

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW

8-27-03

HB 210 attempts to circumvent the <i>Corey H.</i> decision to require regular education teachers to have 20% of the CPDU's in special education by stating that those who completed their 120 CPDU's as of July 1, 2002, shall be deemed to have a renewed and valid certificate and not have to complete any other additional credits.	<u>PA 93-81</u> Effective 7-2-03
HB 338 prohibits sex offenders from serving as a school board member.	<u>PA 93-309</u> Effective 1-1-04
HB 514 allows the State Board to issue School Service Personnel Certificates for guidance counselors to individuals who do not hold a teaching certificate if they meet other requirements established by the State Board of Education	<u>PA 93-125</u> Effective 7-10-03
HB 761 prohibits various education entities including school districts from selling student information to credit card companies.	<u>PA 93-549</u> Effective 8-19-03
HB 765 allows districts to transfer between their O and M, Transportation, and Education funds. Removes, for a period of two years, current provisions limiting transfers the one-time nonrecurring expenses.	<u>PA 93-393</u> Effective 7-28-03
HB 1185/ SB 195 allows retired teachers to remain in retirement status and continue to receive their retirement annuities while engaging in employment in a designated subject shortage area.	<u>PA 93-320</u> Effective 7-23-03
HB 2105 addresses a levy issue that arose from a recent consolidation of the Northwest and Colchester School Districts.	<u>PA 93-4</u> Effective 5-2-03
HB 2235 amends the early childhood block grant program to allow for 11% of the block grant to be used for children ages 0 to 3.	<u>PA 93-96</u> Effective 7-29-03
HB 2298 requires that sex education course material & instruction must include information about responsible parenting & confidential adoption services.	<u>PA 93-88</u> Effective 7-2-03
HB 2332/ SB 618 defines a "textbook" to include science curriculum materials that includes consumable materials for purposes of the Textbook Loan Program.	<u>PA 93-212</u> Effective 7-18-03
HB 2350 allows for the use of relevant life experiences as determined by the ISBE for qualifications of non-certified personnel.	<u>PA 93-332</u> Effective 1-1-04
HB 2352 contains the assessment changes required by the NCLB and worked out by the Task Force on Assessment and Accountability. As amended, drops lifetime testing limit to 38 hours from 40 and encourages districts to eliminate local testing.	<u>PA 93-426</u> Effective 8-5-03
HB 2354 revises the Technology Revolving Loan Program to make the program available every two years rather than every third year. Also allows districts to use funds to purchase computer furniture.	<u>PA 93-368</u> Effective 7-24-03
HB 2836/ SB 1039 eliminates the need for the clerk of the school board to certify transportation reimbursement claims.	<u>PA 93-166</u> Effective 7-10-03
HB 2910 deals with a debt limitation problem with the Oswego School District.	<u>PA 93-13</u> Effective 7-9-03
HB 3405 contains technical clean up language of the Hazel Crest Finance Authority.	<u>PA 93-501</u> Effective

