

SPRING SESSION SUMMARY

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMISSIONERS

2021



The Illinois General Assembly's 2021 spring session ended one day past its scheduled adjournment date on June 1st and included the advancement of several legislative measures of interest to local governments as published in this summary. In addition to redrawing the legislative districts in the state, lawmakers approved the Fiscal Year 2022 budget along with omnibus packages involving affordable housing, criminal justice, elections, and ethics reform. Overall, this was a good session for local governments in Illinois, in that no significant unfunded mandates or fund diversions are headed to the Governor's desk.

Senate Bills

The following Senate bills have passed both Houses.

SB 60

Allows the state to sell surplus properties at less than their fair-market value under certain circumstances. In no event shall the real property be sold for less than 75% of fair market value and before such property has been offered to an interested unit of local government or made available at public auction.

SB 64

Creates certain privileges that would make communications during restorative justice practices inadmissible in any civil, juvenile, criminal, or administrative proceeding. Bans the use of deceptive tactics while interrogating minors. The bill garnered strong bipartisan support, making Illinois the first state to pass such legislation.

SB 72

Grants 6% pretrial interest on money awarded to plaintiffs in personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits in civil court. Does not apply to lawsuits filed against the state or local unit of government. *Gov. Pritzker signed the bill into law on May 28, 2021 (P.A. 102-0006).*

SB 84

Allows Kane County to lease portions of certain property transferred to the county to a not-for-profit or for-profit company for a drug addiction treatment center and share in the treatment center revenue.

SB 119

Prohibits the Illinois Department of Public Health or local health departments or districts from regulating lemonade or non-alcoholic drink stands operated by a person younger than age 16.

SB 225

Prohibits the Secretary of State from providing facial recognition search services or photographs taken for state IDs and driver's licenses to any law enforcement or governmental entity for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration laws. Prohibiting release of information shall not apply when the purpose of the request relates to criminal activity.

Hospitality Recovery Program Extension

P.A. 102-0008



Illinois bars and restaurants will have more options and more time to utilize the state's "cocktails-to-go" program under a new law sponsored by Senator Sara Feigenholtz. **Senate Bill 104** allows businesses to continue to sell cocktails in special "to-go containers" until Jan. 3, 2024. Plus, it adds single servings of wine to the list of allowed deliveries, and permits the inclusion of products that were sealed by the manufacturer to be delivered as well. The measure also includes a provision allowing bars and restaurants to offer one free drink with proof of vaccination. This voluntary promotion is set to expire on July 11, 2021. **NOTE: Local governments would be able to prohibit businesses from offering the promotion.** *Governor Pritzker signed the bill into law on June 2, 2021.*

SB 139

This proposal was brought up 'in an effort to modernize' marriage certificates. Upon completion of an affidavit provided by the county clerk, allows a person to change or remove gender identifying language on a marriage certificate. The person may request a change from terms such as "bride" and "groom" to a nongendered term such as "spouse" or a variant. When a clerk issues a nongendered marriage certificate, the certificate shall not include any language indicating it has been amended nor that it is not a true and accurate record of the facts stated therein.

SB 317

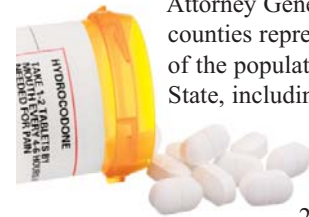
Amends the Illinois Promotions Act to include units of local government to the list of entities that DCEO can award grants to, from the Tourism Promotion Fund (specifies local parks).

SB 215

On and after a specified date, no local government may file or become a party to opioid litigation against an opioid defendant that is subject to a national multistate opioid settlement unless approved by the Attorney General. If

counties representing 60% of the population of the State, including all counties with a population of at least 250,000, have

agreed to an intrastate allocation agreement with the Attorney General, then the Attorney General has the authority to appear or intervene in any opioid litigation, and release with prejudice any claims brought by a local government against an opioid defendant that are subject to a national multistate opioid settlement and pending on a specified date.



