

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Secretary of State Act is amended by adding
5 Section 38 as follows:

6 (15 ILCS 305/38 new)

7 Sec. 38. Blue Envelope Program.

8 (a) The Secretary of State, in consultation with a
9 nonprofit organization that advocates for autistic individuals
10 in this State, shall establish a program to be known as the
11 Blue Envelope Program through which the Office of the
12 Secretary of State shall design and make publicly available
13 blue envelopes that may be used by individuals who have been
14 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder to hold documents
15 required for the operation of a motor vehicle, including, but
16 not limited to, the individual's driver's license and
17 insurance card.

18 (b) The envelopes designed and made publicly available
19 under subsection (a) shall:

20 (1) provide written information on the outside of the
21 envelope that identifies the holder of the envelope as an
22 individual who has been diagnosed with autism spectrum
23 disorder;

1 (2) provide written guidance to assist law enforcement
2 officers in effectively communicating with an individual
3 who has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

4 (3) include an area on the envelope where the
5 individual may provide emergency contact information.

6 (c) The Office of the Secretary of State shall make the
7 envelopes designed under subsection (a) publicly available at
8 Driver Services facilities and the Illinois State Library.
9 Upon request, the Secretary shall distribute the developed
10 envelopes to State and local law enforcement agencies, fire
11 departments, and libraries.

12 (d) An individual diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder
13 may voluntarily participate in the program established under
14 this Section. Any information provided on the outside of the
15 envelope shall be used solely to support safe and effective
16 communication during interactions with first responders and
17 law enforcement officers and shall not be entered into any
18 federal, State, or local database. This subsection shall not
19 be construed to prohibit the issuance of a citation under
20 Section 6-308 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

21 (e) The Secretary of State may adopt rules to implement
22 and administer this Section.