each year for the use of the funds resulting from this grant of supplemental general State aid for the improvement of instruction in which priority is given to meeting the education needs of disadvantaged children. Such plan shall be submitted in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education.

(4) School districts with an Average Daily Attendance of 50,000 or more that qualify for supplemental general State aid

pursuant to this subsection shall be required to distribute from funds available pursuant to this Section, no less than \$261,000,000 in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) The required amounts shall be distributed to the attendance centers within the district in proportion to the number of pupils enrolled at each attendance center who are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches or breakfasts under the federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and under the National School Lunch Act during the immediately preceding school year.

(b) The distribution of these portions of supplemental and general State aid among attendance centers according to these requirements shall not be compensated for or contravened by adjustments of the total of other funds appropriated to any attendance centers, and the Board of Education shall utilize funding from one or several sources in order to fully implement this provision annually prior to the opening of school.

(c) Each attendance center shall be provided by the school district a distribution of noncategorical funds and other categorical funds to which an attendance center is entitled under law in order that the general State aid and supplemental general State aid provided by application of this subsection supplements rather than supplants the noncategorical funds and other categorical funds provided by the school district to the attendance centers.

(d) Any funds made available under this subsection that by reason of the provisions of this subsection are not required to be allocated and provided to attendance centers may be used and appropriated by the board of the district for any lawful school purpose.

(e) Funds received by an attendance center pursuant to this subsection shall be used by the attendance center at the discretion of the principal and local school council for programs to improve educational opportunities at qualifying schools through the following programs and services: early childhood education, reduced class size or improved adult to student classroom ratio, enrichment programs, remedial assistance, attendance improvement, and other educationally beneficial expenditures which supplement the regular and basic programs as determined by the State Board of Education. Funds provided shall not be expended for any political or lobbying purposes as defined by board rule.

(f) Each district subject to the provisions of this subdivision (H) (4) shall submit an acceptable plan to meet the educational needs of disadvantaged children, in compliance with the requirements of this paragraph, to the State Board of Education prior to July 15 of each year. This plan shall be consistent with the decisions of local school councils concerning the school expenditure plans developed in accordance with part 4 of Section 34-2.3. The

State Board shall approve or reject the plan within 60 days after its submission. If the plan is rejected, the district shall give written notice of intent to modify the plan within 15 days of the notification of rejection and then submit a modified plan within 30 days after the date of the written notice of intent to modify. Districts may amend approved plans pursuant to rules promulgated by the State Board of Education.

Upon notification by the State Board of Education that the district has not submitted a plan prior to July 15 or a modified plan within the time period specified herein, the State aid funds affected by that plan or modified plan shall be withheld by the State Board of Education until a plan or modified plan is submitted.

If the district fails to distribute State aid to attendance centers in accordance with an approved plan, the plan for the following year shall allocate funds, in addition to the funds otherwise required by this subsection, to those attendance centers which were underfunded during the previous year in amounts equal to such underfunding.

For purposes of determining compliance with this subsection in relation to the requirements of attendance center funding, each district subject to the provisions of this subsection shall submit as a separate document by December 1 of each year a report of expenditure data for

the prior year in addition to any modification of its current plan. If it is determined that there has been a failure to comply with the expenditure provisions of this subsection regarding contravention or supplanting, the State Superintendent of Education shall, within 60 days of receipt of the report, notify the district and any affected local school council. The district shall within 45 days of receipt of that notification inform the State Superintendent of Education of the remedial or corrective action to be taken, whether by amendment of the current plan, if feasible, or by adjustment in the plan for the following year. Failure to provide the expenditure report or the notification of remedial or corrective action in a timely manner shall result in a withholding of the affected funds.

The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this subsection. No funds shall be released under this subdivision (H) (4) to any district that has not submitted a plan that has been approved by the State Board of Education.

(I) (Blank).

