

1 AN ACT regarding schools.

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 2-3.12 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.12) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.12)

7 Sec. 2-3.12. School building code. To prepare for school  
8 boards with the advice of the Department of Public Health, the  
9 Capital Development Board, and the State Fire Marshal a school  
10 building code that will conserve the health and safety and  
11 general welfare of the pupils and school personnel and others  
12 who use public school facilities.

13 The document known as "Efficient and Adequate Standards for  
14 the Construction of Schools" applies only to temporary school  
15 facilities, new school buildings, and additions to existing  
16 schools whose construction contracts are awarded after July 1,  
17 1965. On or before July 1, 1967, each school board shall have  
18 its school district buildings that were constructed prior to  
19 January 1, 1955, surveyed by an architect or engineer licensed  
20 in the State of Illinois as to minimum standards necessary to  
21 conserve the health and safety of the pupils enrolled in the  
22 school buildings of the district. Buildings constructed  
23 between January 1, 1955 and July 1, 1965, not owned by the  
24 State of Illinois, shall be surveyed by an architect or  
25 engineer licensed in the State of Illinois beginning 10 years  
26 after acceptance of the completed building by the school board.  
27 Buildings constructed between January 1, 1955 and July 1, 1955  
28 and previously exempt under the provisions of Section 35-27  
29 shall be surveyed prior to July 1, 1977 by an architect or  
30 engineer licensed in the State of Illinois. The architect or  
31 engineer, using the document known as "Building Specifications  
32 for Health and Safety in Public Schools" as a guide, shall make

1 a report of the findings of the survey to the school board,  
2 giving priority in that report to fire safety problems and  
3 recommendations thereon if any such problems exist. The school  
4 board of each district so surveyed and receiving a report of  
5 needed recommendations to be made to improve standards of  
6 safety and health of the pupils enrolled has until July 1,  
7 1970, or in case of buildings not owned by the State of  
8 Illinois and completed between January 1, 1955 and July 1, 1965  
9 or in the case of buildings previously exempt under the  
10 provisions of Section 35-27 has a period of 3 years after the  
11 survey is commenced, to effectuate those recommendations,  
12 giving first attention to the recommendations in the survey  
13 report having priority status, and is authorized to levy the  
14 tax provided for in Section 17-2.11, according to the  
15 provisions of that Section, to make such improvements. School  
16 boards unable to effectuate those recommendations prior to July  
17 1, 1970, on July 1, 1980 in the case of buildings previously  
18 exempt under the provisions of Section 35-27, may petition the  
19 State Superintendent of Education upon the recommendation of  
20 the Regional Superintendent for an extension of time. The  
21 extension of time may be granted by the State Superintendent of  
22 Education for a period of one year, but may be extended from  
23 year to year provided substantial progress, in the opinion of  
24 the State Superintendent of Education, is being made toward  
25 compliance. However, for fire protection issues, only one  
26 one-year extension may be made, and no other provision of this  
27 Code or an applicable code may supersede this requirement. For  
28 routine inspections, fire officials shall provide written  
29 notice to the principal of the school to schedule a mutually  
30 agreed upon time for the fire safety check. However, no more  
31 than 2 routine inspections may be made in a calendar year.

32 Within 2 years after the effective date of this amendatory  
33 Act of 1983, and every 10 years thereafter, or at such other  
34 times as the State Board of Education deems necessary or the  
35 regional superintendent so orders, each school board subject to  
36 the provisions of this Section shall again survey its school

1 buildings and effectuate any recommendations in accordance  
2 with the procedures set forth herein. An architect or engineer  
3 licensed in the State of Illinois is required to conduct the  
4 surveys under the provisions of this Section and shall make a  
5 report of the findings of the survey titled "safety survey  
6 report" to the school board. The school board shall approve the  
7 safety survey report, including any recommendations to  
8 effectuate compliance with the code, and submit it to the  
9 Regional Superintendent. The Regional Superintendent shall  
10 render a decision regarding approval or denial and submit the  
11 safety survey report to the State Superintendent of Education.  
12 The State Superintendent of Education shall approve or deny the  
13 report including recommendations to effectuate compliance with  
14 the code and, if approved, issue a certificate of approval.  
15 Upon receipt of the certificate of approval, the Regional  
16 Superintendent shall issue an order to effect any approved  
17 recommendations included in the report. Items in the report  
18 shall be prioritized. Urgent items shall be considered as those  
19 items related to life safety problems that present an immediate  
20 hazard to the safety of students. Required items shall be  
21 considered as those items that are necessary for a safe  
22 environment but present less of an immediate hazard to the  
23 safety of students. Urgent and required items shall reference a  
24 specific rule in the code authorized by this Section that is  
25 currently being violated or will be violated within the next 12  
26 months if the violation is not remedied. The school board of  
27 each district so surveyed and receiving a report of needed  
28 recommendations to be made to maintain standards of safety and  
29 health of the pupils enrolled shall effectuate the correction  
30 of urgent items as soon as achievable to ensure the safety of  
31 the students, but in no case more than one year after the date  
32 of the State Superintendent of Education's approval of the  
33 recommendation. Required items shall be corrected in a timely  
34 manner, but in no case more than 5 years from the date of the  
35 State Superintendent of Education's approval of the  
36 recommendation. Once each year the school board shall submit a

