
NEW LAWS SUMMARY

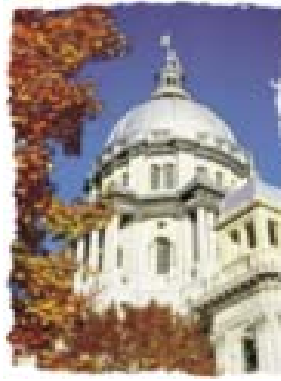
101ST ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



2020

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

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January 2020

In the first year of the 101st Illinois General Assembly, the legislature was in session from January 9, 2019 through June 2, 2019. Veto session was held for six days in October and November to allow the General Assembly to take action on bills that the governor had vetoed in addition to other measures. Over 600 new laws were enacted during the first year of the 101st Illinois General Assembly.

This summary report includes bills that were approved by the General Assembly that either affect, or are of interest, to county governments. The list is not all-inclusive. The synopsis of each bill is extremely brief and may not encompass the full content or impact of the legislation. For full meaning, you can obtain “enrolled” bill text on the Illinois Legislative Information System website at **www.ilga.gov**.

Special thanks to the IACBM legislative committee and all of our members who stayed involved with these important issues and who took the time to testify and share their views with state lawmakers. We expect another heavy agenda advancing into 2020 concerning local government policy. Remember, counties play an essential role in legislative and administrative state functions. Broadening and establishing a relationship with your legislators is critical to advancing the needs and initiatives of your county. We are here to assist you and will continue to keep you informed of important information as it is made available.

If you have questions about any legislation please contact the IACBM office. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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State Government



HB 245 (P.A. 101-0123)

MOBILE DEVICES REGULATION

Establishes a legal framework for using 'mobile carrying devices' in Illinois. Provides the devices be designed to stay within 10 feet of their owners. Owners or operators have the same rights and obligations of pedestrians, except that they must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians on a sidewalk or crosswalk. Also, such devices cannot be used to transport a person. **NOTE:** The new law gives local governments authority to enact their own regulations for how the devices are used within their jurisdictions. It also contains provisions protecting the legal rights of purchasers and people who are injured by the devices.

HB 2266 (P.A. 101-0034)

COMPTROLLER REPORTS AND FUNDS

Allows required fiscal reports to be published on the comptroller's website. Requires county clerks to report dissolution of a local government or school district within 60 days. Allows use of funds in the Cemetery Consumer Protection Fund to be used to help pay for certain expenses.

HB 2301 (P.A. 101-0384)

LABOR UNIONS

Requires state regulatory boards impacting workers in Illinois to include a representative from a recognized labor organization. These board impact the Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Natural Resources and the Workers' Compensation Commission. **NOTE:** Introduced in response to former Gov. Rauner's practice of stacking anti-union individuals to these bodies.

HB 2460 (P.A. 101-0473)

SUSTAINABLE INVESTING ACT

Requires all public agencies and units of government in Illinois to "consider" specific sustainability goals. Aims to help state and local governments by requiring those who manage public funds to adopt sustainable investment practices, to ensure risks of losses in the investments are minimized and long-term financial returns are maximized.

HB 2722 (P.A. 101-0065)

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION BONDS

Allows the bond posted by a contractor on a public works project to be used to pay for rented fixtures and machinery used in the project. Contractors with state contracts greater than \$50,000 shall deliver a surety bond and file it with the State to ensure the completion of the contract and all related material and subcontractor costs.

SB 102 (P.A. 101-0395)

DIGITAL REGISTRATION PLATE

Amends the Counties Code among others. Allows the Secretary of State to authorize the issuance of a digital registration plate to a vehicle in lieu of a set of static, metal registration plates.

SB 161 (P.A. 101-0527)

WORKER PROTECTION UNIT

Creates a new Worker Protection Unit within the Attorney General's office, which would be empowered to enforce employment laws.

SB 190 (P.A. 101-0192)

DISABILITY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

Attempts to assist individuals with disabilities who want to work for the State of Illinois. Requires the Illinois Dept. of Central Management Services to provide the Successful Disability Opportunities Program eligible candidate list when it gives agencies its open-competitive list.

SB 1735 (P.A. 101-0415)

PUBLIC AID RESEARCH PROJECT

Allows the Department of Human Services and local governments to conduct a research pilot at no cost to the state designed to reduce poverty, promote social mobility or increase financial stability for Illinois residents without affecting participants' eligibility for public benefits.

SB 1932 (P.A. 101-0181)

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF TASK FORCE

Creates a Property Tax Relief Task Force responsible for proposing solutions to achieve property tax relief for Illinois homeowners. The Task Force is required to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly with both short and long-term solutions that can take an administrative, electoral or legislative approach.

SB 2024 (P.A. 101-0364)

APPRENTICESHIP STUDY ACT

Requires the Department of Labor to conduct a study on the potential expansion of apprenticeship programs in this State and produce a report on its findings.

Civil Rights



SB 556 (P.A. 101-0165)

EQUITABLE RESTROOMS

Requires every single-occupancy bathroom in public buildings in the state to be labeled gender neutral. All single-occupancy restrooms "in a place of public accommodation or public building shall be identified as all-gender and designated for use by no more than one person at a time or for family or assisted use." Each single-occupancy restroom shall be outfitted with exterior signage that marks the single-occupancy restroom as a restroom and does not indicate any specific gender. **NOTE:** Health officers or health inspectors will be allowed to inspect public buildings "during any inspection" to ensure compliance.

Agriculture



HB 2505 (P.A. 101-0258) **LOCAL FOODS**

Classifies foods as local if they are processed or packaged in Illinois and contain at least one ingredient grown in the state. **NOTE:** Aims for state agencies to prioritize buying locally grown food and farm products. Before this law, all ingredients had to be grown in Illinois for it to be considered a "local product."

HB 2669 (P.A. 101-0481) **FARM MACHINERY FEES**

Removes the \$250 fee and size restrictions for a single unit self-propelled agricultural fertilizer implement. As such, farmers will no longer have to pay for certain license plate registration fees beginning in 2020.

HB 2737 (P.A. 101-0484) **SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Defines "soil health" and allows districts to initiate and conduct specified activities regarding improvement of soil health, including surveys, investigations, research, development of comprehensive plans, entering into agreements with or cooperating with other entities, and making agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment available to landowners or occupiers within the district.

HB 3092 (P.A. 101-0076) **NATIVE PRAIRIE AND FORAGE PREFERENCE**

Every state agency charged with planting shall give preference to using native prairie and forage plants to benefit pollinators, including, but not limited to, honey bees and monarch butterflies.