Trailer Fees Reduction

Senate Bill 58 lowers small trailer license fees from \$118 to \$36 along with removing a \$10,000 cap on sales tax credits on vehicle trade-ins. In turn, the bill raises the certificate title fee (only paid when titles for registered vehicles are transferred) by \$5, from \$150 to \$155, to replace the revenues lost from the lowered trailer fee.

"Utility trailer" is defined as a trailer consisting of only one axle, weighing under 2,000 pounds, and used primarily for personal or individual use and not commercially used nor owned by a commercial business. The effective date of this bill is January 1, 2022 because the change in the registration fee for the trailers must coincide with the beginning of the registration year to ensure that owners are paying the same rate in a given year. **NOTE:** *The plate fee increased two years ago in order to help fund the 2019 capital bill.*



Rep. Dave Vella: "I'm happy we were able to come together in a bipartisan fashion to pass a bill that returns the fee for personal trailers to a more reasonable price."

SB 481

Requires circuit court clerks to submit specified assessment reports no later than March 1, 2022, and March 1 of every year thereafter. Repeals the Criminal and Traffic Assessment Act and the Clerks of Courts Act pertaining to court fees on Jan. 1, 2024 (rather than Jan. 1, 2026).

SB 499

Amends the State Employees Group Health Insurance Act and the Counties Code to mandate coverage for the treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder and craniomandibular disorder. **NOTE:** Coverage will be optional and provided for at an additional premium.

SB 501

Requires the Secretary of State to inform the county clerk if he/she finds two or more townships in a county with the same name. The county board must then adopt a different name for one of the townships. No longer requires the Secretary of State to address situations where different township names are the same among different counties.

SB 508

Amends the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) to allow taxing districts to increase their extensions in an amount equal to the refunds from assessment reductions granted in the prior 12-month period. The additional extension amount will be the result of a supplemental or refund recapture levy applied automatically by the county clerk.

SB 583

Among other provisions, allows the clerk of court to accept payment of fines, penalties, or costs by certified check.

Juneteenth Holiday

House Bill 3922 (P.A. 102-0014) creates Juneteenth National Freedom Day on June 19, which will be a paid day off holiday for all state employees and a school holiday if the day falls on a weekday. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States. The legislation was signed into law on June 16 by Governor Pritzker and will become effective January 1, 2022.

Business Owners Relief Senate Bill 2531

Utilizes an IRS-approved method that would allow pass-through businesses, such as S-corporations and partnerships, to bypass the \$10,000 cap on the State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction that was created by the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017. Presently, owners of pass-through entities report their share of business income on their individual income tax return, making them subject to the \$10,000 deduction cap on state and local taxes.

Union Membership SJRCA 11

Prohibits any law state or local that interferes with or diminishes the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages and other conditions of employment. It will be placed on the Nov. 2022 ballot and would be effective upon approval by 60% of those voting on the amendment or a majority of those voting in the election.

Immigrant Protection Senate Bill 667

The "Illinois Way Forward Act" amends the Illinois Transparency and Responsibility Using State Tools (TRUST) Act which took effect in 2017. It strengthens legal protections for immigrants and requires the closure of all immigrant detention centers in the state by Jan. 1, 2022. Prevents state and local law enforcement agencies from collaborating with federal agencies such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or from otherwise inquiring about an individual's immigration status unless presented with a federal warrant. Counties would be prohibited from entering into contracts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain or house immigrants in ICE custody at local jails. ICE currently has contracts with three Illinois counties – Kankakee, McHenry and Pulaski.



Sen. Win Stoller: "With just a simple change to our state's tax code, my legislation allows up to 400,000 Illinois small business owners to save thousands of dollars..."



Rep. Marcus Evans: "Workers' rights will be prioritized and not just in this General Assembly,... we will make it permanent in the Constitution."



Sen. Omar Aquino: "The bill aims to limit police collaboration with immigration agencies, ensure that immigrant families in Illinois are able to work with law enforcement ... and hold agencies accountable if they violate state law."



SB 595

In mortgage foreclosure actions, the plaintiff or their attorney shall send a copy of the publication to each defendant (currently, Clerk of the Court).

