

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 adding Section
5 2-3.25o as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25o)

7 Sec. 2-3.25o. Non-public elementary and secondary
8 schools; voluntary registration and recognition.

9 (a) Voluntary program. In order to ensure that all
10 Illinois students and teachers have the opportunity to enroll
11 and work in State-approved educational institutions and
12 programs, the State Board of Education shall provide for the
13 voluntary registration and recognition of non-public
14 elementary and secondary schools.

15 (b) Registration. All non-public elementary and
16 secondary schools in the State of Illinois may voluntarily
17 register with the State Board of Education on an annual
18 basis. Registration shall be completed in conformance with
19 procedures prescribed by the State Board of Education.
20 Information required for registration shall include
21 assurances of compliance (i) with federal and State laws
22 regarding health examination and immunization, attendance,
23 length of term, and nondiscrimination and (ii) with
24 applicable fire and health safety requirements.

25 (c) Recognition. All non-public elementary and
26 secondary schools in the State of Illinois may voluntarily
27 seek the status of "Non-public School Recognition" from the
28 State Board of Education. This status may be obtained by
29 compliance with administrative guidelines and review
30 procedures as prescribed by the State Board of Education. The
31 guidelines and procedures must recognize that some of the

1 aims and the financial bases of non-public schools are
2 different from public schools and will not be identical to
3 those for public schools, nor will they be more burdensome.
4 The guidelines and procedures must also recognize the
5 diversity of non-public schools and shall not impinge upon
6 the noneducational relationships between those schools and
7 their clientele.

8 (d) Public purposes. The provisions of this Section are
9 in the public interest, for the public benefit, and serve
10 secular public purposes.

11 (e) Definition. For purposes of this Section, a
12 non-public school means any non-profit, non-home-based, and
13 non-public elementary or secondary school that is in
14 compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and
15 attendance at which satisfies the requirements of Section
16 26-1 of this Code.

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