(J) Supplementary Grants in Aid.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section,

the amount of the aggregate general State aid in combination with supplemental general State aid under this Section for which each school district is eligible shall be no less than the amount of the aggregate general State aid entitlement that was received by the district under Section 18-8 (exclusive of amounts received under subsections 5(p) and 5(p-5) of that Section) for the 1997-98 school year, pursuant to the provisions of that Section as it was then in effect. If a school district qualifies to receive a supplementary payment made under this subsection (J), the amount of the aggregate general State aid in combination with supplemental general State aid under this Section which that district is eligible to receive for each school year shall be no less than the amount of the aggregate general State aid entitlement that was received by the district under Section 18-8 (exclusive of amounts received under subsections 5(p) and 5(p-5) of that Section) for the 1997-1998 school year, pursuant to the provisions of that Section as it was then in effect.

(2) If, as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection (J), a school district is to receive aggregate general State aid in combination with supplemental general State aid under this Section for the 1998-99 school year and any subsequent school year that in any such school year is less than the amount of the aggregate general State aid entitlement that the district received for the 1997-98 school year, the school district shall also receive, from a separate appropriation made

for purposes of this subsection (J), a supplementary payment that is equal to the amount of the difference in the aggregate State aid figures as described in paragraph (1).

(3) (Blank).

(K) Grants to Laboratory and Alternative Schools.

In calculating the amount to be paid to the governing board of a public university that operates a laboratory school under this Section or to any alternative school that is operated by a regional superintendent of schools, the State Board of Education shall require by rule such reporting requirements as it deems necessary.

As used in this Section, "laboratory school" means a public school which is created and operated by a public university and approved by the State Board of Education. The governing board of a public university which receives funds from the State Board under this subsection (K) may not increase the number of students enrolled in its laboratory school from a single district, if that district is already sending 50 or more students, except under a mutual agreement between the school board of a student's district of residence and the university which operates the laboratory school. A laboratory school may not have more than 1,000 students, excluding students with disabilities in a special education program.

As used in this Section, "alternative school" means a public school which is created and operated by a Regional

Superintendent of Schools and approved by the State Board of Education. Such alternative schools may offer courses of instruction for which credit is given in regular school programs, courses to prepare students for the high school equivalency testing program or vocational and occupational training. A regional superintendent of schools may contract with a school district or a public community college district to operate an alternative school. An alternative school serving more than one educational service region may be established by the regional superintendents of schools of the affected educational service regions. An alternative school serving more than one educational service region may be operated under such terms as the regional superintendents of schools of those educational service regions may agree.

Each laboratory and alternative school shall file, on forms provided by the State Superintendent of Education, an annual State aid claim which states the Average Daily Attendance of the school's students by month. The best 3 months' Average Daily Attendance shall be computed for each school. The general State aid entitlement shall be computed by multiplying the applicable Average Daily Attendance by the Foundation Level as determined under this Section.

(L) Payments, Additional Grants in Aid and Other Requirements.

(1) For a school district operating under the financial supervision of an Authority created under Article 34A, the

general State aid otherwise payable to that district under this Section, but not the supplemental general State aid, shall be reduced by an amount equal to the budget for the operations of the Authority as certified by the Authority to the State Board of Education, and an amount equal to such reduction shall be paid to the Authority created for such district for its operating expenses in the manner provided in Section 18-11. The remainder of general State school aid for any such district shall be paid in accordance with Article 34A when that Article provides for a disposition other than that provided by this Article.

(2) (Blank).

(3) Summer school. Summer school payments shall be made as provided in Section 18-4.3.

(M) Education Funding Advisory Board.

The Education Funding Advisory Board, hereinafter in this subsection (M) referred to as the "Board", is hereby created. The Board shall consist of 5 members who are appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The members appointed shall include representatives of education, business, and the general public. One of the members so appointed shall be designated by the Governor at the time the appointment is made as the chairperson of the Board. The initial members of the Board may be appointed any time after the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1997. The regular

term of each member of the Board shall be for 4 years from the third Monday of January of the year in which the term of the member's appointment is to commence, except that of the 5 initial members appointed to serve on the Board, the member who is appointed as the chairperson shall serve for a term that commences on the date of his or her appointment and expires on the third Monday of January, 2002, and the remaining 4 members, by lots drawn at the first meeting of the Board that is held after all 5 members are appointed, shall determine 2 of their number to serve for terms that commence on the date of their respective appointments and expire on the third Monday of January, 2001, and 2 of their number to serve for terms that commence on the date of their respective appointments and expire on the third Monday of January, 2000. All members appointed to serve on the Board shall serve until their respective successors are appointed and confirmed. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments. If a vacancy in membership occurs at a time when the Senate is not in session, the Governor shall make a temporary appointment until the next meeting of the Senate, when he or she shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a person to fill that membership for the unexpired term. If the Senate is not in session when the initial appointments are made, those appointments shall be made as in the case of vacancies.

