94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

SB2996

Introduced 1/20/2006, by Sen. Kirk W. Dillard - Cheryl Axley - Frank C. Watson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 430/5-60 new 5 ILCS 430/50-5

Amends the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act. Prohibits a State executive branch employee from being required to distribute information about a State program unless (i) the program is part of the mission of the employee's State agency; (ii) distribution is during the employee's normal course of his or her duties; and (iii) a State agency is the primary identifiable source of the information. Prohibits disciplining a State employee for refusing to perform a prohibited distribution or for refusing to attend program related events that are not part of or directly related to the employee's normal course of duties. Makes violation a Class A misdemeanor. Exempts State employees performing certain research or academic functions. Effective immediately.

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CORRECTIONAL BUDGET AND IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY SB2996

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AN ACT concerning ethics.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act is
amended by changing Section 50-5 and by adding Section 5-60 as
follows:

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(5 ILCS 430/5-60 new)

8 Sec. 5-60. Distribution of State program information.

(a) A State executive branch employee may not be required 9 to distribute, or participate in the distribution, by any means 10 of information about a specific State program administered or 11 or proposed to be administered by a State agency unless: (i) 12 the program is part of or directly related to the mission of 13 the State employee's employing State agency; (ii) the 14 15 information is distributed during the normal course of the State employee's duties; and (iii) the State employee's 16 employing State agency or another agency with related 17 information is the primary identifiable source of the 18 19 information.

20 <u>(b) A State executive branch employee may not be</u> 21 <u>disciplined for refusing to distribute information in</u> 22 <u>violation of subsection (a). A State executive branch employee</u> 23 <u>may not be disciplined for refusing to attend events for a</u> 24 <u>specific State program that are not part of or directly related</u> 25 <u>to the normal course of the State employee's duties.</u>

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(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to a State employee in the performance of library, research, or teaching functions.

28 (5 ILCS 430/50-5)

29 Sec. 50-5. Penalties.

30 (a) A person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor if that
 31 person intentionally violates any provision of Section 5-15,

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1 5-30, 5-40, or 5-45<u>, or 5-60</u> or Article 15.

(b) A person who intentionally violates any provision of
Section 5-20, 5-35, 5-50, or 5-55 is guilty of a business
offense subject to a fine of at least \$1,001 and up to \$5,000.

5 (c) A person who intentionally violates any provision of 6 Article 10 is guilty of a business offense and subject to a 7 fine of at least \$1,001 and up to \$5,000.

8 (d) Any person who intentionally makes a false report 9 alleging a violation of any provision of this Act to an ethics 10 commission, an inspector general, the State Police, a State's 11 Attorney, the Attorney General, or any other law enforcement 12 official is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(e) An ethics commission may levy an administrative fine of up to \$5,000 against any person who violates this Act, who intentionally obstructs or interferes with an investigation conducted under this Act by an inspector general, or who intentionally makes a false, frivolous, or bad faith allegation.

(f) In addition to any other penalty that may apply, whether criminal or civil, a State employee who intentionally violates any provision of Section 5-15, 5-20, 5-30, 5-35, 5-40, or 5-50, Article 10, Article 15, or Section 20-90 or 25-90 is subject to discipline or discharge by the appropriate ultimate jurisdictional authority.

25 (Source: P.A. 93-615, eff. 11-19-03; 93-617, eff. 12-9-03.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 27 becoming law.