Animals



HB 3390 (P.A. 101-0210) **KENNEL FIRE ALARMS**

Requires all kennel operators to install in the kennel a fire alarm monitoring system that triggers notification to local emergency responders when activated or fire sprinklers. The Illinois Department of Agriculture shall deny the initial licensure or license renewal of a kennel operator for the failure to comply with this provision. **NOTE:** The measure was prompted by a kennel fire in DuPage County that claimed the lives of 29 dogs.

HB 3671 (P.A. 101-0518) **SERVICE ANIMALS**

Creates the Assistance and Service Animal Integrity Act. A housing provider who receives a request from a person to make an exception to the landlord's policy prohibiting animals on the landlord's property because the person requires the use of an assistance animal or service animal may require the person to produce reliable documentation. **NOTE:** Housing providers frequently see individuals fraudulently claim a disability in order to circumvent pet restrictions. The Act includes "condominiums" and "coops" under the definition of "housing providers" as well as any related entity (e.g. townhome associations).

SB 131 (P.A. 101-0299) **FERAL CATS VACCINATION**

Requires cats 4 months or older to get a rabies vaccine, but it wouldn't include feral cats unless they were being spayed or neutered. **NOTE:** The registration requirements or any fee imposed by the county under the Animal Control Act shall not apply to feral cats.

Business, Commerce and Consumers



HB 2156 (P.A. 101-0462) **REBATE CARD FEES**

Makes it unlawful for retailers to offer consumers a rebate made on a store-value card – where the amount is on the card and not connected to a financial system – that charges inactivity fees or other post-issuance fees. **NOTE:** In the past, companies would issue a rebate in the form of a check to a consumer. Under current law, if the check is not cashed within three years, the company is required to turn the amount of the check over to the Treasurer's Office as unclaimed property.

HB 2528 (P.A. 101-0475) **HOME BUSINESS ADDRESS**

Allows a person to use the county clerk's address as their business address if they believe publishing their home address would threaten their safety. **NOTE:** The request must be accompanied by a court order or police report.

HB 3405 (P.A. 101-0509) **GRATUITIES**

Provides that an employer may not retain gratuities from workers who earn them. Further, requires gratuities to be paid to employees within 13 days after the end of the pay period during which the gratuities were earned. **NOTE:** In March 2018, federal law surrounding worker gratuities changed and this bill will align Illinois laws with them.

SB 534 (P.A. 101-0170) **DIVERSITY ON CORPORATE BOARDS**

Creates the Bureau on Diversity in Active Apprenticeship Program within the Illinois Department of Labor. Aims to encourage diversity on the boards of directors of publicly held domestic and foreign corporations with principal executive offices in Illinois. Establishes a 20% aspirational goal that state and university contracts be awarded to minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

County Government



HB 250 (P.A. 101-0379)

JOINT TAX SALE

A county (excluding Cook County) may, by joint agreement, combine its tax sale with the tax sale of one or more other contiguous counties. A joint tax sale must be held at a location in one of the participating counties. Also, provides that, if property contains a hazardous substance or waste, the court may order the holder of the certificate of purchase to assign the certificate to the county collector. The county collector may further assign the certificate to the county, acting as trustee for taxing districts, or to a taxing district having an interest in the taxes sold.

HB 392 (P.A. 101-0612)

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Extends the pilot program that allows Lake County jurors to donate fees to the Children's Advocacy Center.

HB 2243 (P.A. 101-0467)

ASSESSOR QUALIFICATIONS

Updates qualifications to serve as a Township or County Assessment Officer, eliminating duplicate continuing education requirements. Makes the Dept. of Revenue the sole source of eligibility certification for candidates.

HB 2252 (P.A. 101-0253)

COUNTIES CODE (CLERK DIVISION)

Makes all provisions of the Division "gender neutral".

HB 2264 (P.A. 101-0383)

COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Clarifies language in state statute to ensure funds intended to support extension programs (such as 4-H) cannot be withheld by the state. **NOTE:** Due to vagueness in prior law, funds meant for the State Cooperative Extension Trust Fund, which helps fund extension programs, was not being regularly deposited.

HB 2489 (P.A. 101-0140)

MOBILE HOMES REPORT

The Secretary of State shall provide the county collector in each county a quarterly report of the transfer of title of mobile homes.

HB 3143 (P.A. 101-0150)

COUNTY ASSESSOR

A county (excluding Cook County) may, upon referendum approval, change the manner in which it selects its county assessor or supervisor of assessments from an elected position to an appointed position or from an appointed position to an elected position.

SB 62 (P.A. 101-0296)

EXPIRED LIEN

Modifies how a county recorder determines if a lien is an expired lien under a county's demand and referral

program. Provides that a lien

is expired if a suit to enforce the lien has not been commenced or a counter-claim has not been filed by the lienholder within 2 years after the completion date of the contract as specified in the recorded mechanics lien.

SB 1007 (P.A. 101-0402)

MILITARY DISCHARGE RECORDS

Requires military discharge records submitted to county clerks to be made available for public inspection and copying with certain limitations.

SB 1114 (P.A. 101-0200)

IMMINENT HAZARD REMOVAL

If a county finds an imminent hazard to the public health or safety exists arising from an unfit condition, it may bring an action, without bond, for immediate injunctive relief, including causing the removal of unsafe accumulations.

SB 1568 (P.A. 101-0338)

CORONER REPORT – SUDDEN INFANT DEATH

Changes when coroners are required to perform autopsies on children aged two years or younger who die suddenly to one year or younger.

SB 1580 (P.A. 101-0405)

ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

Allows DuPage County to adopt ordinances pertaining to adult entertainment facilities in unincorporated areas of the county. Allows administrative review of such facilities by the county.

Children



HB 3711 (P.A. 101-0293)

BABY CHANGING STATION

Requires all public buildings, retail stores and restaurants to have diaper changing facilities in restrooms for both men and women. There are exceptions in certain cases for small businesses, as well as in buildings where the installation of a changing station would interfere with access for people with disabilities. Industrial buildings and bars would also be exempt. **NOTE:** Signage outside the entrance to restrooms where the station is located would be required.

SB 218 (P.A. 101-0529)

TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

Requires the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to request that the State's Attorney file a petition to terminate parental rights for a child who is in care of a parent convicted of specified sex offenses.

Local Government and Special Districts



HB 303 (P.A. 101-0228)

DISCLOSABLE PAYMENT – SICK LEAVE

Provides that “disclosable payment” also includes accumulated sick leave.

HB 3334 (P.A. 101-0109)

RAFFLES AND POKER RUNS

Raffles shall be licensed by the governing body of the municipality with jurisdiction over the key location or, if no municipality has jurisdiction, then by the governing body of the county with jurisdiction over the key location. A license shall authorize the holder of such license to sell raffle chances throughout the State, including beyond the borders of the licensing municipality or county. Removes provisions requiring poker runs to be licensed by the county with jurisdiction over the key location.

