

1 AN ACT in relation to schools.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 14-7.03 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/14-7.03) (from Ch. 122, par. 14-7.03)

7 Sec. 14-7.03. Special Education Classes for Children from  
8 Orphanages, Foster Family Homes, Children's Homes, or in  
9 State Housing Units. If a school district maintains special  
10 education classes on the site of orphanages and children's  
11 homes, or if children from the orphanages, children's homes,  
12 foster family homes, other State agencies, or State  
13 residential units for children attend classes for children  
14 with disabilities in which the school district is a  
15 participating member of a joint agreement, or if the children  
16 from the orphanages, children's homes, foster family homes,  
17 other State agencies, or State residential units attend  
18 classes for the children with disabilities maintained by the  
19 school district, then reimbursement shall be paid to eligible  
20 districts in accordance with the provisions of this Section  
21 by the Comptroller as directed by the State Superintendent of  
22 Education. If a child who was eligible to receive services  
23 under this Section is adopted and that child continues to  
24 receive support services from the Department of Children and  
25 Family Services, then the child shall continue to be eligible  
26 to receive services under this Section.

27 The amount of tuition for such children under this  
28 Section shall be determined by the actual cost of maintaining  
29 such classes, using the per capita cost formula set forth in  
30 Section 14-7.01, such program and cost to be pre-approved by  
31 the State Superintendent of Education.

1           On forms prepared by the State Superintendent of  
2 Education, the district shall certify to the regional  
3 superintendent the following:

4           (1) The name of the home or State residential unit  
5 with the name of the owner or proprietor and address of  
6 those maintaining it;

7           (2) That no service charges or other payments  
8 authorized by law were collected in lieu of taxes  
9 therefrom or on account thereof during either of the  
10 calendar years included in the school year for which  
11 claim is being made;

12           (3) The number of children qualifying under this  
13 Act in special education classes for instruction on the  
14 site of the orphanages and children's homes;

15           (4) The number of children attending special  
16 education classes for children with disabilities in which  
17 the district is a participating member of a special  
18 education joint agreement;

19           (5) The number of children attending special  
20 education classes for children with disabilities  
21 maintained by the district;

22           (6) The computed amount of tuition payment claimed  
23 as due, as approved by the State Superintendent of  
24 Education, for maintaining these classes.

25           If a school district makes a claim for reimbursement  
26 under Section 18-3 or 18-4 of this Act it shall not include  
27 in any claim filed under this Section a claim for such  
28 children. Payments authorized by law, including State or  
29 federal grants for education of children included in this  
30 Section, shall be deducted in determining the tuition amount.

31           Nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to prohibit  
32 reimbursement for the tuition of children placed in for  
33 profit facilities. Private facilities shall provide adequate  
34 space at the facility for special education classes provided

1 by a school district or joint agreement for children with  
2 disabilities who are residents of the facility at no cost to  
3 the school district or joint agreement upon request of the  
4 school district or joint agreement. If such a private  
5 facility provides space at no cost to the district or joint  
6 agreement for special education classes provided to children  
7 with disabilities who are residents of the facility, the  
8 district or joint agreement shall not include any costs for  
9 the use of those facilities in its claim for reimbursement.

10 Reimbursement for tuition may include the cost of  
11 providing summer school programs for children with severe and  
12 profound disabilities served under this Section. Claims for  
13 that reimbursement shall be filed by November 1 and shall be  
14 paid on or before December 15 from appropriations made for  
15 the purposes of this Section.

16 The State Board of Education shall establish such rules  
17 and regulations as may be necessary to implement the  
18 provisions of this Section.

19 Claims filed on behalf of programs operated under this  
20 Section housed in a jail or detention center shall be on an  
21 individual student basis only for eligible students with  
22 disabilities. These claims shall be in accordance with  
23 applicable rules.

24 Each district claiming reimbursement for a program  
25 operated as a group program shall have an approved budget on  
26 file with the State Board of Education prior to the  
27 initiation of the program's operation. On September 30,  
28 December 31, and March 31, the State Board of Education shall  
29 voucher payments to group programs based upon the approved  
30 budget during the year of operation. Final claims for group  
31 payments shall be filed on or before July 15. Final claims  
32 for group programs received at the State Board of Education  
33 on or before June 15 shall be vouchered by June 30. Final  
34 claims received at the State Board of Education between June

1 16 and July 15 shall be vouchered by August 30. Claims for  
2 group programs received after July 15 shall not be honored.