The Education Funding Advisory Board shall be deemed

established, and the initial members appointed by the Governor to serve as members of the Board shall take office, on the date that the Governor makes his or her appointment of the fifth initial member of the Board, whether those initial members are then serving pursuant to appointment and confirmation or pursuant to temporary appointments that are made by the Governor as in the case of vacancies.

The State Board of Education shall provide such staff assistance to the Education Funding Advisory Board as is reasonably required for the proper performance by the Board of its responsibilities.

For school years after the 2000-2001 school year, the Education Funding Advisory Board, in consultation with the State Board of Education, shall make recommendations as provided in this subsection (M) to the General Assembly for the foundation level under subdivision (B)(3) of this Section and for the supplemental general State aid grant level under subsection (H) of this Section for districts with high concentrations of children from poverty. The recommended foundation level shall be determined based on a methodology which incorporates the basic education expenditures of low-spending schools exhibiting high academic performance. The Education Funding Advisory Board shall make such recommendations to the General Assembly on January 1 of odd numbered years, beginning January 1, 2001.

(N) (Blank).

(O) References.

(1) References in other laws to the various subdivisions of Section 18-8 as that Section existed before its repeal and replacement by this Section 18-8.05 shall be deemed to refer to the corresponding provisions of this Section 18-8.05, to the extent that those references remain applicable.

(2) References in other laws to State Chapter 1 funds shall be deemed to refer to the supplemental general State aid provided under subsection (H) of this Section.

(P) Public Act 93-838 and Public Act 93-808 make inconsistent changes to this Section. Under Section 6 of the Statute on Statutes there is an irreconcilable conflict between Public Act 93-808 and Public Act 93-838. Public Act 93-838, being the last acted upon, is controlling. The text of Public Act 93-838 is the law regardless of the text of Public Act 93-808.

(Source: P.A. 93-21, eff. 7-1-03; 93-715, eff. 7-12-04; 93-808, eff. 7-26-04; 93-838, eff. 7-30-04; 93-875, eff. 8-6-04; 94-69, eff. 7-1-05; 94-438, eff. 8-4-05; 94-835, eff. 6-6-06; 94-1019, eff. 7-10-06; 94-1105, eff. 6-1-07; revised 2-18-07.)

Section 33. The Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act is amended by changing Section 4 as follows:

(320 ILCS 25/4) (from Ch. 67 1/2, par. 404)

Sec. 4. Amount of Grant.

(a) In general. Any individual 65 years or older or any individual who will become 65 years old during the calendar year in which a claim is filed, and any surviving spouse of such a claimant, who at the time of death received or was entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this Section, which surviving spouse will become 65 years of age within the 24 months immediately following the death of such claimant and which surviving spouse but for his or her age is otherwise qualified to receive a grant pursuant to this Section, and any disabled person whose annual household income is less than the income eligibility limitation, as defined in subsection (a-5) ~~\$14,000 for grant years before the 1998 grant year, less than \$16,000 for the 1998 and 1999 grant years, and less than (i) \$21,218 for a household containing one person, (ii) \$28,480 for a household containing 2 persons, or (iii) \$35,740 for a household containing 3 or more persons for the 2000 grant year and thereafter~~ and whose household is liable for payment of property taxes accrued or has paid rent constituting property taxes accrued and is domiciled in this State at the time he or she files his or her claim is entitled to claim a grant under this Act. With respect to claims filed by individuals who will become 65 years old during the calendar year in which a claim is filed, the amount of any grant to which that household is

entitled shall be an amount equal to 1/12 of the amount to which the claimant would otherwise be entitled as provided in this Section, multiplied by the number of months in which the claimant was 65 in the calendar year in which the claim is filed.

