

1 AN ACT in relation to developmental disabilities.

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

4 Section 5. The Developmental Disability and Mental
5 Disability Services Act is amended by adding Article 10 as
6 follows:

7 (405 ILCS 80/Art. 10 heading new)

8 Article 10. Workforce Task Force for Persons with Disabilities

9 (405 ILCS 80/10-5 new)

10 Sec. 10-5. Task force created. A workforce task force
11 for persons with disabilities is created. The task force
12 shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) Two members of the Senate, appointed one each by
14 the President of the Senate and the Minority Leader of
15 the Senate.

16 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives,
17 appointed one each by the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of
19 Representatives.

20 (3) Three members appointed by the Secretary of
21 Human Services or his or her designee, one each
22 representing the Office of Developmental Disabilities,
23 the Office of Rehabilitation Services, and the Office of
24 Mental Health within the Department.

25 (4) One member representing the Illinois Council on
26 Developmental Disabilities, selected by the Council.

27 (5) One member appointed by the Director of Aging or
28 his or her designee.

29 (6) One member appointed by the Director of
30 Employment Security or his or her designee.

1 (7) One member appointed by the Director of Commerce
2 and Community Affairs or his or her designee.

3 (8) Members representing private businesses,
4 appointed by the Secretary of Human Services.

5 (405 ILCS 80/10-10 new)

6 Sec. 10-10. Task force's duties.

7 (a) The task force shall review, assess, and develop
8 recommendations and an implementation plan to address the
9 following issues:

10 (1) Identification of State-specific barriers that
11 prevent persons with disabilities from enjoying the same
12 employment level as persons without those disabilities.

13 (2) Identification of strategies that create parity
14 in the unemployment rate between persons with
15 disabilities and persons without those disabilities.

16 (3) Identification of issues that impede the
17 training, hiring, and retention of personal care
18 assistants to help persons with disabilities remain in
19 their own homes and obtain employment both in and outside
20 their homes.

21 (4) Identification of models or strategies that
22 foster shared arrangements between persons with
23 disabilities in terms of personal care assistance and
24 shared housing.

25 (b) In identifying the issues set forth in subsection
26 (a), especially concerning the retention of personal care
27 assistants and direct care workers for individuals with
28 developmental disabilities, the task force shall employ
29 methods that include a review of other states' practices and
30 experiences in developing financial and non-financial
31 incentives that would reduce Illinois' high employment
32 turnover rate for persons with disabilities. These
33 incentives may include, but need not be limited to,

1 forgiveness of student loans, implementation of a benefits
2 program, and the offering of community-college-level courses.

3 (405 ILCS 80/10-15 new)

4 Sec. 10-15. High school students; transition study.

5 (a) The task force shall do the following:

6 (1) Conduct a study of the outcomes of secondary
7 education programs for students with disabilities.

8 (2) Identify gaps in services that may exist for
9 students with disabilities transitioning out of their
10 secondary education.

11 (3) Identify strategies to narrow any gaps in
12 services that may exist.

13 (b) The task force shall designate the staff who are to
14 conduct the study under subdivision (a)(1).

15 Article 99. Effective Date.

16 Section 99-99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
17 becoming law.