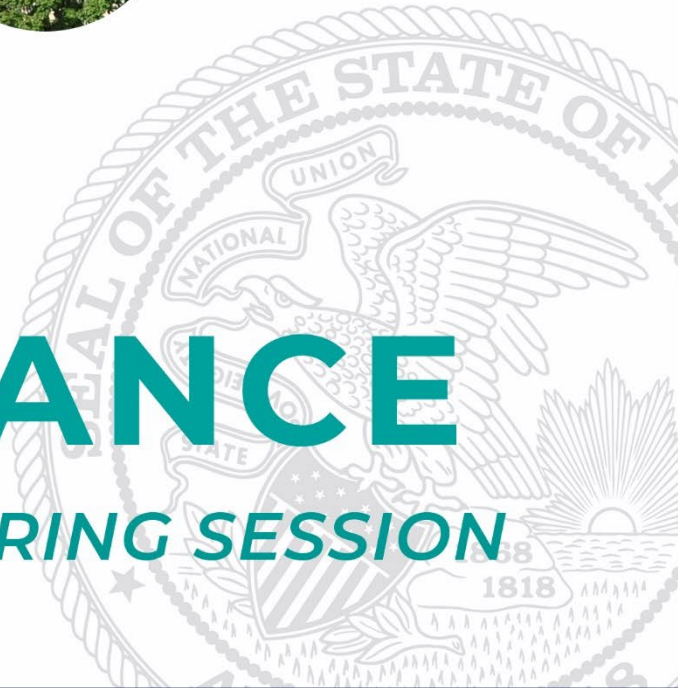




2025

# AT A GLANCE

*AN OVERVIEW OF SPRING SESSION*



SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER JOHN CURRAN



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## Legislation Passed by the General Assembly

### Agriculture

**Rabies Shot Exemptions (SB 128):** Amends the Animal Control Act. Provides that if a licensed veterinarian determines in writing that a rabies inoculation would compromise an animal's health, then the animal shall be exempt from the requirement for one year, but may be annually renewed thereafter by a licensed veterinarian.

**Nuisance and Landowner Deer Permits (SB 710):** Amends the Wildlife Code to loosen regulations concerning nuisance permits and landowner permits. Provides for the automatic issuance of additional antlerless-only permits during the regular firearm or archery season if a landowner demonstrates proof of harvesting certain percentages. Provides that Illinois resident tenants of at least 40 acres of commercial farmland can receive free deer and turkey permits to hunt only on that land, including one either-sex and one antlerless-only permit for both firearm and archery deer seasons. Requires DNR to adopt rules allowing landowners to have other individuals destroy deer authorized under a nuisance permit issued to that landowner. Gives DNR rulemaking authority.

**Pesticide Applicator/Operator Licenses (SB 783):** Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Sets fees for various pesticide applicator/operator licenses and registrations for 2026 and each year thereafter. Creates education course requirements for pesticide operator permits and certified pesticide applicator and dealer license renewals. These permits and licenses may be renewed after successfully completing an examination by the Department of Ag every three years or successfully completing 15 hours of Department-approved education courses every three years, including five hours each year. Adds fees for a license transfer from one certified applicator or operator to another certified applicator or operator for the period of time remaining on the license before renewal.

**Water Resources Fund (SB 2309):** Amends the Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act. Provides that penalty fees collected for violating the Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act and application fees for permits shall be deposited into the Water Resources Fund (rather than the State Boating Act Fund). The Water Resources Fund was established in 2024, and this bill is intended to give it a source of funding.

**Farmland Transition (SB 2372):** Creates the Farmland Transition Commission Act. Provides that the Department of Agriculture shall establish a Farmland Transition Commission to examine current barriers individuals ages 25 through 40 face when trying to purchase or access



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farmland, review current incentives and policies to encourage the transfer of farmland to current or prospective farmers between the ages of 25 to 40, and to make recommendations on possible incentives or policies to assist these individuals in purchasing or accessing farmland.