(a-5) Income eligibility limitation. For purposes of this Section, "income eligibility limitation" means an amount:

(i) for grant years before the 1998 grant year, less than \$14,000;

(ii) for the 1998 and 1999 grant year, less than \$16,000;

(iii) for grant years 2000 through 2007:

(A) less than \$21,218 for a household containing one person;

(B) less than \$28,480 for a household containing 2 persons; or

(C) less than \$35,740 for a household containing 3 or more persons; or

(iv) for grant years 2008 and thereafter:

(A) less than \$22,218 for a household containing one person;

(B) less than \$29,480 for a household containing 2 persons; or

(C) less than \$36,740 for a household containing 3 or more persons.

(b) Limitation. Except as otherwise provided in

subsections (a) and (f) of this Section, the maximum amount of grant which a claimant is entitled to claim is the amount by which the property taxes accrued which were paid or payable during the last preceding tax year or rent constituting property taxes accrued upon the claimant's residence for the last preceding taxable year exceeds 3 1/2% of the claimant's household income for that year but in no event is the grant to exceed (i) \$700 less 4.5% of household income for that year for those with a household income of \$14,000 or less or (ii) \$70 if household income for that year is more than \$14,000.

(c) Public aid recipients. If household income in one or more months during a year includes cash assistance in excess of \$55 per month from the Department of Healthcare and Family Services or the Department of Human Services (acting as successor to the Department of Public Aid under the Department of Human Services Act) which was determined under regulations of that Department on a measure of need that included an allowance for actual rent or property taxes paid by the recipient of that assistance, the amount of grant to which that household is entitled, except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), shall be the product of (1) the maximum amount computed as specified in subsection (b) of this Section and (2) the ratio of the number of months in which household income did not include such cash assistance over \$55 to the number twelve. If household income did not include such cash assistance over \$55 for any months during the year, the amount of the grant to

which the household is entitled shall be the maximum amount computed as specified in subsection (b) of this Section. For purposes of this paragraph (c), "cash assistance" does not include any amount received under the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

(d) Joint ownership. If title to the residence is held jointly by the claimant with a person who is not a member of his or her household, the amount of property taxes accrued used in computing the amount of grant to which he or she is entitled shall be the same percentage of property taxes accrued as is the percentage of ownership held by the claimant in the residence.

(e) More than one residence. If a claimant has occupied more than one residence in the taxable year, he or she may claim only one residence for any part of a month. In the case of property taxes accrued, he or she shall prorate 1/12 of the total property taxes accrued on his or her residence to each month that he or she owned and occupied that residence; and, in the case of rent constituting property taxes accrued, shall prorate each month's rent payments to the residence actually occupied during that month.

(f) There is hereby established a program of pharmaceutical assistance to the aged and disabled which shall be administered by the Department in accordance with this Act, to consist of payments to authorized pharmacies, on behalf of beneficiaries of the program, for the reasonable costs of covered

prescription drugs. Each beneficiary who pays \$5 for an identification card shall pay no additional prescription costs. Each beneficiary who pays \$25 for an identification card shall pay \$3 per prescription. In addition, after a beneficiary receives \$2,000 in benefits during a State fiscal year, that beneficiary shall also be charged 20% of the cost of each prescription for which payments are made by the program during the remainder of the fiscal year. To become a beneficiary under this program a person must: (1) be (i) 65 years of age or older, or (ii) the surviving spouse of such a claimant, who at the time of death received or was entitled to receive benefits pursuant to this subsection, which surviving spouse will become 65 years of age within the 24 months immediately following the death of such claimant and which surviving spouse but for his or her age is otherwise qualified to receive benefits pursuant to this subsection, or (iii) disabled, and (2) be domiciled in this State at the time he or she files his or her claim, and (3) have a maximum household income of less than the income eligibility limitation, as defined in subsection (a-5) ~~\$14,000 for grant years before the 1998 grant year, less than \$16,000 for the 1998 and 1999 grant years, and less than (i) \$21,218 for a household containing one person, (ii) \$28,480 for a household containing 2 persons, or (iii) \$35,740 for a household containing 3 more persons for the 2000 grant year and thereafter~~. In addition, each eligible person must (1) obtain an identification card from the Department, (2) at the time the

card is obtained, sign a statement assigning to the State of Illinois benefits which may be otherwise claimed under any private insurance plans, and (3) present the identification card to the dispensing pharmacist.

