

1 AN ACT concerning technology.

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

4 Section 5. The Eliminate the Digital Divide Law is
5 amended by changing Section 5-3 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 780/5-3)

7 Sec. 5-3. Statement of legislative findings and
8 purposes. The General Assembly finds that the growth of high
9 technology industry, including computers, the Internet, and
10 advanced telecommunications, has created a division in
11 society. Those persons who are able to master the tools of
12 the new digital technology and have access to the technology
13 have benefited in the form of improved employment
14 possibilities and a higher standard of life. Those who are
15 unfamiliar with the new technologies, or do not have access
16 to them, are increasingly constrained to marginal employment
17 and a standard of living near the poverty level. This
18 "digital divide" parallels existing economic, racial, and
19 gender divisions in society, with the more privileged members
20 of society having much greater opportunity to benefit from
21 the new technologies than those who are less favorably
22 situated. It is the purpose of this Law to establish
23 educational and economic development initiatives that will
24 bridge the digital divide, making possible a society in which
25 all individuals can benefit from the opportunities provided
26 by the new technologies.

27 (Source: P.A. 91-704, eff. 7-1-00.)