HB 3575 (P.A. 101-0514)

BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY ACT

State and local governments would be permitted to use Blockchain for smart contracts, storing vital records, evidence in court proceedings and satisfaction of legal written requirements and signature requirements. **NOTE:** Prohibits local governments from placing restrictions or taxes on block chain usage.

SB 90 (P.A. 101-0298)

DRAINAGE DISTRICT DISSOLUTION

Outlines the petition process for a drainage district to be dissolved. Requires both the municipality and the county in which the drainage district lies to pass an ordinance with specific criteria for carrying out the dissolution. Only applies to districts within counties that have a storm water management planning commission located within Des Plaines, Lake Michigan, Chicago/Calumet, and Fox watersheds.

SB 584 (P.A. 101-0308)

METRO-EAST SANITARY DISTRICT

Changes the appointment process of the Metro-East Sanitary District (Madison County and St. Clair County). Provides that the mayor of the largest municipality in the county having the greater equalized assessed valuation of the district shall be an ex officio commissioner of the Board of Commissioners. Requires the executive director to be a resident of the district.

SB 1055 (P.A. 101-0199)

WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

After Jan. 1, 2020, qualified water treatment facilities shall be assessed by the Department of Revenue.

SB 1273 (P.A. 101-0322)

PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY

Allows park district property to be conveyed to a unit of local government or school district by a four-fifths vote by the park district board.

SB 1418 (P.A. 101-0584)

BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Gives one of the Madison County Bi-State appointments to St. Clair County, citing St. Clair's participation in light rail service or MetroLink. Bi-State Development Agency shall pass through 100% of Urbanized Area Formula Funding program associated with the Alton and Wood River area assistance and funding to the Madison Mass Transit District.

SB 1536 (P.A. 101-0114)

MUNICIPAL TERM LIMITS

Term limits enacted by referendum, ordinance or otherwise must be prospective and shall not prohibit a person otherwise eligible from running for or holding elective office in that municipality. That imposition of term limits shall apply only to terms for the same office.

SB 1558 (P.A. 101-0337)

VIDEO GAMING LICENSE FEE

Allows the City of Rockford to impose a \$250 per year fee on video gaming terminals. **NOTE:** Currently, non-home rule cities cannot charge more than \$25 annually for a video gaming machine license.

SB 1651 (P.A. 101-0344)

FOREST PRESERVE EASEMENTS

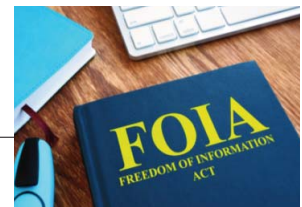
Allows forest preserve districts to regulate renewable energy within their boundaries.

SB 1806 (P.A. 101-0419)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITING

Makes technical changes to the Municipal Audit Act, the County Audit Act, and the Governmental Audit Act. Add the “generally accepted auditing standards” definition to the Audit Division of the Counties Code.

FOIA



SB 1699 (P.A. 101-0433)

BOOKING PHOTOGRAPHS

Prohibits, with exceptions, a law enforcement agency from publishing booking photographs on its social networking website (instead of its social media website).

SB 1712 (P.A. 101-0434)

PUBLIC BODY CREDIT CARD DISCLOSURE

Exempts from disclosure a public body's credit card numbers, debit card numbers, bank account numbers, Federal Employer Identification Number, security code numbers, passwords, and similar account information, the disclosure of which could result in identity theft or impersonation or defrauding of a governmental entity or a person.

Cannabis



HB 1438 (P.A. 101-0027) CANNABIS REGULATION AND TAX ACT

Ends cannabis prohibition in the state of Illinois and replaces it with a system to tax and regulate cannabis for adults 21 and over. In addition to legalizing possession and use for adults, it expands the current medical cannabis licensing system, includes automatic expungement for cannabis offenses, and adds the ability for medical patients to grow at home. Local governments may "opt out" of the system by passing an ordinance prohibiting the establishment of cannabis dispensaries in their jurisdiction. They may also enact reasonable zoning restrictions related to licensed businesses. *The new law took effect on January 1, 2020.*

SB 1557 (P.A. 101-0593) CANNABIS REGULATION (Trailer Bill)

In order to address employer concerns regarding the Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, the Illinois General Assembly amended the Act via a trailer bill during the fall veto session. It includes stronger provisions to prevent conflicts of interest among elected officials and provides more information to people whose records will be expunged. Also, clarifies an employer's right to drug test and to take adverse action based on a failed drug test. Prior to the amendment, it was unclear whether a failed drug test alone was sufficient to allow employers to take adverse action against an employee.

SB 2023 (P.A. 101-0363) MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM ACT

Expands and makes permanent Illinois' medical cannabis program. The law adds 11 new conditions for eligibility purposes and expands the range of medical professionals who can certify eligibility of applicants to the program. Requires IDFPR to award remaining dispensary licenses using a competitive application review system similar to that proposed in the adult-use law, including awarding points for participants who qualify as social equity applicants. **NOTE:** Every county, instead of just Cook County, now has the ability to establish a 3% tax on the gross receipts of sales.

Minimum Wage



SB 1 (P.A. 101-0001) MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Starting Jan. 1, minimum wage will increase from \$8.25 to \$9.25 statewide, with the minimum wage for tipped workers and employees under 18 (only those working part-time) increasing proportionally as well. In July, it will increase again to \$10, then \$11 beginning on Jan. 1, 2021. Illinois' minimum wage will continue to increase until it reaches \$15 per hour beginning on Jan. 1, 2025.

Cook County



HB 331 (P.A. 101-0042) EXPRESSWAY CAMERAS

Requires the Illinois State Police, Dept. of Transportation (IDOT) and Toll Highway Authority to conduct a program to increase the amount of cameras along Cook County expressways. The images captured by the cameras will be used to investigate and study gun crimes on highways, aiming to crack down on future offenses. **NOTE:** Prompted by the shooting of an innocent woman driving on the I-57 to her job as a mail carrier for the post office.

HB 833 (P.A. 101-0453) SENIOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Allows Cook County to have a multi-year senior citizen homestead exemption. **NOTE:** To allow for the automatic renewal of the exemption and prevent fraud in its application, the Cook County Assessor's Office is required to conduct an audit on every Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption at least once every three years.

SB 72 (P.A. 101-0188) COOK COUNTY BOARD PRESIDENT VACANCY

In the event of a vacancy in the office, the members of the county board shall elect one of their members to serve as president until the next special or regular election.

SB 1583 (P.A. 101-0406) ARREST WARRANTS

Invalidates warrants issued by Cook County after 10 years. Applies to people who previously received probation, conditional discharge or supervision of charges related to theft, retail theft or possession of controlled substances.

Insurance



HB 889 (P.A.101-0371) TICK-BORNE DISEASES

Requires insurance companies to cover office visits, testing and treatment for tick-borne diseases like Lyme disease. **NOTE:** Aims to support farmers throughout the state who have struggled to afford continuing treatments.

