

1 AN ACT concerning the Department of Commerce and
2 Community Affairs.

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

5 Section 5. The Department of Commerce and Community
6 Affairs Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is
7 amended by changing Section 605-450 as follows:

8 (20 ILCS 605/605-450) (was 20 ILCS 605/46.19g)

9 Sec. 605-450. Community economic emergencies.

10 (a) Upon the recommendation of the Director, the
11 Governor may find that an economic emergency exists in a
12 designated Illinois community. The finding shall be based on
13 one or more of the following conditions:

14 (1) There has been a relocation or closing of
15 operations of a major private employer in the community.

16 (2) There has been a closing or relocation of a
17 major public employer in the community.

18 (3) A natural disaster has resulted in substantial
19 damage to the local economy.

20 (4) The community or a portion of it has been
21 declared a disaster area by the federal government.

22 (5) A decision by the federal or State government
23 or by a foreign government has done substantial damage to
24 the local economy.

25 (6) A high level of poverty or unemployment is
26 chronic in the community. For the purposes of this item
27 (6), a community is deemed to have a high level of
28 poverty if the percentage of its residents who have
29 incomes below the federal poverty level is equal to or
30 greater than the percentage of residents of the City of
31 East St. Louis who have incomes below the federal poverty

1 level. For the purposes of this item (6), a community is
2 deemed to have chronic unemployment if its average
3 unemployment rate for the 3 previous calendar years is
4 equal to or greater than the average unemployment rate
5 for the 3 previous calendar years in the City of East St.
6 Louis.

7 (b) Upon a finding by the Governor that an economic
8 emergency exists in a designated Illinois community, the
9 Governor shall convene an Economic Emergency Council. The
10 Council shall consist of 11 members as follows: the Director
11 of Commerce and Community Affairs, ex officio, the Director
12 of the Illinois Development Finance Authority, ex officio,
13 the Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority,
14 ex officio, and 8 members representing the designated
15 community appointed by the Governor with the advice and
16 consent of the Senate. Of the 8 members appointed by the
17 Governor, 4 shall be representatives of business and finance,
18 2 shall be representatives of labor, and 2 shall be
19 representatives of education. Each member of the General
20 Assembly whose legislative district or representative
21 district lies in whole or in part within the designated
22 community shall also be a member of the Council, ex officio.
23 Members of a Council shall serve without compensation but may
24 be reimbursed for their reasonable and necessary expenses
25 incurred in the performance of their duties.

26 (c) An Economic Emergency Council shall develop a plan
27 to address the designated community's economic needs and
28 shall recommend that plan to the Governor and to the General
29 Assembly for further resolution and appropriation. The plan
30 may include extending enterprise zone tax incentives, making
31 economic development business loans and grants, making
32 infrastructure rehabilitation loans and grants, extending job
33 training and retraining assistance, extending tax increment
34 financing, and other appropriate economic programs or

1 incentives.

2 (d) The Illinois Economic Emergency Assistance Fund is
3 created as a special fund in the State treasury for the
4 purpose of channeling moneys to designated communities upon
5 further resolution and appropriation by the General
6 Assembly. In addition to amounts that may be appropriated to
7 the fund, gifts or grants from any legal source may be
8 deposited into the fund. Any fees or other charges collected
9 by the Department in connection with programs under this
10 Section shall also be deposited into the fund.

11 (Source: P.A. 91-239, eff. 1-1-00.)