**DNR Various (SB 2455):** Amends the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Act. Provides that requests for grant assistance shall include, but not be limited to, those activities that will implement or enhance: (1) current Illinois Forest Action Plan objectives; (2) local forestry program management objectives as determined by an urban and community forestry management plan; (3) tree canopy capacity in underserved and disadvantaged areas of communities or counties; or (4) urban and community forest canopy in Illinois communities and counties. Makes changes in provisions concerning duties of the Department of Natural Resources, grants amounts, and applications for assistance. Defines additional terms. Amends the State Forest Act. Adds to the list of designated State forests.

**Siluriformes Fish (SB 2459):** Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act. Creates a wholesale distribution standard and provides that all siluriformes (catfish), carcasses, or products entering any official establishment intended for wholesale distribution shall be inspected, handled, stored, prepared, packaged, marked, and labeled as required by federal regulations. Changes the reference to federal regulation of Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products of Such Fish.

## (House Bills)

**Poultry Farmers (HB 2196):** Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act. Provides exemptions for poultry raisers with respect to poultry raised on their own farms or premises from the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act to help poultry farmers/raisers sell more of their products directly to consumers at farmers' markets and roadside stands, instead of just on their farm.

**Chronic Wasting Disease (HB 2339):** Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that DNR is required to end its sharpshooting program to manage chronic wasting disease in a herd if no cases have been found in the herd in the preceding three calendar years in that county. The program is allowed to be reinstituted within the county if chronic wasting disease is again identified in that herd.

**Landowner Deer Permits (HB 2340):** Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that Landowner Deer permits in counties where DNR has identified chronic wasting disease (CWD) in the deer herd shall be issued without charge to: Illinois landowners residing in the State who own at least 20 acres of IL land; Resident tenants of at least 20 acres of commercial agricultural land; and Persons with certain ownership interests regarding 20 acres of land. Grants DNR rulemaking for fees and procedures with respect to nonresidents who own at least 20 acres of land.





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**Gray Fox Season (HB 3760):** Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedures Act and the Wildlife Code. Provides that the Director of the Department of Natural Resources may, by administrative rule, set the dates of, lengthen, shorten, or close the season during which the gray fox may be taken if the biological balance of gray fox is affected for any reason. The Director may also set, lessen, or increase the daily bag limit or possession limit of gray fox by administrative rule. Allows for emergency rulemaking.

## Appropriations

**FY26 State Budget (SB 2510/P.A. 104-0003):** Makes FY25 supplemental appropriations, FY26 agency operations appropriations, and FY26 capital appropriations. FY25 supplemental appropriations are effective immediately. FY26 agency operations and FY26 capital appropriations are effective July 1, 2025.

## Behavioral and Mental Health

**Repeal Date Extension (SB 188):** Extends the Repeal Date of the Out-of-State Person Subject to Involuntary Admission on an Inpatient Basis Mental Health Treatment Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. Removes references to pilot program and makes the program permanent.

## (House Bills)

**Opioid Overdose Reporting (HB 3645):** Expands the opioid overdose reporting requirements for EMS transport providers to require statewide reporting (currently only in Chicago) to the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Overdose Detection Mapping Application (OD Map). Prohibits submission of identifiable patient data and allows reporting under HIPAA exceptions for public health and safety purposes. Authorizes the Department to report misuse of information and set reporting standards. Requires the Department to enhance information sharing, collaborate with advisory groups, and develop performance measures to monitor the system's impact and implement evidence-based overdose prevention strategies.

## Child Welfare

**Court Review Permanency (SB 31):** Amends the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. Makes technical changes in a provision that states if the minor is in the custody of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, pursuant to an order entered under the Delinquent Minors Article of the Act, the court shall conduct permanency hearings as set out in the court review provisions of the Abused, Neglected, or Dependent Minors Article of the Act.