1 report of progress on completion of any recommendations to  
2 effectuate compliance with the code. For each year that the  
3 school board does not effectuate any or all approved  
4 recommendations, it shall petition the Regional Superintendent  
5 and the State Superintendent of Education detailing what work  
6 was completed in the previous year and a work plan for  
7 completion of the remaining work. If in the judgement of the  
8 Regional Superintendent and the State Superintendent of  
9 Education substantial progress has been made and just cause has  
10 been shown by the school board, the petition for a one year  
11 extension of time may be approved.

12 The State Board of Education shall require each school  
13 district to have an indoor air quality policy. The policy may  
14 include the following:

15 (1) a statement indicating that the school board is  
16 concerned about air quality and the health, safety, and  
17 comfort of employees and students;

18 (2) authorization of an indoor air quality coordinator  
19 for each school or the district as a whole;

20 (3) guidance on appropriate steps for maintaining good  
21 air quality; and

22 (4) guidance on appropriate actions for correcting  
23 indoor air quality problems.

24 Each school district shall annually notify parents about the  
25 indoor air quality policy. Notification may be included in  
26 newsletters, bulletins, handbooks, or other correspondence  
27 currently published by the school district or included on the  
28 school district's Internet website. The policy must be made  
29 available upon verbal or written request.

30 As soon as practicable, but not later than 2 years after  
31 the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1992, the State  
32 Board of Education shall combine the document known as  
33 "Efficient and Adequate Standards for the Construction of  
34 Schools" with the document known as "Building Specifications  
35 for Health and Safety in Public Schools" together with any  
36 modifications or additions that may be deemed necessary. The

1 combined document shall be known as the "Health/Life Safety  
2 Code for Public Schools" and shall be the governing code for  
3 all facilities that house public school students or are  
4 otherwise used for public school purposes, whether such  
5 facilities are permanent or temporary and whether they are  
6 owned, leased, rented, or otherwise used by the district.  
7 Facilities owned by a school district but that are not used to  
8 house public school students or are not used for public school  
9 purposes shall be governed by separate provisions within the  
10 code authorized by this Section.

11 The 10 year survey cycle specified in this Section shall  
12 continue to apply based upon the standards contained in the  
13 "Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools", which shall  
14 specify building standards for buildings that are constructed  
15 prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1992 and  
16 for buildings that are constructed after that date.

17 The "Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools" shall be  
18 the governing code for public schools; however, the provisions  
19 of this Section shall not preclude inspection of school  
20 premises and buildings pursuant to Section 9 of the Fire  
21 Investigation Act, provided that the provisions of the  
22 "Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools", or such  
23 predecessor document authorized by this Section as may be  
24 applicable are used, and provided that those inspections are  
25 coordinated with the Regional Superintendent having  
26 jurisdiction over the public school facility. Nothing in this  
27 Section shall be construed to prohibit a local fire department,  
28 fire protection district, or the Office of the State Fire  
29 Marshal from conducting a fire safety check in a public school.  
30 Upon being notified by a fire official that corrective action  
31 must be taken to resolve a violation, the school board shall  
32 take corrective action within one year. However, violations  
33 that present imminent danger must be addressed immediately.

34 Any agency having jurisdiction beyond the scope of the  
35 applicable document authorized by this Section may issue a  
36 lawful order to a school board to effectuate recommendations,

1 and the school board receiving the order shall certify to the  
2 Regional Superintendent and the State Superintendent of  
3 Education when it has complied with the order.

4 The State Board of Education is authorized to adopt any  
5 rules that are necessary relating to the administration and  
6 enforcement of the provisions of this Section. The code  
7 authorized by this Section shall apply only to those school  
8 districts having a population of less than 500,000 inhabitants.  
9 (Source: P.A. 92-593, eff. 1-1-03.)

10 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding  
11 Section 8.29 as follows:

12 (30 ILCS 805/8.29 new)

13 Sec. 8.29. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8  
14 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the  
15 implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of  
16 the 94th General Assembly.

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