3 Each district claiming reimbursement for individual  
4 students shall have the eligibility of those students  
5 verified by the State Board of Education. On September 30,  
6 December 31, and March 31, the State Board of Education shall  
7 voucher payments for individual students based upon an  
8 estimated cost calculated from the prior year's claim. Final  
9 claims for individual students for the regular school term  
10 must be received at the State Board of Education by July 15.  
11 Claims for individual students received after July 15 shall  
12 not be honored. Final claims for individual students shall be  
13 vouchered by August 30.

14 Reimbursement shall be made based upon approved group  
15 programs or individual students. The State Superintendent of  
16 Education shall direct the Comptroller to pay a specified  
17 amount to the district by the 30th day of September,  
18 December, March, June, or August, respectively. However,  
19 notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section or the  
20 School Code, beginning with Fiscal Year 1994 and each fiscal  
21 year thereafter, if the amount appropriated for any fiscal  
22 year is less than the amount required for purposes of this  
23 Section, the amount required to eliminate any insufficient  
24 reimbursement for each district claim under this Section  
25 shall be reimbursed on August 30 of the next fiscal year.  
26 Payments required to eliminate any insufficiency for prior  
27 fiscal year claims shall be made before any claims are paid  
28 for the current fiscal year.

29 The claim of a school district otherwise eligible to be  
30 reimbursed in accordance with Section 14-12.01 for the  
31 1976-77 school year but for this amendatory Act of 1977 shall  
32 not be paid unless the district ceases to maintain such  
33 classes for one entire school year.

34 If a school district's current reimbursement payment for

1 the 1977-78 school year only is less than the prior year's  
2 reimbursement payment owed, the district shall be paid the  
3 amount of the difference between the payments in addition to  
4 the current reimbursement payment, and the amount so paid  
5 shall be subtracted from the amount of prior year's  
6 reimbursement payment owed to the district.

7 Regional superintendents may operate special education  
8 classes for children from orphanages, foster family homes,  
9 children's homes or State housing units located within the  
10 educational services region upon consent of the school board  
11 otherwise so obligated. In electing to assume the powers and  
12 duties of a school district in providing and maintaining such  
13 a special education program, the regional superintendent may  
14 enter into joint agreements with other districts and may  
15 contract with public or private schools or the orphanage,  
16 foster family home, children's home or State housing unit for  
17 provision of the special education program. The regional  
18 superintendent exercising the powers granted under this  
19 Section shall claim the reimbursement authorized by this  
20 Section directly from the State Board of Education.

21 Any child who is not a resident of Illinois who is placed  
22 in a child welfare institution, private facility, foster  
23 family home, State operated program, orphanage or children's  
24 home shall have the payment for his educational tuition and  
25 any related services assured by the placing agent.

26 Commencing July 1, 1992, for each disabled student who is  
27 placed residentially by a State agency or the courts for care  
28 or custody or both care and custody, welfare, medical or  
29 mental health treatment or both medical and mental health  
30 treatment, rehabilitation, and protection, whether placed  
31 there on, before, or after July 1, 1992, the costs for  
32 educating the student are eligible for reimbursement under  
33 this Section providing the placing agency or court has  
34 notified the appropriate school district authorities of the

1 status of student residency where applicable prior to or upon  
2 placement.

3 The district of residence of the parent, guardian, or  
4 disabled student as defined in Sections 14-1.11 and 14-1.11a  
5 is responsible for the actual costs of the student's special  
6 education program and is eligible for reimbursement under  
7 this Section when placement is made by a State agency or the  
8 courts. Payments shall be made by the resident district to  
9 the district wherein the facility is located no less than  
10 once per quarter unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the  
11 parties.

12 When a dispute arises over the determination of the  
13 district of residence, the district or districts may appeal  
14 the decision in writing to the State Superintendent of  
15 Education. The decision of the State Superintendent of  
16 Education shall be final.

17 In the event a district does not make a tuition payment  
18 to another district that is providing the special education  
19 program and services, the State Board of Education shall  
20 immediately withhold 125% of the then remaining annual  
21 tuition cost from the State aid or categorical aid payment  
22 due to the school district that is determined to be the  
23 resident school district. All funds withheld by the State  
24 Board of Education shall immediately be forwarded to the  
25 school district where the student is being served.

26 When a child eligible for services under this Section  
27 14-7.03 must be placed in a nonpublic facility, that facility  
28 shall meet the programmatic requirements of Section 14-7.02  
29 and its regulations, and the educational services shall be  
30 funded only in accordance with this Section 14-7.03.

31 (Source: P.A. 89-235, eff. 8-4-95; 89-397, eff. 8-20-95;  
32 89-698, eff. 1-14-97; 90-463, eff. 8-17-97; 90-644, eff.  
33 7-24-98.)

1           Section 99.   Effective date.  This Act takes effect on  
2   July 1, 2002.