AN ACT in relation to courts.

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

Section 5. The Court Reporters Act is amended by adding Sections 8.2 and 8.5 as follows:

(705 ILCS 70/8.2 new)

Sec. 8.2. Supreme Court; collective bargaining. The Supreme Court shall collectively bargain over wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment of all persons employed as court reporters in this State. The Supreme Court shall recognize an exclusive bargaining representative of persons employed as court reporters in this State, if that representative makes a showing, through an election or otherwise, that it represents a majority of the court reporters, in accordance with procedures for verifying majority status established by the Court.

(705 ILCS 70/8.5 new)

Sec. 8.5. Advisory arbitration.

- (a) All matters concerning wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment of court reporters are subject to advisory, non-binding arbitration.
- (b) Any party to a collective bargaining agreement with the exclusive bargaining representative chosen under Section 8.2 may request that any matter concerning wages, hours, or terms and conditions of employment of court reporters shall be submitted to advisory, non-binding arbitration and that the Supreme Court shall appoint arbitrators. Upon receiving such a request, the Court shall appoint a panel of one or more arbitrators and submit the matter to the panel for advisory, non-binding arbitration. The Court shall consult

with the parties in determining acceptable arbitrators.

- (c) Arbitrators appointed by the Supreme Court under this Section are entitled to compensation and to reimbursement for their reasonable expenses actually incurred in performing their duties, as provided by rules adopted by the Court. Arbitrators' compensation and reimbursement shall be paid from moneys appropriated for that purpose.
- (d) The Supreme Court shall create a roster of arbitrators who are available and qualified for appointment under this Section, as provided by rules adopted by the Court.

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