

1 AN ACT creating a commission to study the problems and
2 organic laws pertaining to local government.

3 WHEREAS, Many of the local governmental units in the State
4 of Illinois were established under provisions of the Illinois
5 Constitution of 1870; and

6 WHEREAS, There have been rapid changes in the population of
7 Illinois in numbers, in concentration, and in movement, as well
8 as vast economic, social, and technological changes, that
9 strain the ability of Illinois local governments adequately to
10 furnish necessary services; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois local governments were conceived to
12 serve a rural society; in areas not experiencing the impact of
13 modern changes, they may be adequate, but in areas of great
14 change, notably the urban areas, they are not sufficiently
15 flexible, do not have adequate powers and financing, and are
16 not responsive to present-day needs in transportation, health,
17 water supply, water pollution, air pollution, recreation,
18 disposal of sewage, and disposal of refuse; and

19 WHEREAS, The inadequacies in Illinois local governments
20 have resulted in the creation of numerous functional local
21 governments all competing for financial and jurisdictional
22 support from the same area; therefore,

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

25 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Local
26 Government Consolidation Commission Act.

27 Section 5. Commission; creation; members. There is created
28 a Commission on Local Government, to consist of 17 members, 3
29 to be members of the Senate appointed by the President of the
30 Senate, 3 to be members of the Senate appointed by the Senate
31 Minority Leader, 3 to be members of the House of
32 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, 3 to be

1 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the House
2 Minority Leader, and 5 to be citizens of the State appointed by
3 the Governor. Of the members appointed by the Governor, not
4 more than 3 shall be affiliated with the same political party.

5 Section 10. Study; recommendations. The Commission shall
6 make a survey of the entire structure of local governments and
7 of their organization, powers, jurisdiction, and functions.
8 Among other things, and without limiting its activities, the
9 Commission shall:

10 (1) Study all laws governing the organization, powers,
11 jurisdiction, and functions of local governments.

12 (2) Study the inter-relationships of local governments to
13 each other and to federal and State governments.

14 (3) Formulate specific recommendations for legislation or
15 constitutional amendments to (i) permit effective management
16 of local affairs, (ii) encourage local policy decision making,
17 (iii) reduce the multiplicity of local governments, (iv)
18 eliminate overlapping and duplicating of unnecessary powers,
19 (v) increase efficiency and economy in local governments, and
20 (vi) allow optional forms of local governments and increase
21 their authority for cooperation among the levels of government.

22 Section 15. Meetings; officers. The members of the
23 Commission shall meet and the Commission shall be organized
24 within 90 days after the effective date of this Act, and shall
25 at that time elect a chair from among the members. The
26 Commission may adopt its own rules of procedure. The Commission
27 may employ or use the services of specialists in public
28 administration and governmental management and any other
29 trained consultants, analysts, investigators, and assistants
30 it may consider necessary, on either a full-time or a part-time
31 basis. The Commission shall fix the compensation for any paid
32 employees, which shall be paid from moneys appropriated for
33 that purpose.

1 Section 20. Compensation; expenses. The members of the
2 Commission shall serve without compensation, but their actual
3 traveling and other expenses while engaged in performance of
4 the duties of the commission shall be paid from moneys
5 appropriated for that purpose.

6 Section 25. Report. The Commission shall render its final
7 report to the General Assembly not later than December 31,
8 2006, setting out its findings and recommendations and
9 proposing those measures it considers necessary to effect
10 essential changes and improvements in the existing laws
11 relating to any or all of the matters enumerated in Section 10
12 of this Act.

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