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**Child Eligibility Treatment of Care (SB 324):** Amends the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 concerning abused, neglected, and dependent minors. Adds that the purpose of the Act is to ensure that minors who come to court because they need treatment for complex behavioral and mental health needs are removed from the custody of their parents only as a last resort, unless abuse or neglect is otherwise alleged. If a respondent was attempting to obtain publicly funded services before the minor came to the court, and services became available, the court may determine whether the parent can address all the minor's needs without the minor being placed in or continuing in DCFS custody or guardianship and whether the minor should be returned to the respondent with services in place. If the minor is determined eligible for publicly funded community or residential services that are available, the court shall conduct a hearing within 14 days upon notification to all parties. The appropriate State agency shall be fiscally responsible for minors in a respondent's custody with publicly funded community or residential services, and DCFS shall be fiscally responsible for minors in its custody.

## (House Bills)

**Foster Parent Background Check (HB 871):** Amends the Children and Family Services Act. In provisions requiring the Department of Children and Family Services to conduct a criminal records background check prior to placement of a child with a relative or a prospective foster or adoptive parent, provides that final approval for placement shall not be granted if the background check reveals that the relative, prospective foster or adoptive parent, or any other adult living in the home has a felony conviction for human trafficking or sex trafficking. Adds that these changes are declarative of existing law and are not a new enactment. Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Provides that the Department shall not approve a relative caregiver home for certification if a criminal background screening reveals that any adult living in the home has a felony conviction for human trafficking or sex trafficking. Adds that these changes are declarative of existing law and are not a new enactment. Effective July 1, 2025.

**DCFS Police/Security Repeal (HB 1715):** Amends the Department of Children and Family Services Powers Law. Repeals a provision that grants the Department of Children and Family Services the power to appoint members of a police and security force to act as peace officers and have all powers possessed by police officers in cities and sheriffs under certain circumstances. Effective immediately.

**Child Welfare Disclosure Act (HB 2907):** Creates the Child Welfare Disclosure to Parents and Caregivers Act, establishing key rights for parents receiving intact family or reunification services from the Illinois child welfare system. These include the right to respectful treatment, input on relative placements, notice as a noncustodial parent before protective custody, timely visitation, receipt of the Act at case opening, participation in hair care planning, and other specified rights. Effective immediately.



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**Early Intervention Program (HB 3327):** Requires hospitals to provide written (or electronic) information about the Early Intervention program to parents or legal guardians of children admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Through June 30, 2026: The information and referrals must be made in accordance with the Early Intervention Services System Act. Starting July 1, 2026: The same requirements apply, but under the Department of Early Childhood Act. In both cases, before discharge, hospital staff familiar with the EI program must initiate written referrals for NICU-admitted children who qualify under the respective law. Requires the EI public awareness program that is currently required under the Department of Early Childhood Act to include a special focus on the early identification of infants who automatically qualify for services, including those who qualify because of a birth weight less than 1,000 grams (2.2 lbs.).

**Daycare Background Checks (HB 3439):** Requires that criminal background checks for all employees at childcare facilities occur every five years, in line with the Child Care and Development Block Grant. Clarifies that employees must complete either an FBI fingerprint background check or an Illinois State Police fingerprint check, along with a criminal record check from any state they have resided in during the past five years. Until all background check requirements are fully cleared, employees or volunteers must be supervised by someone who has passed all required checks.

**Early Childhood Teacher Requirements (HB 3446):** Requires the Department of Early Childhood, in collaboration with the Community College Board, the Board of Higher Education and DCFS, to establish and maintain a public list of early childhood education courses that qualify toward meeting regulatory requirements for early childhood teachers and directors and post the list on its website. Requires the establishment of a verification process for qualifying courses, in consultation with stakeholders including childcare providers, Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity member institutions, early childhood advocates, students, and others.

## Commerce

### (House Bills)

**DCEO Clean-up (HB 3187):** Includes various repeals and modernizations of existing Illinois statutes. These changes include: Removing DCEO as an approving body for municipal appointments to conservation boards (315 ILCS 25/4); Repealing the defunct IL Emergency Employment Development Act (20 ILCS 630/); Repealing the Good Samaritan Energy Plan Act (305 ILCS 22) and transferring existing funds to the State Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund [SLEAF]; Technical cleanup to the Music and Musicians Tax Credit and Jobs Act (35 ILCS 19/50-45(b)); Modernizing the Eliminate the Digital Divide Fund (30 ILCS 780/); Removing inconsistent responsibilities under the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law regarding



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a local government clearinghouse (20 ILCS 605/605-940); Removing the requirement of the Department to provide freight rate information within the international trade requirement Effective immediately.