The Department may adopt rules specifying participation requirements for the pharmaceutical assistance program, including copayment amounts, identification card fees, expenditure limits, and the benefit threshold after which a 20% charge is imposed on the cost of each prescription, to be in effect on and after July 1, 2004. Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, however, the Department may not increase the identification card fee above the amount in effect on May 1, 2003 without the express consent of the General Assembly. To the extent practicable, those requirements shall be commensurate with the requirements provided in rules adopted by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to implement the pharmacy assistance program under Section 5-5.12a of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

Whenever a generic equivalent for a covered prescription drug is available, the Department shall reimburse only for the reasonable costs of the generic equivalent, less the co-pay established in this Section, unless (i) the covered prescription drug contains one or more ingredients defined as a narrow therapeutic index drug at 21 CFR 320.33, (ii) the prescriber indicates on the face of the prescription "brand medically necessary", and (iii) the prescriber specifies that a

substitution is not permitted. When issuing an oral prescription for covered prescription medication described in item (i) of this paragraph, the prescriber shall stipulate "brand medically necessary" and that a substitution is not permitted. If the covered prescription drug and its authorizing prescription do not meet the criteria listed above, the beneficiary may purchase the non-generic equivalent of the covered prescription drug by paying the difference between the generic cost and the non-generic cost plus the beneficiary co-pay.

Any person otherwise eligible for pharmaceutical assistance under this Act whose covered drugs are covered by any public program for assistance in purchasing any covered prescription drugs shall be ineligible for assistance under this Act to the extent such costs are covered by such other plan.

The fee to be charged by the Department for the identification card shall be equal to \$5 per coverage year for persons below the official poverty line as defined by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and \$25 per coverage year for all other persons.

In the event that 2 or more persons are eligible for any benefit under this Act, and are members of the same household, (1) each such person shall be entitled to participate in the pharmaceutical assistance program, provided that he or she meets all other requirements imposed by this subsection and (2)

each participating household member contributes the fee required for that person by the preceding paragraph for the purpose of obtaining an identification card.

The provisions of this subsection (f), other than this paragraph, are inoperative after December 31, 2005. Beneficiaries who received benefits under the program established by this subsection (f) are not entitled, at the termination of the program, to any refund of the identification card fee paid under this subsection.

(g) Effective January 1, 2006, there is hereby established a program of pharmaceutical assistance to the aged and disabled, entitled the Illinois Seniors and Disabled Drug Coverage Program, which shall be administered by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the Department on Aging in accordance with this subsection, to consist of coverage of specified prescription drugs on behalf of beneficiaries of the program as set forth in this subsection. The program under this subsection replaces and supersedes the program established under subsection (f), which shall end at midnight on December 31, 2005.

To become a beneficiary under the program established under this subsection, a person must:

- (1) be (i) 65 years of age or older or (ii) disabled;
and
- (2) be domiciled in this State; and
- (3) enroll with a qualified Medicare Part D

Prescription Drug Plan if eligible and apply for all available subsidies under Medicare Part D; and

(4) have a maximum household income of (i) less than \$21,218 for a household containing one person, (ii) less than \$28,480 for a household containing 2 persons, or (iii) less than \$35,740 for a household containing 3 or more persons. If any income eligibility limit set forth in items (i) through (iii) is less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level for any year, the income eligibility limit for that year for households of that size shall be income equal to or less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

All individuals enrolled as of December 31, 2005, in the pharmaceutical assistance program operated pursuant to subsection (f) of this Section and all individuals enrolled as of December 31, 2005, in the SeniorCare Medicaid waiver program operated pursuant to Section 5-5.12a of the Illinois Public Aid Code shall be automatically enrolled in the program established by this subsection for the first year of operation without the need for further application, except that they must apply for Medicare Part D and the Low Income Subsidy under Medicare Part D. A person enrolled in the pharmaceutical assistance program operated pursuant to subsection (f) of this Section as of December 31, 2005, shall not lose eligibility in future years due only to the fact that they have not reached the age of 65.