SB 622

Lists properties that are part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's annual land conveyance bill (Bond, Grundy, Kankakee, Peoria, Rock Island, and St. Clair counties).

SB 651

Sets timelines in statute governing how long a court can take to transfer, and receive, a child protection case moving from one county court to another.

SB 672

Imposes limitations on noncompete and non-solicitation agreements. Among its provisions, it bans noncompete agreements for employees making \$75,000 per year or less (the salary threshold would increase by \$5,000 every five years until reaching \$90,000). **NOTE:** *It does not apply retroactively, however, employers may want to update existing agreements before the effective date.*

SB 968

Amends the Counties Code to mandate coverage for the medically necessary screening of pancreatic cancer.

SB 1552

Allows the Illinois Dept. of Juvenile Justice to share information with county juvenile detention facilities and probation departments.

SB 1667

Provides that certification of the levy by the county clerk may be done electronically.

SB 1697

Exempts county pass through revenues from provisions of the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). Specifically, revenues from the Local Govt. Distributive Fund, Personal Property Tax Replacement, Motor Fuel Tax and Transportation Renewal Fund are not subject to GATA reporting.

Casino Project Labor Agreements

P.A. 102-0013



To expand workers' rights protections and economic opportunity for communities, casino applicants will be required to use union labor when seeking a new or renewed casino license. **Required contents of project labor agreements include:**

- goals for apprenticeship hours to be performed by underrepresented minorities and women;
- procedures for resolving jurisdiction labor disputes and grievances;
- ensuring a reliable source of skilled and experienced labor;
- guarantees against strikes and lockouts;
- allowing the selection of the lowest qualified responsible bidder, without regard to union or non-union status at other construction sites;
- binding all contractors and subcontractors on the project through appropriate bid specifications in all relevant bid documents.

*Gov. Pritzker signed **Senate Bill 1360** into law on June 11th. Any pending new casino application before the Illinois Gaming Board must provide evidence of the project labor agreement within 30 days after the effective date.*

SB 1845

An owner of a certificate of purchase must file with the county clerk the names and addresses of the owners of the property and those persons entitled to service of notice at their last known addresses.

SB 2129

Allows current and subsequent State's Attorneys to petition the sentencing court to re-sentence an offender if the State's Attorney believes the original sentence no longer advances the interests of justice

SB 2244

Provides that the income limitation under the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Act is \$65,000 for tax years 2022 through 2025 and \$55,000 for tax year 2026 and thereafter (currently, \$55,000).

SB 2278

A county authorized to impose a Special Retailers' Occupation Tax For Public Safety, Public Facilities, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, or Transportation shall establish a seven-member board to oversee the use of funds received from the tax.

SB 2356

Requires each unit of local government to review the minutes of all closed meetings once every six months.

SB 2520

The court on its own motion, or an interested person in a cause or other matter arising under the state's attorney's duties, civil or criminal, may file a petition alleging that the State's Attorney has an actual conflict of interest in the proceeding.

SB 1721 – DELINQUENT PROPERTY (TAX SALES)

Prevents properties from being sold at tax sales – rather to allow local governments to work with land banks to purchase the properties, rehab them and sell them.

- Reduces the interest penalty for properties at tax sales from 12% to 9%. Limits the compounding of interest to once a year, rather than every six months.
- Expands the type of properties that can be acquired by the local government to include vacant lots. Additionally, the standard for which the local government can acquire the property is being changed from the property is dangerous or unsafe to the property's condition impairs public health, safety, or welfare.
- Allows the county/municipality to petition the circuit court for the deed of the property or they can petition for the deed for "another governmental body" designated in the petition, such as a land bank.

House Bills

The following House bills have passed both Houses.

HB 34

Adds requirements concerning enterprise zone applications and provisional certification and decertification of enterprise zones. Modifies requirements concerning qualifications for enterprise zones and reporting requirements under the Act.

HB 56

Requires compensation of county elected officers to be fixed by ordinance or resolution by the county board or board of commissioners. Such ordinance must separately list each stipend as well as compensation for each elected officer.