HB 2847 (P.A. 101-0179) ORGAN DONOR PROTECTIONS

Prohibits insurers from limiting coverage for living organ donors. Prohibits employers from retaliating against an employee for requesting organ donor leave time.

HB 3435 (P.A. 101-0281) EPINEPHRINE INJECTORS

Requires companies offering health insurance policies in Illinois to pay for medically necessary epinephrine injectors for persons 18 years of age or under.

Courts and Law Enforcement



HB 1583 (P.A. 101-0239)

ELECTRONIC ARREST WARRANT

Allows for an arrest warrant to be issued via electronic means, similar to a search warrant.

HB 2028 (P.A. 101-0028)

BURIAL BENEFIT

Increases the burial benefit paid to the surviving spouse or estate of a fireman, state police or law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

HB 2134 (P.A. 101-0460)

LOCATION SURVEILLANCE

Ensures state law conforms with a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Illinois law enforcement agencies must seek a warrant or court order before obtaining current, future or historical cell site location information.

HB 2135 (P.A. 101-0130)

SEX OFFENSE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

Removes the statute of limitations for criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault, or aggravated criminal sexual abuse regardless of the age of the victim.

HB 2308 (P.A. 101-0138)

BAIL NO-CONTACT PROVISION

Allows for a no-contact provision to prohibit an incarcerated defendant from contacting victims or witnesses from the jail while awaiting trial.

HB 2408 (P.A. 101-0385)

PRIVATE IMAGES POSTING

Prohibits a person from posting private compromising images of another person online. It also provides for a process for a person to obtain a "take-down" order to have the images removed.

HB 2941 (P.A. 101-0115)

INMATE INFORMATION

Requires the Dept. of Corrections, the Cook County Dept. of Corrections, and the office of the sheriff of every other county to honor all intergovernmental agreements with the Dept. of Human Services concerning the exchange of inmate information and to provide all required information in a timely manner.

HB 3396 (P.A. 101-0508)

STALKING / NO CONTACT ORDERS

Requires more rapid response by the courts and law enforcement in issuing of stalking, domestic violence and civil no contact orders. If an emergency civil no contact order or order of protection is granted on a court holiday or evening, the court shall immediately file a certified copy of the order with the sheriff or other law enforcement official charged with maintaining Department or State Police records (rather than on the next court day).

HB 3687 (P.A. 101-0521)

SEX OFFENSE NOTIFICATION

Requires state's attorneys to notify a school district when an employee is arrested for a sex offense.

SB 397 (P.A. 101-0581)

COURT REPORTERS

Allows state-paid court reporters to be paid more than statute currently sets. Also, allows court reporters of individual circuits to unionize in lieu of bargaining on a statewide basis.

SB 1134 (P.A. 101-0539)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

In foreclosure actions, the plaintiff will file an affidavit with the court if the defendant is unavailable for service of process, the plaintiff will cause notice to be published in a newspaper. The clerk of the court (rather than the plaintiff) shall, within 10 days of the first publication of the notice, send a copy of the notice by mail to each defendant whose place of residence is stated in the affidavit.

SB 1378 (P.A. 101-0327)

JURY DUTY UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION

No person who is qualified and able to serve as a juror may be excluded from jury service in any court of this State on the basis of, among other things, sexual orientation.

SB 1411 (P.A. 101-0377)

SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE

Mandates the Illinois State Police to establish a statewide sexual assault electronic tracking system. **NOTE:** Illinois currently lacks a uniform system across all law enforcement to track sexual assault evidence. The new law will allow survivors to access real-time status updates.

SB 1917 (P.A. 101-0360)

RAFFLES AND POKER RUNS

Allows local law enforcement associations to get licenses for raffles and poker runs.

SB 1507 (P.A. 101-0556)

DISSEMINATE PRIVATE IMAGES

Creates the Civil Remedies for Nonconsensual Dissemination of Private Sexual Images Act. Allows victims of revenge porn to recover economic, non-economic, and punitive damages.

SB 1609 (P.A. 101-0408)

INCARCERATION CREDIT

Increases the credit for incarceration on a bailable offense from \$5 per day to \$30 per day. Any credit for time served prior to sentencing that reduces the amount a defendant is required to pay shall be deducted from the fine, if any, ordered by the court.

Employees



HB 252 (P.A. 101-0430) **HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

Expands the Illinois Human Rights Act to include employers with one or more employees. Prior law only applied to workplaces with 15 or more employees. This law will give these employees a remedy for work-related discrimination and retaliation.

HB 2830 (P.A. 101-0486) **EMPLOYEE LEAVE**

Requires employers to provide an employee leave in order to attend an academic meeting at their child's school.

SB 1474 (P.A. 101-0003) **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FREEDOM ACT**

The new state policy means "employers, employees, and their labor organizations are free" to bargain collectively for specific working rights. The authority to enact laws or rules that restrict the use of union security agreements between an employer and a labor organization vests exclusively with the General Assembly. Prohibits local right-to-work ordinances and imposes penalties on local governments and elected officials violating its requirement.

SB 2087 (P.A. 101-0368) **DISABILITIES EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

Creates the Customized Employment for Individuals with Disabilities Act, which establishes a five-year pilot program to assist individuals with disabilities who are seeking work in finding employment and helping them negotiate fair wages.

Elections



SB 2090 (P.A. 101-0442) **JAILS AND PRISON VOTING**

Expands voter access and education efforts in jails across the state. The new law takes the following steps:

- Directs county jails and local election officials to establish a process that allows detainees awaiting trial to cast their ballots during elections
- Establishes a temporary polling place at the Cook County Department of Corrections
- Directs the Illinois Dept. of Corrections and county jails to provide a voter registration application and detailed information about their voting rights, including notification that their voting rights have been restored, to any person in custody eligible to vote for those being released
- Clarifies that for in-person voting, non-partisan poll watchers are limited to one per division within the jail, instead of one per precinct and requires in-person voting to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Interviews



HB 2557 (P.A. 101-0260) **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

Creates the Artificial Intelligence Video Interview Act. An employer that asks applicants to record video interviews and uses an artificial intelligence (AI) analysis of applicant-submitted videos are required to comply with the following:

Notification: Employers have to inform potential employees they are using AI to analyze their videos. A provision requiring written notice was removed from the bill.

Explanation: Employers must explain to the applicant how their AI program works and what characteristics the program uses to evaluate applicants.

Consent: The applicant's consent must be obtained before using AI to analyze video.

Confidentiality: Employers will be permitted to share the videos only with persons whose expertise is needed to evaluate the applicant.

Destruction: Upon request of an applicant, employers must destroy the video and all copies within 30 days.

