

# Supporting Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (SEED)



## Quick Fact Sheet

### What is this?

The Self-Employment Assistance (SEA) program helps unemployed individuals start their own businesses by allowing them to receive unemployment benefits while working full-time on their startups. To qualify, participants must establish their business before their unemployment benefits run out.

### Why it's Important?

SEA programs empower unemployed individuals to pursue small business ownership, boosting economic development and fostering innovation across Illinois. They drive community growth without additional costs to the state, while strengthening Illinois' reputation as a competitive innovation hub.

### How You Can Help?

You can help by sharing this initiative with community leaders and organizations, and supporting efforts to create opportunities for unemployed individuals to innovate and boost the state's economy.

### Bill Number:

SB1979  
HB3126

### Sponsor:

Representative Mary Gill  
Senator Willie Preston



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