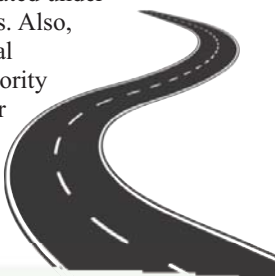


HB 117

Expands employer mandate by amending the Secure Choice Savings Program to include employers with five or more employees (currently 25). Offered by the State Treasurer's Office, businesses can either offer a private market savings vehicle, or automatically enroll their employees into the Secure Choice Plan.

HB 253

Requires the IDOT to establish and implement a transportation performance program for all transportation projects under its jurisdiction including the department's annual Multi-Year Plan. Requires IDOT to apply different weights to the performance measures based on regional geography or project type. Projects selected as part of the process shall be included in the State's multi-year transportation plan and the annual element of the multi-year plan. Starting Jan. 1, 2022, no project shall be included in the multi-year transportation plan or annual element without being evaluated under the selection process. Also, requires the Regional Transportation Authority to establish a similar program for transit projects in Northeast Illinois.



Affordable Housing House Bill 2621

Creates new resources to finance the development of affordable rental housing and establishes property tax policies to support owners of rental housing to invest in their properties and keep rents affordable. Also, strengthens existing state law requiring communities with very small stocks of affordable housing to develop plans to remedy shortages.

Key provisions of the measure:

- a COVID-19 Affordable Housing Grant Program to support the construction and rehabilitation of affordable multifamily rental housing in response to the pandemic;
- establishes a property tax assessment incentive to encourage owners of multifamily buildings with 7 or more units to invest in their properties and keep rents affordable;
- strengthens the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act (AHPAA) – will require that local governments hold a public hearing on proposed affordable housing plans before finalizing them;
- extends the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit through 2026;
- increases income targeting for state donation tax credit-financed home ownership projects to 120% of area median income;
- improves income-based property tax assessment policies for housing financed with the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits.



The effort to create more affordable housing for Illinois residents was led by Senators Sara Feigenholtz, Mattie Hunter, and Ann Gillespie.

HB 270

Requires IDOT to establish and solely fund bicycle and pedestrian ways, in or within one mile of a municipality with a population of more than 1,000 people, in conjunction with the construction, reconstruction, or other change to a State transportation facility.

HB 282

Upon receipt of a written request by the superintendent of the county Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC), the State's Attorney shall have the discretionary authority to render an opinion, without fee or reward, upon any question of law relating to a matter in which the county VAC may be concerned. **NOTE:** Applies to counties with less than 2,000,000 inhabitants and the State's Attorney shall have the discretion to grant or decline such a request.

HB 374

The board of trustees of a community college district and non-exempt local governments may develop affordable housing for community college students in coordination with the Housing Authority having jurisdiction of the area where the community college is located.

HB 396

Updates truck weight and length regulations to better reflect federal laws.

HB 453

Requires taxing districts with an aggregate property tax levy of more than \$5 million to make a good-faith effort to collect and publish data from all vendors and subcontractors doing business with the taxing district on whether: the vendors are minority-owned, women-owned, or veteran-owned businesses; or the vendors or subcontractors are certified as such or if they are self-certifying; if self-certifying, whether they are small businesses.

HB 562

Aims to address the state's significant backlog of Firearm Owner Identification (FOID) card applications and renewals. Requires all gun sales, including private sales, to include federal background checks; creates an electronic version of the FOID card that will be easier for the Illinois State Police to process; sets an incentive for firearm owners to submit fingerprints to gain access to automatic renewals; and creates a law enforcement task force to seek out firearms carried by individuals with revoked FOID cards.

HB 1726

Provides for a Budgeting For Results (BFR) bill that cleans up statutes with either technical changes, or removing funds that have run their course.