NOTE: The term "artificial intelligence" is not defined in the Act. It is traditionally considered to be "the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines", – primarily computer systems. Also, the bill does not invoke any penalties for violating provisions of the Act, which leaves open questions of enforcement.

Sexual Harassment

SB 75 (P.A. 101-0221) **SEXUAL HARASSMENT OMNIBUS**

The Workplace Transparency Act strengthens the ability of employees to report allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination or retaliation to federal, state or local officials. Requires all employers to provide workplace sexual harassment training at least once a year. Failure to train could result in a \$500-\$1000 penalty to businesses. Limits the use of contract provisions intended to prevent employees from reporting sexual harassment, such as non-disclosure agreements and arbitration clauses. Makes harassment against contract employees illegal. Prohibits employers from disclosing the name of a victim of an act of alleged sexual harassment or unlawful discrimination in any disclosures.

NOTE: Requires local governments to report and provide an independent review of allegations of sexual harassment made against local elected officials.



Environment and Natural Resources



HB 2650 (P.A. 101-0143)

WATER GRANT PRIORITIZATION

In an effort to support disadvantaged communities, requires the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to prioritize a portion of water infrastructure funding for low-income areas for five years to provide sustainable and equitable water management. **NOTE:** Assistance may be used for a variety of research and improvement options, including water rate studies, engineering and facility planning, and aid for replacement of lead services lines.

SB 9 (P.A. 101-0171)

COAL ASH POLLUTION PREVENTION

Prohibits the discharge of any contaminants from a coal ash surface impoundment into the environment so as to cause a violation of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act or regulations adopted by the Pollution Control Board. A permit issued by the IEPA is required to construct, install, modify, operate, or close any coal ash surface impoundment. Requires the submittal of a closure alternatives analysis to IEPA that analyzes all closure methods being considered. Also, mandates that the Pollution Control Board adopt rules establishing construction and operating permit requirements, design standards, reporting, financial assurance, and closure and post-closure requirements for coal ash surface impoundments.

SB 1392 (P.A. 101-0330)

MICROPLASTICS REPORT

Subject to appropriation, requires the Prairie Research Institute to conduct a study and report its findings to the General Assembly concerning microplastics and any threat they may pose to human health and the environment.

Energy



HB 840 (P.A. 100-0044)

NUCLEAR PLANTS

Beginning on or before May 1, 2020, and every two years thereafter, requires the owner or operator of each nuclear power plant to provide the Illinois Commerce Commission and the Illinois General Assembly a copy of the facility's nuclear decommissioning funding assurance status report. **NOTE:** It can take decades of planned deconstruction efforts to close nuclear power plants permanently. This new law adds safeguards to ensure the facilities are sufficiently funded throughout the decommissioning process.

SB 1529 (P.A. 101-0113)

SOLAR BUILD CONTRACTS

Fixes deadline problem in current law for new solar builds. Allows another year for projects that have not begun delivery due to a delay in the study timeline out of their control.

SB 1597 (P.A. 101-0607)

PANA LAKE DEVELOPMENT

Authorizes the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to relinquish the state's contractual right to manage and develop the Pana Lake dam and the land surrounding it. This will allow the city of Pana (Christian County) to move forward with a plan to develop 140 acres of dormant land around Pana Lake. The contract was originally created as an agreement between the city and the now-defunct Department of Conservation in 1949. The state intended to develop the land for recreational use, but never did so.

SB 1847 (P.A. 101-0422)

EPA PERMIT NOTICE

Whenever a permit is required under the Environmental Protection Act to construct a new facility, requires the IEPA to notify State Senator and Representative of the district in which the facility will be located and give public notice on the agency website in a searchable format by zip code.

SB 1852 (P.A. 101-0022) / SB 1854 (P.A. 101-0023)

ETHYLENE OXIDE EMISSIONS

Places restrictions on the emission of ethylene oxide (EO). SB 1852 prohibits EO sterilization facilities from operating in Illinois unless they capture 100% of all EO emissions within the facility and reduce EO emissions to 0.2 parts per million. SB 1854 addresses emissions from "nonnegligible EO emission sources," which means a source that currently emits more than 150 pounds of EO per year and is located in a county with a population of at least 700,000.

NOTE: The Sterigenics plant in northern Illinois closed after air quality tests by the IEPA found high levels of EO, a chemical linked to some types of cancer.

SB 1993 (P.A. 101-0362)

DIESEL EMISSIONS TESTING

Removes the requirement for diesel emission inspections for vehicles over 16,000 pounds that are registered in the Chicagoland area and the Metro-East area.

SB 2027 (P.A. 101-0573)

MAHOMET AQUIFER

Directs the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to prioritize landfills overlying the Mahomet Aquifer for inspection. Also seeks to establish a pilot program at the Pekin Metro Landfill to identify potential and current threats to the water quality of the Aquifer from the landfill.

SB 2146 (P.A. 101-0576)

CLEAN WATER JOBS PROGRAM

Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to create a Clean Water Workforce Pipeline Program to provide grants and other financial assistance to prepare people for careers in water infrastructure. Also, creates a Water Workforce Development Fund within the State Treasury. **NOTE:** Fund is not subject to sweeps.

Pensions, Benefits and IMRF



HB 2884 (P.A. 101-0492) **IMRF – SICK LEAVE DAYS**

Extends to members participating with certain educational employers the ability to roll over unused, unpaid sick leave between multiple employers. Previously, this ability only applied to members participating with school districts.

HB 3082 (P.A. 101-0277) **DEFERRED COMPENSATION**

Requires Central Management Services to automatically enroll new members of State Retirement Systems in the deferred compensation plan. An employee automatically enrolled shall have 3% of his or her gross compensation for each pay period deferred into his or her deferred compensation account.

HB 3263 (P.A. 101-0504) **IMRF POSTING REQUIREMENTS**

Designed to bring transparency to local government public pension funds, requires IMRF to post certain employer cost and participation information on its website: (1) copies of all resolutions adopted by a municipality on or after Jan. 1, 1995 to participate in the Fund if such a resolution was required; (2) an annual report listing each municipality and the date each first became a municipality that participates in the Fund; (3) all documents pertaining to each municipality's annual projected future contributions to the Fund; and (4) information about the amount of each municipality's past required contributions for each year of participation on or after Jan. 1, 1995 and before, if available. **NOTE:** Requires municipalities to post to its website a link to that information.

Housing



SB 1290 (P.A. 0439) **IMMIGRANT TENANT**

Prohibits landlords from threatening to disclose or actually disclosing a tenant's immigration status to harass the tenant, retaliate against the tenant, or force the tenant to move out without using proper procedures.