## **Consumer Protection**

**Lifetime Membership Contracts (SB 314):** Amends the Physical Fitness Services Act to regulate lifetime membership contracts. A physical fitness center that offers a lifetime membership that includes provisions in the membership contract that allow for increases in costs or fees or reductions in benefits shall disclose those provisions clearly and conspicuously in a bold, clearly readable font that is consistent with the typeface used in the contract. If a physical fitness center that offers a lifetime membership fails to clearly and conspicuously disclose that the lifetime membership's costs or fees could increase or the lifetime membership's benefits could be reduced, then the physical fitness center must honor the original terms of the membership for the duration of the life of the customer. A physical fitness center shall provide a copy of the lifetime membership contract to the customer upon the request of the customer.

**Celiac Disease Food Training (SB 1288):** Amends the Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act. In provisions regarding allergen awareness training, adds sesame to the definition of "major food allergen", and adds understanding gluten to the list of required allergen awareness training topics.

**Micromobility Fire Safety Act (SB 2247):** Creates the Micromobility Fire Safety Act. No person may manufacture, distribute, or sell a low-speed electric bicycle, a personal e-mobility device, or a traction battery unless it has been tested and meets the corresponding ANSI/CAN/IL Standards. A violation of any of the provisions of this Act is an unlawful practice under the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. All remedies, penalties, and authority granted to the Attorney General by that Act shall be available to the Attorney General for the enforcement of this Act.

## **Criminal Law and Public Safety**

**Missing Persons Report (SB 24):** Amends the Missing Persons Identification Act to improve procedures for reporting and investigating missing persons and unidentified remains. Law enforcement shall adopt a policy regarding missing person investigations and missing person reporting and follow-up actions. Requires law enforcement to collect and analyze fingerprints and DNA and search related databases to help locate missing persons. Law enforcement is to report missing persons within 60 days to a national clearinghouse for missing persons - National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs). Requires postmortem unidentified fingerprints be checked against all available state and federal databases within seven days of





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recovery of remains. Prohibits closure of a case until the person has been confirmed returned or identified.

**Cook County Traffic Fees (SB 108):** Repeals sunset language making the Cook County traffic fee waiver program permanent. No other counties are affected, and the number of waivers and income eligibility remains unchanged in statute.

**Trauma-Informed Training (SB 1195):** Amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Requires the curriculum for probationary law enforcement officers to include a block of instruction addressing trauma-informed programs, procedures, and practices meant to minimize traumatization of the victim. Requires minimum in-service training requirements that a law enforcement officer must satisfactorily complete every three years to include trauma-informed programs, procedures, and practices meant to minimize traumatization of the victim. Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to conduct or approve training programs in trauma-informed responses and investigation of sexual assault and sexual abuse to include identifying conflicts of interest and options to address those conflicts when a responding or investigating officer is familiar with the victim or accused.

**DOC Website Data (SB 2201):** Requires the Department of Corrections to annually collect and publish on its website data concerning Department of Corrections facilities including contraband found by facility; substance use disorder treatment or educational programming data by facility; emergency medical response and hospitalizations by facility; and overdoses by facility. Makes changes to the timeframes for the various types of data to be collected and published.

**Human Trafficking (SB 2323):** Establishes the Illinois Statewide Trauma-Informed Response to Human Trafficking Act, creating comprehensive measures to address human trafficking across multiple state agencies. Requires DCFS to maintain a human trafficking unit to coordinate services, prevent trafficking, and support youth at risk or identified as trafficking victims. Eliminates the statute of limitation for civil liability allowing those who were trafficked as a minor to bring suit against their traffickers at any point in time. Expands hearsay exception and alternative methods of testimony for child trafficking victims.