<p>HB 3587 eliminates the citizenship requirement for receiving a teacher's certificate. As amended requires teachers to provide information that they are pursuing citizenship.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-572</u> Effective 1-1-04</p>
<p>SB 19 increases the number of charter schools in the city of Chicago from 15 to 30. Makes other changes related to CPS and CTU as they relate to collective bargaining of such things as class size reduction and other provisions which were removed in the Chicago School reform of 1995. Signed into law.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-3</u> Effective 4-16-03</p>
<p>SB 66 codifies the federal 21st Century grant program.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-374</u> Effective 7-14-03</p>
<p>SB 201 establishes, subject to appropriation, a Math and Science Block Grant program to be administered by ISBE. The FY 2004 ISBE appropriations bill does not contain funding for this program.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-50</u> Effective 7-1-03</p>
<p>SB 206 requires school districts to notify local legislators of public hearings held with regards to waiver requests.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-557</u> Effective 8-20-03</p>
<p>SB 230 requires school districts to grant leave to teachers who are elected as an officer of a state or national teacher's organization for the length of time the teacher is an elected officer. Currently there is a six year limit that leave must be granted.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-377</u> Effective 1-1-04</p>
<p>SB 372 requires driver education courses to provide at least 30 minutes of classroom instruction on organ and blood donation.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-547</u> Effective 8/19/03</p>
<p>SB 381 establishes, subject to appropriations, a Continued Reading Improvement Block Grant for grades 7 through 12. No funding is contained in the ISBE FY 2004 budget.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-53</u> Effective 7-1-03</p>
<p>SB 490 requires ISBE, ROE's and local school districts to share with IDPA information on applicants for free and reduced lunches for purposes of IDPA enrolling children in the Medicaid program</p>	<p><u>PA 93-404</u> Effective 8-1-03</p>
<p>SB 533 would establish a statewide induction and mentoring program. The bill calls for a 2-year program with districts receiving a \$1200 stipend each year. The bill requires full funding before districts must implement. If the bill is partially funded, allows ISBE to issue an RFP to allow districts either to continue current programs or establish new programs.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-355</u> Effective 1-1-04</p>
<p>SB 565 establishes the Illinois Early Learning Council to coordinate existing state programs and services for children ages birth to five.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-380</u> Effective 7-24-03</p>
<p>SB 566 requires school districts to notify parents of deaf or blind students of the existence of the Illinois School for the Deaf and the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-282</u> Effective 7-22-03</p>
<p>SB 744 is the FY 2004 education Budget Implementation Act. Contains language to move the poverty count to an average of the DHS data, eliminates the Gifted Education Program, and establishes ISBE's authority to implement the Transitional Assistance program for districts that are to lose money this fiscal year.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-21</u> Effective 7-1-03</p>
<p>SB 877 requires school boards to cooperate with disaster relief organizations with regards to civil defense shelters.</p>	<p><u>PA 93-390</u> Effective 7-25-03</p>

SB 878 contains the accountability provisions required by the NCLB and worked out by the Task Force on Assessment and Accountability.	<u>PA 93-470</u> Effective
SB 890 requires school districts to include a unit of instruction on Asian Pacific American History in their curriculum.	<u>PA 93-406</u> Effective 1-1-04
SB 891 requires ISBE to place homework assistance information on our website.	<u>PA 93-471</u> Effective
SB 903 allows school districts to establish a summer kindergarten program.	<u>PA 93-472</u> Effective
SB 1038 changes the filing deadline for GSA claims to June 21 from July 1. Eliminates the requirement that claims must be signed by the school board president.	<u>PA 93-54</u> Effective 7-1-03
SB 1107 allows CPS to establish a program for students at risk of committing crime such program would include a tour of a prison.	<u>PA 93-538</u> Effective 1-1-04
SB 1363 creates the Freedom Trail Commission. Requires the commission to work with ISBE to develop a curriculum for use in public schools with regards to the Underground Railroad.	<u>PA 93-487</u> Effective 8-8-03
SB 1369 requires ISBE and CDB to file with the General Assembly a report of the capital needs of school districts.	<u>PA 93-489</u> Effective 1-1-04
SB 1951 creates the Children's Mental Health Act. Requires ISBE to develop a plan for the incorporation of social and emotional development standards as part of the Illinois Learning Standards. Requires school districts to develop a plan to incorporate such standards into their curriculum.	<u>PA 93-495</u> Effective 8-8-03

SIGNED RESOLUTIONS

<u>HR 147</u> requires the Department of Public Health in cooperation with ISBE to conduct a sugar consumption study of Illinois students.
<u>HR 176</u> extends the Illinois After School Partnership until 2006.
<u>HR 359</u> requires the Illinois State Advisory Council on Children with Disabilities and the ISBE to study state rules with regards to special education and recommend to the General Assembly ways to provide relief to school district of such rules and regulations.
<u>SR 94</u> requests that the Attorney General provide an opinion interpreting whether or not the Illinois Constitution requires the state to have a system of public school funding that provides every public school student with access to a minimally adequate education. Further requests the Attorney General to opine on whether or not the state currently has a system that provides for a minimally adequate education.
<u>SJR 33</u> is the school waiver resolution containing denials for St. Anne's and Madison School Districts.