To the extent permitted by federal law, the Department may act as an authorized representative of a beneficiary in order

to enroll the beneficiary in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan if the beneficiary has failed to choose a plan and, where possible, to enroll beneficiaries in the low-income subsidy program under Medicare Part D or assist them in enrolling in that program.

Beneficiaries under the program established under this subsection shall be divided into the following 5 eligibility groups:

(A) Eligibility Group 1 shall consist of beneficiaries who are not eligible for Medicare Part D coverage and who are:

(i) disabled and under age 65; or

(ii) age 65 or older, with incomes over 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; or

(iii) age 65 or older, with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and not eligible for federally funded means-tested benefits due to immigration status.

(B) Eligibility Group 2 shall consist of beneficiaries otherwise described in Eligibility Group 1 but who are eligible for Medicare Part D coverage.

(C) Eligibility Group 3 shall consist of beneficiaries age 65 or older, with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, who are not barred from receiving federally funded means-tested benefits due to immigration status and are eligible for Medicare Part D coverage.

(D) Eligibility Group 4 shall consist of beneficiaries age 65 or older, with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, who are not barred from receiving federally funded means-tested benefits due to immigration status and are not eligible for Medicare Part D coverage.

If the State applies and receives federal approval for a waiver under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, persons in Eligibility Group 4 shall continue to receive benefits through the approved waiver, and Eligibility Group 4 may be expanded to include disabled persons under age 65 with incomes under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level who are not eligible for Medicare and who are not barred from receiving federally funded means-tested benefits due to immigration status.

(E) On and after January 1, 2007, Eligibility Group 5 shall consist of beneficiaries who are otherwise described in Eligibility Group 1 but are eligible for Medicare Part D and have a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS.

The program established under this subsection shall cover the cost of covered prescription drugs in excess of the beneficiary cost-sharing amounts set forth in this paragraph that are not covered by Medicare. In 2006, beneficiaries shall pay a co-payment of \$2 for each prescription of a generic drug and \$5 for each prescription of a brand-name drug. In future years, beneficiaries shall pay co-payments equal to the co-payments required under Medicare Part D for "other

low-income subsidy eligible individuals" pursuant to 42 CFR 423.782(b). For individuals in Eligibility Groups 1, 2, 3, and 4, once the program established under this subsection and Medicare combined have paid \$1,750 in a year for covered prescription drugs, the beneficiary shall pay 20% of the cost of each prescription in addition to the co-payments set forth in this paragraph. For individuals in Eligibility Group 5, once the program established under this subsection and Medicare combined have paid \$1,750 in a year for covered prescription drugs, the beneficiary shall pay 20% of the cost of each prescription in addition to the co-payments set forth in this paragraph unless the drug is included in the formulary of the Illinois AIDS Drug Assistance Program operated by the Illinois Department of Public Health. If the drug is included in the formulary of the Illinois AIDS Drug Assistance Program, individuals in Eligibility Group 5 shall continue to pay the co-payments set forth in this paragraph after the program established under this subsection and Medicare combined have paid \$1,750 in a year for covered prescription drugs.

For beneficiaries eligible for Medicare Part D coverage, the program established under this subsection shall pay 100% of the premiums charged by a qualified Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan for Medicare Part D basic prescription drug coverage, not including any late enrollment penalties. Qualified Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans may be limited by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to

those plans that sign a coordination agreement with the Department.

Notwithstanding Section 3.15, for purposes of the program established under this subsection, the term "covered prescription drug" has the following meanings:

For Eligibility Group 1, "covered prescription drug" means: (1) any cardiovascular agent or drug; (2) any insulin or other prescription drug used in the treatment of diabetes, including syringe and needles used to administer the insulin; (3) any prescription drug used in the treatment of arthritis; (4) any prescription drug used in the treatment of cancer; (5) any prescription drug used in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease; (6) any prescription drug used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease; (7) any prescription drug used in the treatment of glaucoma; (8) any prescription drug used in the treatment of lung disease and smoking-related illnesses; (9) any prescription drug used in the treatment of osteoporosis; and (10) any prescription drug used in the treatment of multiple sclerosis. The Department may add additional therapeutic classes by rule. The Department may adopt a preferred drug list within any of the classes of drugs described in items (1) through (10) of this paragraph. The specific drugs or therapeutic classes of covered prescription drugs shall be indicated by rule.