**Timber Transportation (SB 2426):** Amends the Forest Products Transportation Act, renaming it the Timber Transportation Act, and introduces several key changes to the regulation of timber transportation in the state. The bill provides new definitions for terms like “tree,” “timber,” “proof of ownership,” “firewood,” and “Christmas tree,” clarifying what types of timber are covered by the law.

**(House Bills)**



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**Crime Victims' Rights (HB 1302):** Amends the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act to ensure 7 days' notice of court proceedings for crime victims. This is to put crime victims on the same parity as the retail merchants. The bill also prohibits law enforcement officers from refusing to file reports for bona fide allegations of abuse, sexual assault, or domestic violence. Finally, the bill emphasizes that law enforcement officers should not discourage victims from filing reports and must complete written reports for legitimate allegations.

**ICJIA Homicide Reporting Data (HB 1710):** Amends the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act and the Uniform Crime Reporting Act to establish a new system of homicide and aggravated assault reporting. Beginning January 1, 2026, the Illinois State Police will be required to submit detailed crime statistics to the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority on a quarterly basis.

**Hospice and Palliative Care (HB 2397):** Requires the Department of Corrections to compile a report of hospice and palliative care provided to committed persons. Requires demographic data and number of individuals to be included. Must include policies and administrative directives of each department institution and facility regarding the institution of hospice and palliative care. Also, the cost of the department's hospice and palliative care programs.

**Youthful Offender Early Release Changes (HB 2546):** Amends the Unified Code of Corrections to modify parole/early release review procedures for individuals who were younger than 21 at the time of their offense. Allows eligible persons to file a petition for parole review either after serving their minimum term or up to three years prior to becoming eligible. Once the Prisoner Review Board receives the petition, they must determine within 30 days whether it is appropriately filed. If approved, the board will schedule a parole review hearing either three years from the petition's receipt or on the date the person becomes eligible for parole, whichever is sooner. Importantly, the hearing cannot be scheduled sooner than one year from the petition's approval. The bill also requires the Department of Corrections to meet with the eligible person within six months to provide information about the parole hearing process and personalized recommendations for rehabilitation. Additional provisions include appointing counsel for indigent individuals one year before the parole hearing, notifying victims about the hearing, and establishing criteria for the Prisoner Review Board to consider when determining parole, such as the offender's youth, maturity, and potential for rehabilitation. If parole is initially denied, individuals may be eligible for a subsequent review after five or 10 years, depending on the severity of their original offense.

**ISP Trainings (HB 2586):** Provides the Illinois State Police's Division of Criminal Investigation broader jurisdiction to pursue online child exploitation cases and work alongside local task forces across the state. The changes are meant to improve response times, close jurisdictional gaps and strengthen coordination between agencies working to protect children from online



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threats. These changes would bring Illinois in line with Alicia's Law, a national initiative that empowers specialized law enforcement units to track and prosecute predators who target children online.

**Trafficking Crimes (HB 2602):** Provides that when the victim is younger than 18 at the time of the offense, allows prosecutors to be able to bring charges for involuntary servitude, involuntary sexual servitude of a minor, or trafficking in persons at any time, rather than being limited to a 25-year window after the victim turns 18. This change applies to offenses committed on or after the bill's effective date.

**Child Sex Abuse Material (HB 2690):** Amends the Criminal Code of 2012, Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963, and the Unified Code of Corrections. Changes terminology from "child pornography" to "child sexual abuse material" across multiple statutes. Extends statute of limitations for grooming offenses involving victims younger than 17. Expands the definition of Sexual Exploitation of a Child and Grooming. Provides courts more flexibility in taking testimony from victims or witnesses under 18 or with intellectual disabilities, including potential use of facility dogs. Expands the list of offenses where evidence of a victim's past sexual conduct is inadmissible to include involuntary servitude, involuntary sexual servitude of a minor, and trafficking in persons. Expands the list of offenses where evidence of a defendant's commission of another offense or offenses can be admissible under certain circumstances to include involuntary servitude, involuntary sexual servitude of a minor, and trafficking in persons.