ITEM/REDUCTION VETOES

HB 2663 contains the FY 2004 ISBE appropriation.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>
HB 2750 contains the FY 2003 supplemental appropriation which will fully fund GSA and allows for the funding of the Emergency Financial Assistance Loans to Cairo and Livingston School Districts. Also contains \$100 million for FY 2004 for the categoricals and ADA Block Grant.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>

TOTAL VETOES

SB 70 requires students to complete the full six hours of practice driving.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>
SB 191 allows school districts to continue to receive orphanage reimbursement even after a child has been adopted.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>
SB 192 allows for reimbursement of administrative expenses incurred by districts with large group homes like Maryville Academy in them.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>
SB 564 extends the sunset of three ISBE funds the ISBE Special Purposes Trust Fund, ISBE Fund and the PBVS fund.	<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>

AMENDATORY VETOES

HB 1180 makes substantial changes to the way districts are reimbursed for special education. Moves to a per-pupil reimbursement basis rather than per-pupil claiming. Eliminates the need of districts to submit individual claims for each student. As amended, does not consolidate private tuition into the extraordinary line item.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 150 contains numerous provisions including one to allow for the reimbursement to school districts for the use of mass transportation.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 207 creates, subject to appropriation, a Student Achievement Improvement block grant to be administered by ISBE. The FY 2004 ISBE appropriations bill does not contain funding for this program.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 777 requires health facilities, including schools, to install defibrillators.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 902 creates, subject to appropriation a K-3 class size reduction grant program to be administered by ISBE. No funds are contained in the FY 2004 budget for this purpose.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 1321 This legislation would make changes to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.33 and 105 ILCS 5/2-3.84 of the school code. Currently, adjustments to the EAV used in the calculation of General State Aid (GSA) are applied to the original EAV supplied to ISBE by the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR). The lower of this traditional EAV or the Extension Limitation Equalized Accessed Valuation (ELREAV) is used in the calculation of General State Aid. This legislation changes the application of EAV adjustments to the lower of the original EAV or the ELREAV.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>
SB 1333 reinstates the ability, with regards to the special ed orphanage appropriation, that if the appropriation is insufficient to cover current fiscal year reimbursements than rather than pro-rating reimbursements, the funds to cover full reimbursement shall be taken out of the next fiscal year's appropriation.	<u>AMENDATORY VETO</u>

VETO MESSAGES

August 12, 2003

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To the Honorable Members of the Illinois House of Representatives
93rd General Assembly

I am committed to funding special education and I am willing to implement this new formula on a one-year pilot basis. However, I am concerned that over time the funding formula may not reflect the actual number of students with special needs in a school district. Therefore, I am recommending this change to **House Bill 1180** so that the impact of the formula over time can be reassessed before it is put permanently into statute. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return House Bill 1180, entitled "AN ACT to amend the School Code", with the following specific recommendation for change:

on page 6, by replacing line 3 with the following: "For fiscal year 2004 only."

With this change, **House Bill 1180** will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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July 9, 2003

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To the Honorable Members of the Illinois House of Representatives
93rd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(d) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return several appropriation items included in **House Bill 2663**, entitled "AN ACT making appropriations," having taken the actions set forth below.

We must continue to do more with less in these difficult financial times. As a result, it is necessary to make further reductions in the amount allocated to the State Board of Education for their administration of grant programs and to the administrative costs of the Regional Offices of Education. These reductions are solely intended to be in the administrative costs only and not to reduce grants to schools districts, community organizations or other recipients. I remain solidly committed to providing support for our classrooms, our teachers, and our school children, as this Act demonstrates. PA 93-0014 provides \$100 million dollars to elementary and secondary education. In signing this bill, I am increasing state funding for P-12 education by \$284.5 million for a total increase of \$384.5 million, including an increase to the Foundation Level of \$250 per pupil.

This veto message reduces the total appropriation in **HB 2663** by \$20,861,350 for reductions and item vetoes for substantive programs.

