



94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

HB4310

Introduced 12/22/05, by Rep. Renee Kosel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-16.5 new
105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 new
105 ILCS 5/10-16.10 new

Amends the School Code. Requires school board members (other than members of the Chicago Board of Education) to take an oath of office. Sets forth that oath. Provides that each member of a school board (except in Chicago) shall direct and assist the superintendent in his or her charge of the administration of the school district. Requires new school board members (except in Chicago) to participate in an orientation program provided by the State Board of Education or a designated entity. Requires school board members (except in Chicago) to periodically participate in a professional development program conducted by the State Board or a designated entity. Effective immediately.

LRB094 14855 RAS 49857 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

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 Sections
5 10-16.5, 10-16.7, and 10-16.10 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-16.5 new)

7 Sec. 10-16.5. Oath of office. Each school board member,
8 before taking his or her seat on the board, shall take an oath
9 of office in substantially the following form:

10 I, (name of member or successful candidate), do
11 solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge
12 the duties of the office of member of the Board of
13 Education (or Board of School Directors, as the case may
14 be) of (name of school district), in accordance with the
15 laws of the State of Illinois, according to the best of my
16 ability.

17 I further swear (or affirm) that:

18 I shall represent all residents of the school district
19 honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my
20 responsibilities to special interest or partisan political
21 groups;

22 I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a
23 faithful protector of the school district's financial
24 assets.

25 I shall avoid any conflict of interest or the
26 appearance of impropriety that could result from my
27 position and shall not use my board membership for personal
28 gain or publicity;

29 I shall recognize that a board member has no legal
30 authority as an individual and that decisions can be made
31 only by a majority vote at a board meeting;

32 I shall abide by majority decisions of the board, while

1 retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions
2 through ethical and constructive channels; and

3 I shall encourage and respect the free expression of
4 opinion by my fellow board members and others who seek a
5 hearing before the board.

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 new)

7 Sec. 10-16.7. Board member duties with respect to
8 superintendent. Each member of a school board shall direct and
9 assist the superintendent in his or her charge of the
10 administration of the school district, including without
11 limitation considering the recommendations of the
12 superintendent concerning the budget, building plans, the
13 locations of sites, the selection, retention, and dismissal of
14 teachers and all other employees, and the selection of
15 textbooks, instructional material, and courses of study.

16 (105 ILCS 5/10-16.10 new)

17 Sec. 10-16.10. Orientation program; periodic professional
18 development program.

19 (a) Within 6 months after the election or appointment of a
20 new school board member, the member must participate in an
21 orientation program provided by the State Board of Education or
22 an entity designated by the State Board. This orientation
23 program shall focus on school law, the duties of board
24 membership, and the ethical behavior of board members.

25 (b) Each member of a school board must periodically
26 participate in a professional development program conducted by
27 the State Board of Education or an entity designated by the
28 State Board. The program shall focus on effective
29 boardsmanship, education governance, finance, and standards,
30 assessment, and accountability.

31 (c) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules
32 necessary to implement this Section.

33 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.