For Eligibility Group 2, "covered prescription drug"

means those drugs covered for Eligibility Group 1 that are also covered by the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan in which the beneficiary is enrolled.

For Eligibility Group 3, "covered prescription drug" means those drugs covered by the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan in which the beneficiary is enrolled.

For Eligibility Group 4, "covered prescription drug" means those drugs covered by the Medical Assistance Program under Article V of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

For Eligibility Group 5, "covered prescription drug" means: (1) those drugs covered for Eligibility Group 1 that are also covered by the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan in which the beneficiary is enrolled; and (2) those drugs included in the formulary of the Illinois AIDS Drug Assistance Program operated by the Illinois Department of Public Health that are also covered by the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan in which the beneficiary is enrolled.

An individual in Eligibility Group 3 or 4 may opt to receive a \$25 monthly payment in lieu of the direct coverage described in this subsection.

Any person otherwise eligible for pharmaceutical assistance under this subsection whose covered drugs are covered by any public program is ineligible for assistance under this subsection to the extent that the cost of those

drugs is covered by the other program.

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall establish by rule the methods by which it will provide for the coverage called for in this subsection. Those methods may include direct reimbursement to pharmacies or the payment of a capitated amount to Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans.

For a pharmacy to be reimbursed under the program established under this subsection, it must comply with rules adopted by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services regarding coordination of benefits with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans. A pharmacy may not charge a Medicare-enrolled beneficiary of the program established under this subsection more for a covered prescription drug than the appropriate Medicare cost-sharing less any payment from or on behalf of the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services or the Department on Aging, as appropriate, may adopt rules regarding applications, counting of income, proof of Medicare status, mandatory generic policies, and pharmacy reimbursement rates and any other rules necessary for the cost-efficient operation of the program established under this subsection.

(Source: P.A. 93-130, eff. 7-10-03; 94-86, eff. 1-1-06; 94-909, eff. 6-23-06.)

Section 35. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by changing Section 17A-1 as follows:

(720 ILCS 5/17A-1) (from Ch. 38, par. 17A-1)

Sec. 17A-1. Persons under deportation order; ineligible for benefits. An individual against whom a United States Immigration Judge has issued an order of deportation which has been affirmed by the Board of Immigration Review, as well as an individual who appeals such an order pending appeal, under paragraph 19 of Section 241(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act relating to persecution of others on account of race, religion, national origin or political opinion under the direction of or in association with the Nazi government of Germany or its allies, shall be ineligible for the following benefits authorized by State law:

(a) The homestead exemptions and homestead improvement exemption under Article 15 ~~Sections 15-170, 15-175, 15-176, and 15-180~~ of the Property Tax Code.

(b) Grants under the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act.

(c) The double income tax exemption conferred upon persons 65 years of age or older by Section 204 of the Illinois Income Tax Act.

(d) Grants provided by the Department on Aging.

(e) Reductions in vehicle registration fees under Section 3-806.3 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

(f) Free fishing and reduced fishing license fees under Sections 20-5 and 20-40 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code.

(g) Tuition free courses for senior citizens under the Senior Citizen Courses Act.

(h) Any benefits under the Illinois Public Aid Code.

(Source: P.A. 93-715, eff. 7-12-04.)

Section 40. The Plat Act is amended by changing Section 1 as follows:

(765 ILCS 205/1) (from Ch. 109, par. 1)

Sec. 1. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (b) of this Section whenever the owner of land subdivides it into 2 or more parts, any of which is less than 5 acres, he must have it surveyed and a subdivision plat thereof made by an Illinois Registered Land Surveyor, which plat must particularly describe and set forth all public streets, alleys, ways for public service facilities, ways for utility services and community antenna television systems, parks, playgrounds, school grounds or other public grounds, and all the tracts, parcels, lots or blocks, and numbering all such lots, blocks or parcels by progressive numbers, giving their precise dimensions. There shall be submitted simultaneously with the subdivision plat, a study or studies which shall show topographically and by profile the elevation of the land prior to the commencement of any change in elevations as a part of any phase of subdividing, and additionally, if it is contemplated that such elevations, or the flow of surface water