SB 1780 (P.A. 101-0565) **ARREST RECORD**

Amends the Illinois Human Rights Act to make it a civil rights violation to deny someone housing on the basis of an arrest without a conviction, or due to a court record that has been expunged, sealed, or impounded from public view or they are protected under the Juvenile Court Act. **NOTE:** The prohibition against the use of an arrest record shall not preclude a person engaging in a real estate transaction from prohibiting the tenant or a guest of the tenant from engaging in unlawful activity on the premises.

HB 3446 (P.A. 101-0151) **IMRF DISABILITY**

Allows members to retain disability eligibility if they have up to a three-month gap in employment prior to disability, and return to participation with a different employer.

NOTE: Prior to this law, the member had to return to the same employer to retain eligibility.

SB 1236 (P.A. 101-0544) **IMRF – ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Prohibits an elected official who is receiving an IMRF pension based on service in the "same position" from also receiving a salary for that position. If the official was receiving an IMRF pension on Aug. 23, 2019, effective at the beginning of their next term, they must either suspend their IMRF pension or their salary will be reduced to zero.

SB 1264 (P.A. 101-0546) **UNIFORM UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ACT**

Provides that the Act does not apply to any annuity, pension, or benefit fund held in a fiduciary capacity by a retirement system, pension fund, or investment board created under any Article of the Illinois Pension Code. Requires all pension systems to send an annual report to the State Treasurer's Office regarding unclaimed assets.

SB 1300 (P.A. 101-0610) **PENSION CONSOLIDATION**

Consolidates 649 downstate and suburban police and fire pension plans into two statewide funds. The new funds will leverage their collective buying power to increase investment returns and lower management costs. Brings Tier 2 pensions into compliance to avoid future added liabilities, which is estimated to cost \$70 to \$95 million while projected investment gains can generate an additional \$820 million to \$2.5 billion. **NOTE:** Local pension boards will continue to administer pension benefits, and no assets or liabilities will be shifted from one pension plan to another.

Tamms



HB 210 (P.A. 101-0449) **TAMMS CORRECTIONAL CENTER**

Creates a task force to study the possible use of the Tamms Minimum Security Unit as a vocational training center for the Illinois Dept. of Corrections. The Task Force must submit its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by Dec. 31, 2020. The supermax prison located in Alexander County has remained unoccupied since its closure in 2013. The facility complex consists of about 220 acres with 21 buildings contained within the property.

Taxes, Fees and Exemptions



HB 925 (P.A. 101-0454) **MOBILE HOME TAXES**

Changes the way that Illinois assess penalties on delinquent mobile home taxes, so that the maximum penalty for late taxes is \$100 or 50% of their original tax bill. **NOTE:** Applies only in counties with a population of more than 700,000 and less than 900,000.

HB 938 (P.A. 101-0047) **HOME RULE SALES TAX**

Extends the sunset date to allow the proceeds of a sales tax imposed by a non-Home Rule municipality to be used for municipal operations through July 1, 2030.

HB 1561 (P.A. 101-0455) **SCHOOL SAFETY TAX**

Allows counties to expand their School Facility Occupation Tax to support safety and mental health efforts.

HB 2209 (P.A. 101-0134) **TAX BILLS – TIF DISTRICTS**

Each tax bill shall contain a list of each tax increment financing (TIF) district in which the property is located and the dollar amount of tax due allocable to the TIF district.

SB 39 (P.A. 101-0077) **PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FUND**

Establishes a "property tax relief fund," which would be used to pay refunds to Illinois property taxpayers (subject to the appropriations of future General Assemblies). The rebates would be funded by the state, in part through a proposed "Fair Tax" constitutional amendment and would not take effect until January 2021.

SB 119 (P.A. 101-0604) **ONLINE SALES TAX COMPLIANCE**

A broad-ranging follow-up to the budget implementation bill passed in June. Among other provisions, the new law will ensure the state's full 6.25 percent sales tax rate and any locally-imposed taxes will be collected at the point of destination on sales made through online marketplaces or by remote retailers that do a certain amount of business in the state. Retail products purchased online and shipped to Illinois addresses will now generate the same tax revenue as products purchased locally in stores regardless of where they are shipped from. **NOTE:** This is an initiative of the Illinois Retail Merchants Association (IRMA) and was supported by the IACBM. Per IRMA estimates, the added compliance resulting from the legislative fix could result in more than \$460 million in combined state and local revenue in FY2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021). The estimated sum breaks down to \$200 million from remote retailer provisions for state government and \$40 million resulting from locally-imposed taxes, and \$180 million from state marketplace sales with \$45 million generated for locally-imposed taxes.

SB 690 (P.A. 101-0031) **PARKING EXCISE TAX**

Requires parking area operators to register with the state and begin collecting and remitting tax on the rental of parking spaces. The tax is 6% or 9% depending on how the parking space is rented. **NOTE:** There are exemptions for parking areas owned by government entities or by hospitals, residential off-street parking that is part of a lease agreement, or those renting fewer than four spots.

SB 1041 (P.A. 101-0198) **AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Closes a loophole in state law that has allowed tenants at the DuPage County Airport Authority to skip out on nearly \$770,000 in overdue property tax payments. Under this measure, the DuPage County State's Attorney is empowered to seek civil action to recoup the cost of delinquent taxes, interest, penalties and costs owed by a lessee to a county taxing district. **NOTE:** The proceeds of any such judgment shall be distributed to the taxing districts in accordance with the property tax distribution calculations under the Property Tax Code.

SB 1456 (P.A. 101-0551) **PROPERTY TAX – EXEMPT PURPOSE**

If property located in a municipality (of more than 500,000 inhabitants) is not subject to taxation due to its use for the purpose of parking, and any portion of the property is used for a purpose other than parking, that portion of the property shall be subject to taxation for the period of time during which it is used for that non-exempt purpose.

SB 1939 (P.A. 101-0032) **COUNTY MOTOR FUEL TAX**

Allows Lake and Will Counties to impose a County Motor Fuel Tax on retail sales of motor fuel. Increases the initial maximum tax rate that can be imposed from four cents per gallon to eight cents per gallon and provides that the rate may not be less than four cents per gallon. Requires the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) to determine an annual rate increase to take effect on July 1 of each year. The law will have no immediate effect in Lake or Will Counties. Before the County Motor Fuel Tax can take effect in one of those counties, the county board must adopt an ordinance or resolution imposing the tax at an initial rate of not less than four cents per gallon and not exceeding eight cents per gallon of motor fuel sold at retail within the county. IDOR then will begin administering the tax for the county on the first day of the second calendar month after the county files the ordinance or resolution with IDOR. **NOTE:** The law will have no immediate effect in DuPage, Kane, or McHenry Counties, where the County Motor Fuel Tax has been in effect for years. The Act does allow those counties to pass an ordinance or resolution changing the current four cents per gallon tax they impose to an amount not exceeding eight cents per gallon.

