

1 AN ACT concerning economic development.

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 Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is
6 amended by adding Section 605-927 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-927 new)

8 Sec. 605-927. Grants to local economic development
9 organizations.

10 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Department must develop a
11 program to make grants to local development organizations.
12 Under this program, a county or municipality may apply to the
13 Department for a grant to be awarded to a local development
14 organization in that county or municipality for the purpose of
15 fostering local or regional economic development. A local
16 development organization is not eligible to receive grant
17 moneys under this Section if it has publicly endorsed any
18 political candidate or if it distributes political
19 questionnaires. Organizations receiving funds under this
20 Section may be required to submit to audits by the Department.
21 Documents produced under the grant program are subject to the
22 provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

23 (b) For purposes of this Section, "local development

1 organization" means a private or public entity organized for
2 the purpose of the economic development within a municipality,
3 county, or region of the State.

4 (c) All grant awards under this Section are subject to
5 appropriation and may be used for any of the following:

6 (1) expenses related to the start-up or expansion of a
7 local development organization;

8 (2) local or regional economic development planning
9 and related studies; and

10 (3) any other specific use authorized by the Department
11 relating to the start-up or expansion of and economic
12 planning by a local economic development organization.

13 (d) Notwithstanding any other rulemaking authority that
14 may exist, neither the Governor nor any agency or agency head
15 under the jurisdiction of the Governor has any authority to
16 make or promulgate rules to implement or enforce the provisions
17 of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly. If,
18 however, the Governor believes that rules are necessary to
19 implement or enforce the provisions of this amendatory Act of
20 the 95th General Assembly, the Governor may suggest rules to
21 the General Assembly by filing them with the Clerk of the House
22 and the Secretary of the Senate and by requesting that the
23 General Assembly authorize such rulemaking by law, enact those
24 suggested rules into law, or take any other appropriate action
25 in the General Assembly's discretion. Nothing contained in this
26 amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly shall be

1 interpreted to grant rulemaking authority under any other
2 Illinois statute where such authority is not otherwise
3 explicitly given. For the purposes of this subsection, "rules"
4 is given the meaning contained in Section 1-70 of the Illinois
5 Administrative Procedure Act, and "agency" and "agency head"
6 are given the meanings contained in Sections 1-20 and 1-25 of
7 the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act to the extent that
8 such definitions apply to agencies or agency heads under the
9 jurisdiction of the Governor.

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
11 1, 2009.