HB 1765

Prohibits a law enforcement agency or an officer from knowingly and intentionally conducting a background check of a person for the sole reason of that person speaking at an open meeting of a public body, including police disciplinary boards. Makes exception for reasonable suspicion of criminal conduct or suspicion of a threat to security at the meeting. **NOTE:** *Does not apply whenever the person speaking at an open meeting is also under consideration for appointment to a government position by that public body. The Act creates no claims for damages or other relief for violations of the Act.*

HB 1871

Permits the Illinois State Board of Elections to make remaining Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds available to election authorities for the maintenance of secure collection sites for the return of absentee ballots. Permits election authorities to establish curbside voting locations. They must designate at least two judges from opposite parties per vehicle. The voter must be able to mark the ballot without interference from the election judges. Requires election authorities to accept any absentee ballot returned, even if it has insufficient or no postage. Election authorities with drop-off sites must collect all ballots at the close of business each day and note the date the ballot is received. Ballots dropped off after the close of business on Election Day shall be considered as having been received on Election Day. (P.A. 102-0001)

HB 1926

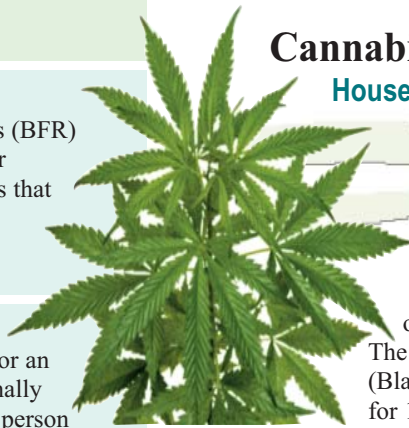
Repeals the City and Village Tuberculosis Sanitariums Division of the Illinois Municipal Code. Makes conforming changes to the Counties Code.

HB 1932

Counties, municipalities and townships may waive fees for building, inspection, and construction work that is taking place after a disaster, in the interests of welfare, recovery, and public safety of the community.

Cannabis Licensing Expansion

House Bill 1443



Clears the way for the issuance of licenses for 75 adult-use cannabis dispensaries that were scheduled to be awarded in May of last year but were delayed because of the COVID pandemic. The measure includes provisions to support social equity applicants (Black people, Hispanic people, and women) in the selection process for 110 additional retail cannabis dispensary licenses.

The intent of the bill is to rectify controversies with the 2019 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, which legalized the use and sale of adult-use cannabis in Illinois. More than 900 applicants had vied for the 75 licenses that were supposed to be awarded in 2020, but when only 21 applicants received a passing score on their application and qualified for a lottery to issue the licenses, the process was put on hold by state officials.

Under new provisions, two marijuana dispensary lotteries offering 55 licenses will be created. The first of 55 licenses will be offered through a "Qualifying Applicant Lottery" (only open to applicants who scored 85% or higher on submissions for the first 75 licenses). The second of 55 licenses would be offered through a "Social Equity Justice Involved Lottery." **NOTE:** *A firm in either of these lotteries cannot win more than 2 licenses. Those in the original lottery can still win up to 10 dispensary licenses.*

HB 2412

If a notice is required to be published in a newspaper where the city, town, or county consists of more than 45% of a single minority group, the notice shall also be published in a local newspaper of that minority group in the official language of the minority group's country of origin.

HB 2415

If a county passed an ordinance imposing a recreational cannabis sales tax on or before Oct. 1, 2020, and filed a certified copy of the ordinance with the Dept. of Revenue on or before Nov. 1, 2020, the Dept. of Revenue will begin to collect the tax on May 1, 2021. (P.A. 102-0002)

HB 2449

Allows the County Board Chair to hold special meetings regardless of whether they are elected by voters at large or from the board members.

HB 2454

Allows counties and municipalities to either waive or provide credit for any application/permit costs, fees, or other business regulation costs to an application/review process. **NOTE:** *Requires a demonstration of need based on financial or logistical hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Motor Fuel Tax Expansion

House Bill 2950

Expands the use of county motor fuel tax (MFT) funds for pedestrian use. Provides that, in the counties of DuPage, Kane, Lake, Will, and McHenry, proceeds from the county MFT funds may also be used for operating, constructing, improving, and acquiring land for shared-use paths for non-vehicular public travel, sidewalks, and bike paths within the county. **NOTE:** *The county board of a county with a population of more than 500,000 may also use MFT funds allotted to it for the construction and maintenance of shared use paths for non-vehicular public travel, sidewalks, and bike paths.*



Omnibus packages

In the final days of the 2021 spring session, Illinois lawmakers approved several important omnibus packages.



