

1 AN ACT concerning children's advocacy centers.

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

4 Section 5. The Children's Advocacy Center Act is amended  
5 by changing Sections 4, 5, and 7 and by adding Section 7.1 as  
6 follows:

7 (55 ILCS 80/4) (from Ch. 23, par. 1804)

8 Sec. 4. Children's Advocacy Center.

9 ~~(a) Subject to the referendum provisions of this Act,~~ A  
10 Children's Advocacy Center ("Center") may be established to  
11 coordinate the activities of the various agencies involved in  
12 the investigation, prosecution and treatment referral of  
13 child sexual abuse. The Advisory Board shall serve as the  
14 governing board for the Center. The operation of the Center  
15 may be funded through grants, contracts, or any other  
16 available sources. In counties in which a referendum has been  
17 adopted under Section 5 of this Act, the Advisory Board, and,  
18 by the majority vote of its members, shall submit a proposed  
19 annual budget for the operation of the Center to the county  
20 board, ~~which.~~ ~~The county board~~ shall appropriate funds and  
21 levy a tax sufficient to operate the Center. The Each county  
22 board in each county in which a referendum has been adopted  
23 shall establish a Children's Advocacy Center Fund and shall  
24 deposit the net proceeds of the tax authorized by Section 6  
25 of this Act in that Fund, which shall be kept separate from  
26 all other county funds and shall only be used for the  
27 purposes of this Act.

28 (b) The Advisory Board shall pay from the Children's  
29 Advocacy Center Fund or from other available funds the  
30 salaries of all employees of the Center, ~~all of whom shall be~~  
31 ~~county employees,~~ and the expenses of acquiring a physical

1 plant for the Center by construction or lease and maintaining  
 2 the Center, including the expenses of administering the  
 3 coordination of the investigation, prosecution and treatment  
 4 referral of child sexual abuse under the provisions of the  
 5 protocol adopted pursuant to this Act.

6 (c) Every Center shall include at least the following  
 7 components:

8 (1) An interdisciplinary, coordinated systems  
 9 approach to the investigation of child sexual abuse which  
 10 shall include, at a minimum;

11 (i) an interagency notification procedure;

12 (ii) a dispute resolution process between the  
 13 involved agencies when a conflict arises on how to  
 14 proceed with the investigation of a case;

15 (iii) a policy on interagency decision-making;

16 and

17 (iv) a description of the role each agency has  
 18 in the investigation of the case;

19 (2) A safe, separate space with assigned personnel  
 20 designated for the investigation and coordination of  
 21 child sexual abuse cases;

22 (3) An interdisciplinary case review process for  
 23 purposes of decision-making, problem solving, systems  
 24 coordination, and information sharing;

25 (4) A comprehensive tracking system to receive and  
 26 coordinate information concerning child sexual abuse  
 27 cases from each participating agency;

28 (5) Interdisciplinary specialized training for all  
 29 professionals involved with the victims and families of  
 30 child sexual abuse cases; and

31 (6) A process for evaluating the effectiveness of  
 32 the Center and its operations.

33 (d) In the event that a Center has been established as  
 34 provided in this Section, the Advisory Board of that Center

1 may, by a majority of the members, authorize the Center to  
2 coordinate the activities of the various agencies involved in  
3 the investigation, prosecution, and treatment referral of  
4 serious child physical abuse cases. The Advisory Board shall  
5 provide for the financial support of these activities in a  
6 manner similar to that set out in subsections (a) and (b) of  
7 this Section and shall be allowed to submit a budget that  
8 includes support for physical abuse and neglect activities to  
9 the County Board, which shall appropriate funds that may be  
10 available under Section 5 of this Act.

11 (e) The Illinois Child Advocacy Commission may also  
12 provide technical assistance and guidance to the Advisory  
13 Boards and shall make a single annual grant for the purpose  
14 of providing technical support and assistance for advocacy  
15 center development in Illinois whenever an appropriation is  
16 made by the General Assembly specifically for that purpose.  
17 The grant may be made only to an Illinois not-for-profit  
18 corporation that qualifies for tax treatment under Section  
19 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that has a voting  
20 membership consisting of children's advocacy centers. The  
21 grant may be spent on staff, office space, equipment, and  
22 other expenses necessary for the development of resource  
23 materials and other forms of technical support and  
24 assistance. The grantee shall report to the Commission on  
25 the specific uses of grant funds by no later than October 1  
26 of each year and shall retain supporting documentation for a  
27 period of at least 5 years after the corresponding report is  
28 filed.

29 (Source: P.A. 91-158, eff. 7-16-99.)

30 (55 ILCS 80/5) (from Ch. 23, par. 1805)  
31 Sec. 5. Referendum.

32 (a) Whenever a petition signed by 1% of the electors who  
33 voted in the last general election in any county is presented

1 to the county board requesting the submission of the  
 2 proposition whether an annual tax of not to exceed .004% of  
 3 the value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of  
 4 Revenue, of all taxable property in the county shall be  
 5 levied for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a  
 6 Children's Advocacy Center, the county board shall adopt a  
 7 resolution for the submission of the proposition to the  
 8 electors at the next regular election held in the county in  
 9 accordance with the general election law.

10 (b) Upon the adoption and certification of the  
 11 resolution, the proposition shall be submitted at the next  
 12 regular election held in the county. The proposition shall be  
 13 in substantially the following form: "Shall an annual tax of  
 14 not to exceed ..... per cent be levied in .....  
 15 County for the purpose of establishing and maintaining  
 16 Children's Advocacy Center to serve the county?"

17 (c) If a majority of the electors of the county voting  
 18 on the proposition vote in favor thereof, the proposition  
 19 shall be deemed adopted.

20 (d) The adoption of a referendum is not required to  
 21 establish a Children's Advocacy Center if the Center may be  
 22 or is operated with funds other than the proceeds of the  
 23 annual tax that is authorized by referendum.

24 (Source: P.A. 86-276.)

25 (55 ILCS 80/7) (from Ch. 23, par. 1807)

26 Sec. 7. Discontinuance. (a) Upon a petition signed by 1%  
 27 of the electors who voted in the last general election in a  
 28 county which has levied and collected a tax for Children's  
 29 Advocacy Center purposes under this Act being presented to  
 30 the county board, requesting that the tax for Children's  
 31 Advocacy Center purposes be discontinued, the county board  
 32 shall adopt a resolution providing for the submission of the  
 33 proposition to the electors of the county in the same manner

1 as provided for the submission of the proposition for the  
2 levy of the tax.

3 (b) Upon the adoption and certification of the  
4 resolution, the proposition shall be submitted at the next  
5 regular election held in the county. The proposition shall be  
6 in substantially the following form: "Shall the tax for the  
7 purpose of establishing and maintaining a Children's Advocacy  
8 Center be discontinued?"

9 (c) If a majority of the electors of the county voting  
10 upon the proposition vote in favor thereof, the proposition  
11 shall be deemed adopted, and the tax shall no longer be  
12 levied or collected in the county. Any monies remaining in  
13 the Children's Advocacy Center Fund in the county shall be  
14 used to pay the remaining expenses of the Center, including  
15 expenses of winding up its operations if it is discontinued  
16 by the Advisory Board. In that case, after all expenses of  
17 the Center have been paid, any remaining monies in the Fund  
18 shall be paid into the general fund for county purposes in  
19 the county treasury.

20 (Source: P.A. 86-276.)

21 (55 ILCS 80/7.1 new)

22 Sec. 7.1. The changes made by this amendatory Act of the  
23 92nd General Assembly are intended to be declarations of  
24 existing law and are not intended to be a new enactment.

25 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
26 becoming law.