Item Vetoes

I hereby veto the following appropriations items:

<i>Article</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Page</i>	<i>Line(s)</i>	<i>Amount</i>
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					Enacted
1	5	3	16-18	115,000	
1	5	3	19	5,500	
1	5	3	20	13,000	
1	5	3	21	9,500	
1	5	3	22-23	32,000	
1	5	3	24	5,825,000	
1	15	16	22-24	413,600	
1	15	16	25	17,300	
1	15	16	26	10,400	
1	15	16	27	9,000	
1	15	16	28	821,300	
1	15	16	29	728,400	
1	20	17	12-15	350,000	
1	20	17	19-22	800,000	
1	20	17	23-27	700,000	

Reduction Vetoes

I hereby reduce the following appropriation items and approve each item in the amount set forth in the "Reduced Amount" column below:

Article	Section	Page	Line(s)	Amount Enacted	Reduced Amount
1	10	14	15	250,000	62,500
1	10	14	16	12,000	3,000
1	10	14	17	3,000	750
1	10	14	18	5,000	1,250
1	10	14	19	42,000	10,500
1	10	14	20	198,000	49,500
1	10	14	21	25,000	6,250
1	10	14	22	10,000	2,500
1	10	14	23	15,000	3,750
1	10	14	24	25,000	6,250
1	10	14	25	15,000	3,750
1	15	15	5-6	373,000	93,250
1	15	15	7-9	666,100	166,500
1	15	15	14	73,000	18,250
1	15	15	15-16	3,400	850
1	15	15	17	1,000	250
1	15	15	18	2,000	500
1	15	15	19-20	249,000	62,250
1	15	15	23-24	25,053,400	24,836,800
1	15	15	27-29	26,395,200	25,295,200
1	15	16	5-9	14,586,300	14,499,400
1	15	16	18-19	39,922,800	38,328,700
1	15	16	20-21	17,221,900	17,138,600
1	20	17	8-11	1,500,000	375,000
1	20	17	16-18	500,000	125,000
1	20	17	28-30	800,000	200,000
1	20	18	1-6	500,000	125,000
1	25	21	5-9	6,500,000	3,250,000
1	25	22	28	159,200	39,800
1	25	22	29	6,800	1,700
1	25	22	30	12,100	3,025
1	25	23	1	8,700	2,175
1	25	23	2	319,600	79,900

In addition to these specific item and reduction vetoes, I hereby approve all other appropriation items in **House Bill 2663**.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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June 10, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois House of Representatives
93rd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(d) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return several appropriation items included in **House Bill 2750**, entitled "AN ACT making appropriations" having taken the actions set forth below.

Item Vetoes

I hereby veto the following appropriations items:

<i>Article</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Page</i>	<i>Line(s)</i>	<i>Amount Enacted</i>
10	5	89	27-30	144,700
10	10	90	1-5	892,400
10	15	90	6-10	89,200
10	30	91	1-11	1,500,000

In addition to these specific item vetoes, I hereby approve the rest of **House Bill 2750**.

Sincerely,

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ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 14, 2003

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To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Currently, school districts can seek reimbursement from the state for driver's education courses and the law requires six hours of behind the wheel practice. The school district may adopt a policy to permit a proficiency exam after three hours. **Senate Bill 70** removes the discretion granted to the school district to craft its own policy. In addition, it will result in an increased financial burden on the school district and the state. During the current fiscal crisis, we should defer to the school district in crafting its driver's education policy and inquire into the necessity of changing these individual policies before passing such a mandate. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto Senate Bill 70, entitled "AN ACT relating to education."

For this reason, I hereby veto and return **Senate Bill 70**.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 25, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return **Senate Bill 150**, entitled "AN ACT in relation to vehicles", with the following specific recommendations for change:

on page 1, line 5, by deleting "and changing Section 29-15"; and

by deleting line 26 on page 2 through line 13 on page 3.

I applaud the sponsors for the many good provisions contained in this bill that seek to improve the safe transportation of children in school districts throughout the state. However, in light of the current fiscal crisis, we simply cannot commit additional state funds to reimburse school districts for transporting children who use public transportation to get to school. Therefore, with the changes outlined above, **Senate Bill 150** will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,

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ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 18, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Senate Bill 191 extends reimbursement for special education services to school districts for children who were DCFS wards, have been adopted, and are still receiving services from DCFS. This is creating a new category of eligibility for full reimbursement of special education costs and is expected to cost the State tens of millions of dollars. Given the fiscal constraints of the State, we cannot justify providing additional reimbursement to school districts outside of the nearly \$145 million increase already approved for FY 04.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return **Senate Bill 191**, entitled "AN ACT in relation to schools."