From the onset of this legislative session, elections and redistricting took precedent as major issues facing lawmakers. In addition, a long-awaited ethics package followed on the heels of electing a new Speaker of the House for the first time in 38 years. By adjournment lawmakers passed over 650 bills.

SB 539 – GOVERNMENT ETHICS REFORM

Lawmakers passed a sweeping bi-partisan ethics package which makes several reforms:

- prohibits elected officials from lobbying other units of government;
- establishes a six-month revolving door ban;
- applies the Lobbyist Registration Act to municipalities, counties and officials thereof;
- prohibits all political fundraisers during legislative sessions;
- prohibits salaried appointees from serving as an officer for a political committee;
- pro-rates the salaries of General Assembly members who leave office prior to the end of their term;
- requires candidates to disclose all personal assets and debts totaling over \$10,000, all sources of income over \$7,500 per year, and all campaign donations over \$500.

Sen. Ann Gillespie, lead sponsor of the legislation, noted this will not be the last ethics-related bill in Illinois. While many Republicans stated the bill was “watered down”, it passed the House 113-5 and the Senate unanimously.



“While it won’t end corruption overnight, it closes many of the loopholes that have allowed bad actors to game the system for decades,” Gillespie said. “I believe that this bill is a real opportunity to make meaningful change and offers specific solutions to the recent scandals that we’ve seen under the dome.”

HB 3443 – CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Trailer legislation to the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform omnibus package passed during the lame duck session and signed into law by the Governor Pritzker in February:

- clarifies provisions of the Criminal Code pertaining to a police officer’s use of force in making arrests including prohibited use of force (e.g. chokeholds);
- clarifies that resisting arrest and obstructing a police officer are distinct criminal acts;
- allows an officer, with a supervisor’s approval, to file a supplementary report for which they can access body camera footage;
- delays the effective date for mandated and increased officer training to January 1, 2022.

Most portions of the original law remain intact. This trailer bill clarifies certain things police found impractical to implement.

SB 825 – ELECTIONS OMNIBUS

Amends the Election Code making several changes including moving the primary date back three months:

- moves the 2022 General Primary to June 28 (from March 15) – this change was necessary because the U.S. Census data is not expected to be released until August, thereby delaying passage of U.S. Congressional redistricting maps;
- includes “vote-by-jail” language that will allow jails (outside of Cook County) to set up polling places in their facilities;
- allows election authorities to create permanent vote-by-mail lists that voters may opt into, as well as accessible vote-by-mail procedures to enable a voter with a disability to independently and privately mark their ballot;
- makes Election Day (Nov. 8, 2022) a state holiday for schools and universities and requires closed schools to be available for use as polling places;
- requires high schools to permit voter registration on premises and provide application information to students;
- every county “must” have at least one universal voting center for the 2022 Primary and General elections.

Extends the county deadline for redistricting to Dec. 31, 2021 (from July 1) and allows counties to use reasonable data including the most recent ACS 5-year data (currently, counties are required to use census data).

“While other states are focused on voter suppression, Illinois is focused on voter empowerment....” said Rep. Maurice West.



ILLINOIS REDISTRICTING MAPS

Governor Pritzker signed into law three new redistricting maps proposed to align with the Illinois Voting Rights Act:

- General Assembly Redistricting Act of 2021 (HB 2777)
- Judicial District Act of 2021 (SB 642)
- Cook County Board of Review Redistricting Act of 2021 (SB 2661)

Due to the pandemic causing a delay in U.S. Census data, the Democrat majorities based district boundaries and population counts on American Community Survey data. A federal lawsuit has been filed in opposition to the new redistricting maps by Illinois Republican leadership arguing ACS is not official data.

