

1 AN ACT concerning urban assistance.

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

4 Section 5. The Department of Commerce and Community  
5 Affairs Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is  
6 amended by changing Section 605-400 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-400) (was 20 ILCS 605/46.19c)

8 Sec. 605-400. Office of Urban Assistance. The Department  
9 shall provide for, staff, and administer an Office of Urban  
10 Assistance, which shall plan and coordinate existing State  
11 programs designed to aid and stimulate the economic growth of  
12 depressed urban areas. Among other duties assigned by the  
13 Department, the Office shall have the following duties:

14 (1) To coordinate the activities of the following  
15 units and programs of the Department and all other  
16 present and future units and programs of the Department  
17 that impact depressed urban areas to the extent that they  
18 impact upon or concern urban economics:

- 19 (A) Enterprise Zone Program.
- 20 (B) Small Business Development Center Program.
- 21 (C) Programs that assist in the development of  
22 community infrastructure.
- 23 (D) Illinois House Energy Assistance Program.
- 24 (E) Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance  
25 Program.
- 26 (F) Programs financed with Community Services Block  
27 Grant funds.
- 28 (G) Industrial Training Program.
- 29 (H) Technology Transfer and Innovation Program.
- 30 (I) Rental Rehabilitation Program.
- 31 (J) Displaced Homemaker Program.

1           (K) Programs under the federal Job Training  
2 Partnership Act.

3           The Office shall convene quarterly meetings of  
4 representatives who are designated by the Department to  
5 represent the units and programs listed in items (A) through  
6 (K).

7           (2) To gather information concerning any State or  
8 federal program that is designed to revitalize or assist  
9 depressed urban areas in the State and to provide this  
10 information to public and private entities upon request.

11           (3) To promote and assist in developing urban inner city  
12 industrial parks.

13           (4) To promote economic parity and the autonomy of  
14 citizens of this State through promoting and assisting the  
15 development of urban inner city small business development  
16 centers, urban youth unemployment projects, small business  
17 incubators, family resource centers, urban developments  
18 banks, self managed urban businesses, and plans for urban  
19 infrastructure projects over the next 25 years.

20           (5) To recommend to the General Assembly and the  
21 Governor economic policies for urban areas and planning  
22 models that will result in the reconstruction of the economy  
23 of urban areas, especially those urban areas where  
24 economically and socially disadvantaged people live.

25           (6) To make recommendations to the General Assembly and  
26 the Governor on the establishment of urban economic policy in  
27 the areas of (i) housing, (ii) scientific research, (iii)  
28 urban youth unemployment, (iv) business incubators and family  
29 resource centers in urban inner cities, and (v) alternative  
30 energy resource development, and the need thereof, in urban  
31 areas as part of the department's 5-year plan for economic  
32 development.

33           (7) To make any rules and regulations necessary to carry  
34 out its responsibilities under the Civil Administrative Code

1 of Illinois.

2 (8) To encourage new industrial enterprises to locate in  
3 urban areas (i) through educational promotions that point out  
4 the opportunities of any such area as a commercial and  
5 industrial field of opportunity and (ii) by the solicitation  
6 of industrial enterprises; and to do other acts that, in the  
7 judgment of the Office, are necessary and proper in fostering  
8 and promoting the industrial development and economic welfare  
9 of any urban area. The Office, however, shall have no power  
10 to require reports from or to regulate any business.

11 (9) To accept grants, loans, or appropriations from the  
12 federal government or the State, or any agency or  
13 instrumentality thereof, to be used for the operating  
14 expenses of the Office or for any purposes of the Office,  
15 including the making of direct loans or grants of those funds  
16 for public, private, experimental, or cooperative housing,  
17 scientific research, urban inner city industrial parks, urban  
18 youth employment projects, business incubators, urban  
19 infrastructure development, alternative energy resource  
20 development, community facilities needed in urban areas, and  
21 any other purpose related to the revitalization of urban  
22 areas.

23 (10) To establish within each local branch of the Office  
24 a local board of directors to act as an advisory board to the  
25 Department. Each local board of directors shall consist of 9  
26 members appointed by the Director of the Department. Five  
27 members of the local board of directors shall be from private  
28 industry and 4 members shall be from community-based  
29 organizations and community leadership.

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

31 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
32 becoming law.