Townships



HB 348 (P.A. 101-0230) **MCHEMRY DISSOLUTION**

Allows for the petition-initiated dissolution of any township in McHenry County. All township assets and obligations would be transferred to McHenry County, but all proceeds from the sale of assets coming from the dissolution of a township can only be used within the geographic boundaries of the township. All road districts wholly within the boundaries of the dissolving township are dissolved, and those powers and responsibilities would go to McHenry County. The county board cannot extend a property tax levy greater than 90% of levy extended by the dissolved township or road district, and it can only be extended on the area within the geographic boundaries of the township. **NOTE:** The law also abolishes road districts with less than 15 miles of road in Lake County and McHenry County. Responsibilities of the road district are absorbed by the township, which can enter an intergovernmental agreement to administer the roads.

HB 3141 (P.A. 101-0104) **TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL VACANCY**

If there is a vacancy in the office of township supervisor, a trustee shall be appointed as deputy supervisor to perform the ministerial functions of that office until the vacancy is filled and once the vacancy is filled, the deputy supervisor's appointment is terminated. **NOTE:** Corrects a problem that surfaced when a vacancy of that office resulted in employees not receiving a paycheck.

HB 3676 (P.A. 101-0519) **ATTESTATION OF FUNDS**

Makes various changes to the township code relating to the attestation of funds. Among them, a township board may adopt rules relating to regulating the township clerk's attestation when the clerk is temporarily unavailable, for payroll processing, and for the payout of funds made by cash, credit and debit card, and other means.

SB 640 (P.A. 101-0309) **TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY**

Provides express authority for townships to provide for and administer food pantry programs as part of the township's general assistance programming. **NOTE:** Allows such food pantries to use money collected for public aid for basic assistance needs for the homeless population.

SB 765 (P.A. 101-0197) **RESIDENCY EXCEPTION**

Allows a Township Board of Trustees to appoint a non-resident or a resident who has not resided in the district for one year to be a highway commissioner or contract with a neighboring township to provide highway commissioner services if the district is within a township with no incorporated town; township has a population of less than 500; no qualified candidate who has resided in the township for at least one year is willing to serve as highway commissioner.

Public Safety



HB 105 (P.A. 101-0082) **FIRE INVESTIGATION**

Makes technical changes to clean-up the Fire Investigation Act by Illinois State Fire Marshal. Clarifies the jurisdiction and local authority of home-rule governments in respect to fire inspections and enforcement. Also, clarifies the current notice, corrective actions, and administrative order process.

HB 1873 (P.A. 101-0055) **SCHOOL BUSES**

Doubles fines for illegally approaching, overtaking or passing stopped school buses. A first violation shall be subject to a mandatory fine of \$300 (instead of \$150) and a second or subsequent violation shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000 (instead of \$500).

HB 1876 (P.A. 101-0056) **DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF VEHICLE LIGHTS**

Allows red or white oscillating, rotating, or flashing emergency lights to be used on a vehicle operated by a qualified deputy fire chief or assistant fire chief. **NOTE:** Prior to this, only the Fire Chief could use the lights, but often are not able to be on the scene for every fire.

HB 2766 (P.A. 101-0375) **FIRST RESPONDERS SUICIDE PREVENTION ACT**

Any emergency services or public safety employee may refer any fellow first responder for mental health services through an employee assistance or peer counseling program. If such a program is not available through the employee's agency, the legislation authorizes that help may be sought from any available mental health assistance program. **NOTE:** Mandates that any oral or written information communicated during these mental health sessions would be strictly confidential and could not be used in any judicial hearing, arbitration, or other adjudicatory proceeding.

SB 1496 (P.A. 101-0172) **CONSTRUCTION ZONES**

Increases the maximum penalty for hitting a construction worker to \$25,000 from the current \$10,000 fine.

SB 1862 (P.A. 101-0173) **SCOTT'S LAW EXTENSION**

In light of the increase in accidents and deaths of Illinois State Police troopers, this bill tightens up Scott's Law and enhances penalties upon violation. Extends Scott's Law protections to include a stationary authorized vehicle with oscillating lights, first responders, IDOT workers, law enforcement officers and any individual authorized to be on the highway within the scope of their employment or job duties. Increases the minimum fine to \$250 for a first violation and to \$750 for a second or subsequent violation as well as adds \$250 assessment fee for any violation of Scott's Law. Criminal penalties will increase to a Class A misdemeanor or a Class 4 felony depending on the case.

Transportation and Regulation



HB 2856 (P.A. 101-0490)

ELECTRONIC LIEN AND TITLE SYSTEM

Beginning on July 1, 2021, requires the Secretary of State to implement an electronic lien and title system to process the electronic notation and release of security interests in motor vehicles.

SB 24 (P.A. 101-0294)

TWO PERSON FREIGHT TRAIN ACT

Requires an operating crew of at least two people in order for a rail carrier to operate a train. **NOTE:** The intent is to protect public safety and is in response to lacking federal guidelines. The minimum freight train crew size shall remain in effect until a federal law or rule encompassing the subject matter has been adopted. Illinois becomes the third state to pass such a railroad safety measure.

SB 86 (P.A. 101-0297)

STREAMING VIDEO BAN

Adds to the current ban on cell phone use while driving by prohibiting drivers from operating a vehicle while also watching or streaming video on a device.

SB 87 (P.A. 101-0189)

TINTED VEHICLE LIGHTING

Prohibits drivers from using smoked or tinted lens or covers on their cars. Such headlight modifications can greatly reduce the visibility of a car in poor lighting. **NOTE:** The Illinois State Police must work out the details of how officers will enforce the law.

SB 1256 (P.A. 101-0319)

EXCESSIVE VEHICLE IDLING

Prohibits a diesel truck from idling for more than a total of 10 minutes within any 60-minute period if the vehicle is within 200 feet of a residential area. **NOTE:** Does not apply to ambulances, school buses, waste-hauling trucks, IDOT facilities, or vehicles owned by a public utility necessary in the repair or installation of a utility service.

Water Study



SB 1724 (P.A. 101-0562)

RATE SETTING PRACTICES

Proposes a comprehensive study of water rates, first in the Lake Michigan Service Area, and eventually for the whole State. The study will attempt to address various questions including, "Is there evidence that some utilities are using inappropriate rate-setting practices?" and "Do state and local policies play a part in rate increases?" The report will solicit input from stakeholder in government departments, municipal utilities and environmental organizations.

SB 1343 (P.A. 101-0547)

HEAVY DUTY TOW VEHICLES

Allows an extreme heavy duty tow and recovery vehicle to travel to and from the scene of a disabled vehicle if the towing service has obtained a permit for the vehicle.

SB 1381 (P.A. 101-0328)

HIGHWAY DESIGNATIONS

Standardizes the classification of highways across the state. Local governments may report to IDOT any limitations prohibiting the operation of vehicles imposed by ordinance or resolution (any routes from which "semi-trucks" are prohibited from traveling).

