



**94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2005 and 2006**  
**HB4832**

Introduced 01/19/06, by Rep. Robert F. Flider

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

New Act

Creates the Community Education Act to support community service education programs, which educate students about the value of civic involvement through actual school-sponsored involvement in their communities. Creates the Community Education Program, administered by the State Board of Education. Allows a school district to establish a community education program. With respect to a school district community education program, contains provisions concerning local input, a Director of Community Education, the non-duplication of programs, community education consortiums, partnership agreements, funding, and grants. Effective immediately.

LRB094 17562 NHT 52858 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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Community Education Act.

6 Section 5. Policy. Community service education programs  
7 educate students about the value of civic involvement through  
8 actual school-sponsored involvement in their communities.  
9 Students, citizens, civic groups, businesses, and community  
10 organizations benefit from community service education  
11 programs by developing strong partnerships that enhance the  
12 value of schools and quality of life in communities. Community  
13 service education programs build stronger schools, stronger  
14 communities, and a positive environment.

15 In many communities, the school district is the economic  
16 engine that provides jobs, economic stability, and prosperity.  
17 Community service education programs enable more school  
18 districts and communities to prosper economically while  
19 promoting good citizenship. School districts that offer  
20 community service education programs enjoy a significant  
21 return on their investment. Hence, the policy of the State of  
22 Illinois is to support such programs by providing incentives to  
23 encourage school districts to offer community service  
24 education programs.

25 Section 10. Community Education Program. There is created  
26 the Community Education Program, administered by the State  
27 Board of Education, in cooperation with school districts.  
28 Participation in this program is voluntary. The following items  
29 may serve as best practices to be considered by school  
30 districts opting to implement the program:

31 (1) The program contains provisions and standards

1           conducive to the establishment of community, business, and  
2           education partnerships that give use to lasting  
3           relationships between school districts and partners that  
4           are mutually beneficial.

5           (2) The program provides greater community access to  
6           school facilities and programs to promote increased  
7           achievement by children.

8           (3) The program makes school facilities available for  
9           citizen use.

10          (4) The program organizes local residents to assess  
11          local conditions, set priorities, identify program needs,  
12          and participate in program planning and development.

13          (5) The program identifies and utilizes resources  
14          within the community or those that impact on the community.

15          (6) The program assists in the initiation of new and  
16          improved programs in an effort to improve opportunities for  
17          all residents of the community.

18          (7) The program provides effective youth training  
19          programs and employment counseling in schools, as well as  
20          paid work experience linking the schools with the private  
21          sector.

22          (8) The program provides student involvement in  
23          community service learning activities, organizations, and  
24          intergenerational programs.

25          (9) The program provides volunteer programs to bring  
26          parents, business personnel, community agency  
27          representatives, retirees, and other students into the  
28          classroom as participants in the teaching of students.

29          (10) The program provides supplemental or additional  
30          programs for junior high school and high school age youth  
31          that may consist of enrichment, individual, and  
32          supplemental activities, as well as recreational,  
33          cultural, and vocational programs.

34          (11) The program provides programs to meet the  
35          individual needs of all people who reside in the school  
36          district being served.

1 Nothing set forth in items (7) through (11) shall be  
2 constituted as either requiring or permitting the Community  
3 Education Program to have any program or programs serving the  
4 same purpose or purposes as those elsewhere specifically  
5 provided for in the School Code.

6 The Community Education Program shall avoid duplication of  
7 existing programs operated by other entities in whole or in  
8 part within a school district. The Community Education Program  
9 shall provide for the involvement of the residents of a school  
10 district in ascertaining the identity of local problems and in  
11 ascertaining the community resources available for dealing  
12 with these problems.

13 Section 25. Establishment of community education program  
14 by school district. A school district may establish and  
15 operate a community education program in accordance with the  
16 provisions of this Act.

17 Section 60. Local input. Each school board shall establish  
18 a process to obtain input into the development and operation of  
19 its community education program by members who represent  
20 various service organizations, churches, public schools, units  
21 of local government, businesses and professions, public and  
22 private agencies serving youth, families, or senior citizens,  
23 municipal governments, townships, libraries, park, recreation,  
24 or forest preserve districts located in whole or in part within  
25 the school district, and any other group or groups  
26 participating in the school district's community education  
27 program.

28 Section 65. Director of Community Education. Each school  
29 district maintaining a community education program shall  
30 employ or appoint a Director of Community Education. The  
31 Director shall be responsible for all aspects of the school  
32 district's community education program. An individual employed  
33 solely as a Director of Community Education need not hold a

1 teaching or administrative certificate from the State of  
2 Illinois.

3 Section 75. Non-duplication of programs. A school district  
4 must strive to ensure that its community education program does  
5 not duplicate services offered by other entities or school  
6 programs.

7 Section 80. Community education consortiums. Any school  
8 district authorized to conduct a community education program  
9 pursuant to the provisions of this Act may enter into an  
10 agreement with other school districts to form a consortium for  
11 the purpose of offering a consolidated community education  
12 program.

13 Section 85. Partnership agreements. A school district  
14 community education program shall have the power to enter into  
15 agreements with any other public or private entity or entities  
16 for the furnishing of any component of its community education  
17 program. These agreements may provide for payments from the  
18 school district's community education fund to other entities as  
19 contributions to the expenses of the program or programs  
20 covered by these agreements.

21 Section 90. Funding. A school district maintaining a  
22 community education program is authorized to receive money from  
23 the State, as grants that are subject to appropriation, and  
24 other public and private sources for the support of its program  
25 or any component thereof and to expend this money pursuant to  
26 the provisions of this Act, subject to the terms and conditions  
27 under which the money is received. A not-for-profit  
28 organization may be established in support of the program, in  
29 accordance with the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of  
30 1986, and may seek tax exemption for the organization from the  
31 Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Revenue. Subject  
32 to guidelines approved by the school board, the school district

1 is also authorized to charge and collect fees from persons  
2 voluntarily participating in a specific community education  
3 program. The school board shall also have the authority to  
4 designate funds to be used for community education purposes.

5 Section 92. Grants. Subject to the availability of funds  
6 for the specific purpose of making grants for community  
7 education, the State Board of Education is authorized to make  
8 grants to school districts operating community education  
9 programs that meet the standards set forth in this Act and any  
10 rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

11 Section 500. Rules. The State Board of Education may adopt  
12 any rules that are necessary to implement and administer this  
13 Act.

14 Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
15 becoming law.