**Stalking No Contact Order Act (HB 2873):** Amends the Stalking No Contact Order Act by expanding the definition of "stalking" to include harassment that is unnecessary, would cause emotional distress to a reasonable person, and actually causes emotional distress to the victim. The bill introduces a rebuttable presumption that certain specific behaviors are considered emotionally distressing.

**Unfit Misdemeanants (HB 3572):** Establishes a new diversion program for unfit misdemeanor defendants that allows for potential dismissal of criminal charges with approval of the court and the State if the defendant agrees to and successfully participates in mental health and substance use treatment services. Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 so that defendants charged with petty offenses or infraction of a municipal ordinance are not eligible for fitness restoration services. Creates the Fitness to Stand Trial Task Force in order to review the statutory and regulatory rules governing the procedures by which individuals facing criminal charges may be unfit to stand trial.

**Non-consensual Dissemination of Sexual Images (HB 3671):** Amends the Criminal Code of 2012 by expanding venue for the offense of non-consensual dissemination of private sexual



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images to allow prosecution in either the county where the offense occurred or the county where the victim resides.

**Crime Victim Rights (HB 3710):** Amends the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act to expand protections for crime victims during criminal investigations by adding a new provision that when a person reports being a crime victim, they have the right to be treated with fairness and respect during the investigatory process, with a particular focus on preventing deception.

## Education

**Performance Evaluation Standards (SB 28):** Amends the School Code. Allows school districts to choose whether to use student growth data and indicators when evaluating teachers, principals, and assistant principals. Provides that during a teacher dismissal hearing a school district may no longer use the student growth component as an indicator that the teacher's performance was unsatisfactory. Provides that for dismissal hearings, school districts are required to include student growth components in the hearing process if there is any.

**School Safety Drill (SB 71):** Amends the School Safety Drill Act. Provides new standards for hazardous substance release guidance and procedures. Removes the mandate for Local Emergency Planning Committees to participate in development of procedures from introduced bill. Provides that by July 1, 2027, each school district shall create a procedure to address the release or explosion of a hazardous substance.

**School Counseling (SB 405):** Provides that school counseling services can include working to address the needs of all students regardless of citizenship status.

**Sharing Early Childhood Data System (SB 406):** Amends the Department of Early Childhood Act. Requires the Department of Early Childhood to create an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) and develop public analytic portals and query tools for parents and communities to access data from the ECIDS system. Provides that the Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) is required to be designed to allow for the sharing of data between other State agencies and other entities that maintain State data within the State early childhood ecosystem as needed for cross-agency collaboration and is required to be shared in compliance with State and federal requirements.

**Chronic Absence Task Force (SB 407):** Amends the School Code. Creates the Chronic Absence Task Force. Provides that the Task Force shall hold hearings on a periodic basis to receive testimony from the public regarding the chronic absence of students. Provides that the Task Force shall identify strategies, mechanisms, and approaches to help families, educators,



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principals, superintendents, and ISBE to address and mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the chronic absence of students in early childhood education and care programs and students in grades kindergarten through 12, and shall make recommendations to the general assembly and ISBE. Provides that the Task Force is dissolved, and the section is repealed on December 16, 2027.

**Student Permanent Records (SB 408):** Provides that student permanent records shall include a summary of performance for students that received special-education service. The summary shall be similar to the summary-of-performance form developed by ISBE. Any summary of performance maintained as part of a Student Permanent Record shall be kept confidential, maintained separately from other information in the Student Permanent Record, and not be disclosed. Provides that the Department of Human Services may receive school student record for the sole purpose of assessing or evaluating the student's eligibility for Medicaid waiver benefits consistent with rules adopted by the Department of Human Services.

**Transportation of Students (SB 851):** Amends the School Code and the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides for the transportation of students for any curriculum-related or career-related activity. Provides that such transportation may additionally include transportation to a college, university, or student job site developed through a partnership with a school or an experience that a school determines will contribute to a student's college or career readiness. Amends the School Code to make conforming changes.

**Impartial Due Process Hearing Day Requirement (SB 1231):** Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Extends the time requirements on school districts to perform the following when a parent requests a Due Process Hearing: seven days instead of five days; and Independent Educational Evaluation: 60 school days instead of 30 calendar days.