SB 2038 (P.A. 101-0174)

ZIPPER MERGE METHOD

Creates the Mover-Over Task Force to study the issue of violations of Scott's Law. Also, requires the Secretary of State's Office to add information to its Illinois Rules of the Road guide on how to properly merge from two lanes into one lane in heavy traffic. Experts believe the "zipper merge" method is the proper and most efficient way to merge multiple lanes of traffic, as drivers utilize both lanes until they reach the point that one lane narrows. Drivers then take turns merging with the other lane of traffic, creating a 'zipper-like' effect.

Wagering



HB 1552 (P.A. 101-0052)

HORSE RACING

Inter-track wagering location licensees must pay their pari-mutuel handle percentage to the county/municipality no later than the 20th of the month following the month the handle was generated. Also, licensees must pay the admission fees to the county/municipality no later than the 20th of the month following the month the admission fees were imposed (rather than remitting fees to the Illinois Racing Board within 48 hours and the Racing Board remitting the admission fees to the county/municipality).

SB 690 (P.A. 101-0031)

GAMING EXPANSION AND SPORTS BETTING

One of four bills enacted as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital plan. Allows sports wagering, including online and mobile, six additional casinos including one in Chicago, slots and table games at racetracks, possible slots at the Chicago airports, an additional video gaming terminal at each establishment and in some instances five added video gaming terminals, and the opportunity for existing casinos to purchase additional gaming positions or move to land-based operations. **NOTE:** Significant taxes and licensing fees are levied as part of the expansion.

Juveniles



HB 1579 (P.A. 101-0238) **SCHOOL THREATS**

Before a minor is sentenced for disorderly conduct, where the minor made threats of harm, violence, death, or destruction toward a school or persons in or at the school, the court may order the minor to undergo a mental health evaluation. Also, requires a person convicted of a false bomb, explosive, poison gas, deadly biological or chemical contaminant, or radioactive substance threat to reimburse the public agency for the costs of the emergency response.

HB 2934 (P.A. 101-0146) **JUVENILE COURT SUMMONS**

Provides that service of a summons and petition shall be made by leaving a copy at his or her usual place of abode with a person residing there.

HB 2935 (P.A. 101-0147) **APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Provides that counsel appointed for the minor and any indigent party shall appear at all stages of the trial court proceeding, and the appointment shall continue through the permanency hearings and termination of parental rights proceedings subject to withdrawal, vacating of appointment, or substitution.

Workers' Compensation



HB 269 (P.A. 101-0040) **ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

Allows one commissioner rather than the full Workers' Compensation Commission to approve enforcement action against an employer. Increases penalties for violations of the Workers' Compensation Act.

SB 1596 (P.A. 101-0006) **CIVIL TORT ACTIONS**

Creates an exception to the Workers' Compensation Act, allowing civil lawsuits to be brought against employers in latent injury cases. Lifts all time restrictions for employees claiming to suffer from latent illnesses caused by exposure to toxic substances including asbestos and radiation.

NOTE: This new law could affect your entities current liability insurance as it relates to "limitless" civil exposure. It has the potential to create virtually never-ending liability for claims of illness from former employees. Also, at this time, it's not clear whether the new law will be applied retroactively or prospectively to cases.

Fair Tax Constitutional Amendment



SJRCA 1

A proposed amendment to the Illinois state constitution that would change the state income tax system from a flat tax to a graduated income tax. Under current law, Illinois's state income tax rate is a flat rate of 4.95 percent. A flat income tax, which taxes all income levels at the same rate, is required by the current Illinois state constitution. A constitutional amendment would allow Illinois to change from a flat tax rate to a graduated rate.

The proposed new tax structure would raise taxes on Illinois taxpayers making over \$250,000. It also includes \$100 million for property tax relief. The proposed constitutional amendment to allow Illinois to impose a non-flat income tax will be on the ballot in the Nov. 3, 2020 general election. It requires 60 percent voter approval.

If the voters enact a graduated tax in 2021, single filers would pay a maximum rate of 7.99 percent on all income once their taxable income tops \$750,000. For joint filers, that rate takes effect on all income when it exceeds \$1 million. For the rest of the brackets, each varying tax rate would apply to only one specific margin of income. The measure also includes an increase in the property tax credit from 5 percent to 6 percent, and up to a \$100 per-child tax credit for couples earning less than \$100,000 and single persons earning less than \$80,000.

Wind Farms



HB 2988 (P.A. 101-0004) **ZONING REGULATIONS**

Gives counties and municipalities the sole authority for establishing standards to develop wind farms in the state. Stipulates that only a county may enact zoning regulations in rural areas outside of the jurisdiction of incorporated cities, even in the instance of no county-wide zoning regulations. **NOTE:** Resolved a dispute in Douglas County where certain town rules required setbacks for wind farms up to five times greater than the county required.

Seniors



HB 347 (P.A. 101-0182) ELDER ABUSE

Ensures that any person convicted of assault, aggravated assault, battery or aggravated battery against an elderly person would not receive property, benefit or other interest from the victim's estate.

HB 3065 (P.A. 101-0496) ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

When conducting any investigation concerning a report of suspected abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, or self-neglect of an eligible adult, the Department on Aging shall contact as many of the eligible adult's family members, neighbors, and friends as reasonably possible under the circumstances. **NOTE:** The need for this legislation came from a concerned family that lost a family member to elder abuse by a fellow relative.

SB 69 (P.A. 101-0394) FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

Institutes tougher penalties on Class 2 felony offenses against an elderly person. Expands the Class 2 felony offense of theft by deception over \$5,000 to include offenses committed against a person with a disability. Also clarifies that consent cannot be used as a defense in a case of financial exploitation of an elderly person or person with a disability if the accused knew or should have known that the victim lacked the ability to consent.

Veterans



HB 1652 (P.A. 101-0240) MILITARY EXPEDITED LICENSURE

Requires the Illinois Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation to process professional licenses within 60 days of the submitted application. The goal is to help military spouses quickly become licensed in their profession upon relocation to Illinois.

HB 2126 (P.A. 101-0248) K9's FOR VETERANS

Authorizes K9's for Veterans to issue decals for the universal special license plate. Fees collected for issuing and renewing the plates would be deposited into the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Fund to be used for support and awareness of veterans with the disorder.

HB 3216 (P.A. 101-0106) VETERAN ID PROCESS

Streamlines the process of the Secretary of State to issue drivers licenses or identification cards (IDs) with the word "veteran" to qualified veterans by accepting a Department of Defense form DD-2 or a U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs summary of benefits letter without first requiring the veteran to have their paperwork stamped by the Department.

NOTE: Prior to this new law, the process to obtain a veteran ID required numerous steps, often discouraging current and former members of the armed forces from attempting to follow through the entire system.



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