Sincerely,

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ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 18, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Senate Bill 192 requires the State to reimburse school districts for administrative

costs of coordinating the special education services for wards of the State who are educated in residential facilities. The administration has been committed to reducing administrative costs wherever possible and given the fiscal constraints the State is facing, we cannot justify an additional \$500,000 to \$1.0 million in reimbursement for administrative costs.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return **Senate Bill 192**, entitled "AN ACT in relating to education."

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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August 18, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return **Senate Bill 207** entitled "AN ACT concerning schools," with the following specific recommendation for change:

on page 2, by replacing lines 19 and 20 with the following:

"(b) The State Board of Education, from any moneys it may have available for this purpose, must implement and administer a grant program that".

Improving student achievement at schools on our academic watch list is a top priority and one we cannot afford to sacrifice. Given the fiscal climate, signing this bill in its current form is not feasible. However, we believe there is significant room for savings in the operations of the State Board of Education. To the extent that savings can be found in the State Board of Education, it would be fitting to apply those resources to the intent of this legislation. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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August 8, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Though this Bill would extend the repeal dates of three education related funds, no actual appropriation was made for them. The State will pursue alternatives other than these funds to increase State funding for education. Therefore, pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto and return **Senate Bill 564**, entitled "AN ACT concerning education."

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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August 27, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

SB 777

This groundbreaking legislation will make available to Illinois' citizens medical equipment proven to save lives. I support the intent of the legislation; however, there are several changes that I am recommending in order to ensure that the intent is fulfilled.

The language I am recommending provides a clearer definition of physical fitness facilities required to comply; the current bill would apply to venues beyond the intended scope, like churches and wellness centers. The recommended language also provides that these protections are available to citizens living in home rule units, like the City of Chicago. The recommended language provides for stronger enforcement by increasing the penalties for violations in an effort to encourage compliance.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return **Senate Bill 777**, entitled "AN ACT in relation to health, which may be known as the Colleen O'Sullivan Law", with the following specific recommendations for change:

on page 2, line 1, after "government", by inserting ", including a home rule unit,"; and

on page 2, by replacing lines 15 through 20 with the following:

"provides services or facilities focusing primarily on cardiovascular exertion as defined by Department rule.

(b) "Physical fitness facility" does not include a facility serving less than a total of 100 individuals, as further defined by Department rule. In addition, the term does not include a"; and

on page 2, by replacing line 26 with the following:

"(a) Before January 1, 2005, each person or entity, including a home rule unit, that"; and

on page 3, line 4, after "entity", by inserting ", including a home rule unit,"; and

on page 4, by deleting lines 1 through 12.

on page 4, by replacing lines 24 through 32 with the following:

"subsection (a) or (b) of Section 15, the Director may issue to the facility a written administrative warning without monetary penalty for the initial violation. The facility may reply to the Department with written comments concerning the facility's remedial response to the warning. For subsequent violations, the Director may impose a civil monetary penalty against the facility as follows:

(1) At least \$1,500 but less than \$2,000 for a second violation.

(2) At least \$2,000 for a third or subsequent violation.

(b) The Director may impose a civil monetary penalty under this"; and

on page 5, below line 16, by inserting the following:

"(d) The fines shall be deposited into the Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Fund to be appropriated to the Department, together with any other amounts, for the costs of administering this Act."; and

on page 6, after line 20 by adding the following:

Section 55. Home rule. A home rule unit must comply with the requirements of

this Act. A home rule unit may not regulate physical fitness facilities in a manner inconsistent with this Act. This Section is a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent exercise by home rule units of powers and functions exercised by the State.

Section 75. The State Finance Act is amended by adding Section 5.595 as follows:

(30 ILCS 105/5.595 new)

Sec. 5.595. The Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Fund.”; and

by deleting page 6, line 28 through page 46, line 6.

