

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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 Section  
5 10-20.9a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a)  
7 Sec. 10-20.9a. Final grade; promotion.

8 (a) Teachers shall administer the approved marking system  
9 or other approved means of evaluating pupil progress. The  
10 teacher shall maintain the responsibility and right to  
11 determine grades and other evaluations of students within the  
12 grading policies of the district based upon his or her  
13 professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any  
14 given subject area or activity for which he or she is  
15 responsible. District policy shall provide the procedure and  
16 reasons by and for which a grade may be changed; provided that  
17 no grade or evaluation shall be changed without notification  
18 to the teacher concerning the nature and reasons for such  
19 change. If such a change is made, the person making the change  
20 shall assume such responsibility for determining the grade or  
21 evaluation, and shall initial such change.

22 (b) School districts shall not promote students to the  
23 next higher grade level based upon age or any other social

1 reasons not related to the academic performance of the  
2 students. On or before September 1, 1998, school boards shall  
3 adopt and enforce a policy on promotion as they deem necessary  
4 to ensure that students meet local goals and objectives and  
5 can perform at the expected grade level prior to promotion.  
6 Decisions to promote or retain students in any classes shall  
7 be based on successful completion of the curriculum,  
8 attendance, performance based on the assessments required  
9 under Section 2-3.64a-5 of this Code, the Iowa Test of Basic  
10 Skills, or other testing or any other criteria established by  
11 the school board. Students determined by the local district to  
12 not qualify for promotion to the next higher grade shall be  
13 provided remedial assistance, which may include, but shall not  
14 be limited to, a summer bridge program of no less than 90  
15 hours, tutorial sessions, increased or concentrated  
16 instructional time, modifications to instructional materials,  
17 and retention in grade.

18 (c) No public high school of a school district shall  
19 withhold a student's grades, transcripts, or diploma because  
20 of an unpaid balance on the student's school account.

21 (Source: P.A. 98-972, eff. 8-15-14.)

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