



Sen. Kimberly A. Lightford

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 436

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 436 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Department of Commerce and Economic
5 Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is
6 amended by adding Section 605-416 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 605/605-416 new)

8 Sec. 605-416. Loans to qualified ex-offenders.

9 (a) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may
10 establish an ex-offender business ownership grant and loan
11 program. Funding for this program shall come from the
12 Ex-Offender Fund. The Department shall provide grants to
13 organizations and entities that work with ex-offenders and
14 facilitate the reentry of ex-offenders into society.
15 Organizations wishing to participate in the program must
16 present an application to the Department in order to receive

1 funding.

2 (b) Funding distributed from the Ex-Offender Fund may be
3 used only for the following purposes:

4 (1) For the awarding of grants to organizations and
5 entities to provide low interest loans to ex-offenders so
6 that these individuals may start and operate their own
7 businesses that have a positive impact on society. The
8 maximum amount of a loan funded by a grant under this
9 Section that an ex-offender may receive is \$5,000.

10 (2) For the awarding of grants to entities or
11 organizations assisting ex-offenders, so that individual
12 ex-offenders may develop business plans to start up their
13 own businesses. These grants are to be used for the sole
14 purpose of acquiring a business plan developed by a
15 credible source. In order to receive these grants,
16 qualified ex-offenders must submit an application and
17 provide 50% of the cost to develop the business plan.

18 (3) For the administration costs of the program.

19 (c) For purposes of this Section, "qualified ex-offender"
20 means any person who:

21 (1) is an eligible offender, as defined under Section
22 5-5.5-5 of the Unified Code of Corrections;

23 (2) was sentenced to a period of incarceration in an
24 Illinois adult correctional center; and

25 (3) presents an application and a professional
26 business plan to the organization or entity that is making

1 the loan.

2 Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
3 Section 5.719 as follows:

4 (30 ILCS 105/5.719 new)

5 Sec. 5.719. The Ex-Offender Fund.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
7 1, 2010.".