

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 Section
5 2-3.80a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.80a new)

7 Sec. 2-3.80a. Agriculture science teacher education.

8 (a) Subject to appropriation, the State Board of Education
9 shall develop an agricultural science teacher education
10 training continuum beginning at the secondary level and shall
11 provide incentive funding grants to the agriculture science
12 teacher education programs located at Illinois State
13 University, Southern Illinois University, the University of
14 Illinois, and Western Illinois University. Public community
15 colleges in this State that provide an articulated agriculture
16 science teacher education course of study are also eligible for
17 funding.

18 (b) The funds provided by the State Board of Education
19 under subsection (a) of this Section may be used to support the
20 following activities:

21 (1) Teacher education candidate recruitment and
22 retention incentives.

23 (2) Having Master teachers and practitioners assist

1 with the preparation, coordination, and supervision of
2 student teachers.

3 (3) Establishing and delivering professional
4 development experiences for new teachers during their
5 first 5 years of teaching.

6 (4) Professional development for university
7 agriculture education teacher education staff.