from such land, will be changed as a result of any portion of such subdivision development, then such study or studies shall also show such proposed changes in the elevations and the flow of surface water from such land. The topographical and profile studies required hereunder may be prepared as a subsidiary study or studies separate from, but of the same scale and size as the subdivision plat, and shall be prepared in such a manner as will permit the topographical study or studies to be used as overlays to the subdivision plat. The plat must show all angular and linear data along the exterior boundaries of the tract of land divided or subdivided, the names of all public streets and the width, course and extent of all public streets, alleys and ways for public service facilities. References must also be made upon the plat to known and permanent monuments from which future survey may be made and the surveyor must, at the time of making his survey, set in such manner that they will not be moved by frost, good and sufficient monuments marking the external boundaries of the tract to be divided or subdivided and must designate upon the plat the points where they may be found. These monuments must be placed at all corners, at each end of all curves, at the point where a curve changes its radius, at all angle points in any line and at all angle points along a meander line, the points to be not less than 20 feet back from the normal water elevation of a lake or from the bank of a stream, except that when such corners or points fall within a street, or proposed future street, the

monuments must be placed in the right of way line of the street. All internal boundaries, corners and points must be monumented in the field by like monuments as defined above. These monuments 2 of which must be of stone or reinforced concrete and must be set at the opposite extremities of the property platted, placed at all block corners, at each end of all curves, at the points where a curve changes its radius, and at all angle points in any line. All lots must be monumented in the field with 2 or more monuments.

The monuments must be furnished by the person for whom the survey is made and must be such that they will not be moved by frost. If any city, village or town has adopted an official plan, or part thereof, in the manner prescribed by law, the plat of land situated within the area affected thereby must conform to the official plan, or part thereof.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Section, the provisions of this Act do not apply and no subdivision plat is required in any of the following instances:

1. The division or subdivision of land into parcels or tracts of 5 acres or more in size which does not involve any new streets or easements of access;

2. The division of lots or blocks of less than 1 acre in any recorded subdivision which does not involve any new streets or easements of access;

3. The sale or exchange of parcels of land between owners of adjoining and contiguous land;

4. The conveyance of parcels of land or interests therein for use as a right of way for railroads or other public utility facilities and other pipe lines which does not involve any new streets or easements of access;

5. The conveyance of land owned by a railroad or other public utility which does not involve any new streets or easements of access;

6. The conveyance of land for highway or other public purposes or grants or conveyances relating to the dedication of land for public use or instruments relating to the vacation of land impressed with a public use;

7. Conveyances made to correct descriptions in prior conveyances.

8. The sale or exchange of parcels or tracts of land following the division into no more than 2 parts of a particular parcel or tract of land existing on July 17, 1959 and not involving any new streets or easements of access.

9. The sale of a single lot of less than 5 acres from a larger tract when a survey is made by an Illinois Registered Land Surveyor; provided, that this exemption shall not apply to the sale of any subsequent lots from the same larger tract of land, as determined by the dimensions and configuration of the larger tract on October 1, 1973, and provided also that this exemption does not invalidate any local requirements applicable to the subdivision of land.

10. The preparation of a plat for wind energy devices under

Section 10-620 of the Property Tax Code.

Nothing contained within the provisions of this Act shall prevent or preclude individual counties from establishing standards, ordinances, or specifications which reduce the acreage minimum to less than 5 acres, but not less than 2 acres, or supplementing the requirements contained herein when a survey is made by an Illinois Registered Land Surveyor and a plat thereof is recorded, under powers granted to them.

(c) However, if a plat is made by an Illinois Registered Surveyor of any parcel or tract of land otherwise exempt from the plat provisions of this Act pursuant to subsection (b) of this Section, such plat shall be recorded. It shall not be the responsibility of a recorder of deeds to determine whether the plat has been made or recorded under this subsection (c) prior to accepting a deed for recording.

(Source: P.A. 84-373.)

Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding Section 8.31 as follows:

(30 ILCS 805/8.31 new)

Sec. 8.31. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

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HB0664 Enrolled

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becoming law.