HB 2784

Requires 911 call center operators to coordinate with the mobile mental and behavioral health services to be established by the state Division of Mental Health.

HB 2806

Provides for the removal of volunteer board officials for misconduct. Excludes from the definition of "member" an individual who is appointed to fill a vacancy on an elected board of a unit of local government.

HB 2863

In the case of township roads, the county supt. of highways may either grant consent for construction or deny the application. The county supt. shall provide written confirmation, citing the basis of the decision, to both the highway commissioner and the applicant.

HB 3277

Amends the Juvenile Court Act to require (rather than gives discretion to the court) to appoint a special advocate (CASA), if available, upon the filing of a petition to declare a minor an abused, neglected, or dependent minor and to adjudge the minor a ward of the court. Makes appointment of a special advocate permissive in Cook County and for court related documents and cases to only related to those in regard to the minor child.

HB 3289

Allows chief county assessment officers to automatically renew homestead exemptions in 2021 if the properties had homestead exemptions in 2020.

HB 3739

Requires owners/operators of community water supplies to develop service-line inventories (initial inventory by April 15, 2022, and final by April 15, 2024). Also requires owners/operators to create plans to replace lead service lines and galvanized services lines connected downstream to lead piping (initial plan by April 15, 2024, and final by April 15, 2027).

HB 3743

A major rewrite of Telecommunications law. Extends the small cell sunset from Dec. 31, 2021, to Dec. 31, 2023 and makes a few changes to the various provisions. Extends the E-911 to 2023. (P.A. 102-0009)



The Fiscal Year 2022 budget package totals \$42.3 billion, holding the operating budget roughly flat. \$2 billion of the budget is allocated to pay down debt, while around \$655 million will come from closing various tax loopholes.

SENATE BILL 2800

BUDGET APPROPRIATION

- Accelerates repayment to the federal government of \$3.2 billion in emergency borrowings as a result of stronger state FY21 revenues
- Allocates \$2.5B from the first year of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Fully funds FY22 pension contribution of \$9.4 billion
- \$7.7 Billion in federal funds to schools
- GRF appropriations include Public Safety (\$1.9B) and Human Services (\$7.5B)

SENATE BILL 2017

BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

Although a 10% cut to the Local Government Distributed Fund (LGDF) was proposed, the distribution formula was held level with the previous fiscal year. Due to the closure of four corporate tax loopholes worth \$655 million to the state and \$42 million to local governments, LGDF could receive and uptick in the actual dollar amount. However, diversions to the Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT) continued with nearly \$350 million being diverted this year. That number is up from the \$311 million that was diverted in FY21. **NOTE:** *These dollars have continued to grow since the state began raiding this fund around 10 years ago.*

ARPA PANDEMIC RECOVERY

\$1.5 BILLION INVESTMENT

- \$570 million for small businesses and impacted industries, including the \$450M Economic Recovery (*outlined below*)
- \$350 million for public health response, pandemic assistance to health care industry
- \$100 million for violence prevention and summer youth employment
- \$100 million for affordable housing, supportive housing and homelessness initiatives

ARPA ECONOMIC RECOVERY

\$450 MILLION INVESTMENT

- \$300 million for Back to Business Grants, with 40% of the funds going to communities that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- \$10 million for Tourism promotion and Main Street festival grants
- \$50 million for Workforce Recovery efforts
- \$20 million for Community Navigators and targeted business support services
- \$25 million for the DCEO RISE program for local economic recovery planning and partnerships
- \$45 million in capital for commercial corridors and downtowns that have experienced disinvestment.

Animal Welfare: Puppy Mills

House Bill 1711 amends the Illinois Animal Welfare Act to allow pet shops to only sell animals, in particular cats and dogs, if they are obtained from an animal control facility or animal shelter. The intent of this bill is to discourage the sale of pets from puppy mills, which proponents of the measure claim can often result in sick or injured animals. Consumers would still be able to purchase animals from responsible breeders. However, the direct sale of puppies in retail pet stores would end in Illinois. If signed, the bill would also prohibit any business that violates the requirement from selling cats or dogs, regardless of how they are sourced.