With these changes, Senate Bill 777 will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

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Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 11, 2003

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return **Senate Bill 902**, entitled “AN ACT relating to schools”, with the following specific recommendations for change:

on page 1, by replacing lines 18 through 26 with the following:
“shall provide that those schools that are on the academic watch list under Section 2-3.25d that maintain grades kindergarten through 3 shall be given priority.”; and

by replacing lines 30 and 31 on page 1 and lines 1 through 4 on page 2 with the following:
“class size of no more than 20 pupils.”.

These changes are necessary to give flexibility to the State Board of Education to award grants to the most disadvantaged schools, based on a variety of factors. With these changes, **Senate Bill 902** will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

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Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 18, 2003

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To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

I am firmly committed to funding elementary and secondary education. The fiscal year 2004 budget provides over \$381 million new dollars directly to school districts, including a \$250 increase in the per student Foundation Level. **SB 1321** targets additional resources to school districts affected by tax caps and struggling to make up for lost resources through property tax appeals. While we have provided millions of new dollars to school districts, we must recognize our budget constraints, and therefore, I am

modifying SB 1321 to limit the allocation for state aid adjustments to \$20 million of the General State Aid appropriation within each fiscal year. This amount is consistent with the average allocated in the past four years. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return Senate Bill 1321, entitled "AN ACT regarding schools", with the following specific recommendations for change:

on page 2, line 4, after "claim.", by inserting "From the total amount of general State aid to be provided to districts, adjustments as a result of recomputation under this Section together with adjustments under Section 2-3.84 shall not exceed \$20 million, in the aggregate for all districts under both Sections combined, of the general State aid appropriation in any fiscal year; if necessary, amounts shall be prorated among districts."; and

on page 2, line 16, after "calculation.", by inserting "From the total amount of general State aid to be provided to districts, adjustments under this Section together with adjustments as a result of recomputation under Section 2-3.33 shall not exceed \$20 million, in the aggregate for all districts under both Sections combined, of the general State aid appropriation in any fiscal year; if necessary, amounts shall be prorated among districts.".

With these changes, **Senate Bill 1321** will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

August 18, 2003

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To the Honorable Members of the Illinois Senate
93rd General Assembly

I am committed to funding education for our school children, including special education, and the FY 04 budget reflects that commitment. While we were not able to fund every program, we significantly increased funding for education (by \$381 million for fiscal year 2004) and for special education programs overall (by 145 million for fiscal year 2004). In these difficult fiscal times, I believe that we must operate within the constraints set by that budget and not allow costs to be passed on to future years. Therefore, I am modifying **SB 1333** so that at least for the next two years reimbursements for these special education costs must be paid solely from the year they are appropriated.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby return Senate Bill 1333, entitled "AN ACT concerning education", with the following specific recommendations for change:

on page 4, by replacing line 17 with the following:
"year thereafter through fiscal year 2002 and then in fiscal year 2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, if the amount"; and

on page 4, by replacing line 22 with the following:
"the next fiscal year, and the payments required to eliminate"; and

on page 4, by replacing lines 25 through 32 with the following:
"Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section or this Code, beginning with fiscal year 2003 and continuing through fiscal year 2005, total reimbursement under this Section in any fiscal year is limited to the amount appropriated for that purpose for that fiscal year, and if the amount appropriated for any fiscal year is less than the amount required for purposes of this Section, the insufficiency shall be apportioned pro rata among the school districts seeking reimbursement."; and

on page 10, by replacing lines 15 and 16 with the following:

"1994 and each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year 2002 and then in fiscal year 2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, if the amount appropriated for any fiscal year is less"; and

on page 10, by replacing lines 20 and 21 with the following:

"reimbursed on August 30 of the next fiscal year, and the payments required to eliminate any insufficiency for prior"; and

on page 10, by replacing lines 23 through 31 with the following:

"for the current fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section or this Code, beginning with fiscal year 2003 and continuing through fiscal year 2005, total reimbursement under this Section in any fiscal year is limited to the amount appropriated for that purpose for that fiscal year, and if the amount appropriated for any fiscal year is less than the amount required for purposes of this Section, the insufficiency shall be apportioned pro rata among the school districts seeking reimbursement.".

With these changes, **Senate Bill 1333** will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

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