**Licensure Suspension (SB 1329):** Amends the School Code. Provides that the State Superintendent can notify a license holder's current or most recent employer that the license holder is being investigated for an alleged act of misconduct that constitutes a threat to the safety of students, including serious physical injury, sexual misconduct, or a sex or other offense including drugs. Only employers that are in public or private schools can be notified.

**Law Enforcement Referral Report (SB 1519):** Amends the School Code. Provides that a student is required to not be issued a monetary fine, fee, ticket, or citation as a school-based disciplinary consequence or for a municipal code violation on school grounds during school hours or while taking school transportation by any person. Requires the State Board of Education to create a report that represents data from school districts on the number of students that have been referred to a local law enforcement agency. Requires schools that have





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a school resource officer to create a memorandum of understanding between the school and the local law enforcement agency.

**Children With Disabilities Advisory Council (SB 1555):** Amends the School Code. Provides that the Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities is required to be composed of 28 members (instead of 27) and five ex-officio voting members (instead of four). Provides that the Secretary of Early Childhood or his or her designee is required to be an ex-officio member of the Advisory Council.

**Behavioral Health Needs (SB 1560):** Amends the Interagency Children's Behavioral Health Services Act. Provides that school districts are required to offer mental health screenings to all students in grades 3-12 beginning with the 2027-2028 school year. Provides that school districts are only required to offer mental health screenings when the State has procured a screening tool that offers a self-report option for students and is made available to school districts at no cost. Provides that the State Board of Education in consultation with the Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Team in the Office of the Governor and relevant stakeholders is required to report its work and make available resources, including model policies and guidance on implementing universal mental health screenings by September 1, 2026. Requires hospitals to assist youth and their families with entering the youth's information into the BEACON portal to begin the process of connecting them to available resources. Requires the Department of Human Services in coordination with a statewide association representing a majority of hospitals to establish and offer voluntary training that is required to be recorded and available on the Department's website to all hospital social workers, clinicians, and administrative staff to inform them of BEACON. Provides that BEACON is a centralized resource, for Illinois youth and families that are seeking services for behavioral health needs, with the goal of encouraging families to seek assistance through BEACON and the Interagency Children's Behavioral Health Services Team.

**Regional Superintendent Learning Partner (SB 1583):** Amends the School Code. Provides that the State Superintendent of Education may designate a regional office of education or intermediate service center as a learning partner, so that services are provided to schools that are identified for school improvement under the accountability system and the definition for targeted, comprehensive, or intensive.

**Short-term Approval License (SB 1584):** Amends the School Code. Provides that a Short-term Approval License must have an expiration date without the ability to renew. If the educator does not earn the required license or endorsement in the specific education area and grade range and the Shorter-Term Approval expires, the educator shall not be eligible to continue serving as an educator in the specific education area and grade range. Provides that ISBE in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may explore extending



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the expiration date of the Short-Term Approval if the educator can demonstrate a serious health condition inhibited the educator's ability to timely apply for and receive the license or endorsement for the specific education area and grade range for which the Short-Term Approval was obtained. Provides that an educator may receive only one extension for each Short-Term Approval and the extension shall not exceed one year.

**Agriculture Education Teacher Compensation (SB 1605):** Amends the School Code. Provides that a school district can apply for a grant to fund an amount not to exceed 50% of the personal services cost for an agriculture education teacher. Replaces the term vocational education with career and technical education.

**Major School Events Notice (SB 1616):** Provides that ISBE, in consultation with stakeholders, shall identify dates during the year of cultural or religious significance to the student population and in which students may have out-of-school commitments or otherwise be unable to participate in a major school event. Provides that by July 1 of each year, ISBE shall prominently post on its website and distribute to each school district a non-exhaustive list of the identified days and dates of cultural, religious, or other observances for, at a minimum, the school year that begins in the next calendar year as a resource for making scheduling decisions for major school events. The list shall include a statement encouraging schools to be mindful of the days and dates of cultural, religious, or other observances that impact student participation as schools plan major school events. Provides that ISBE shall distribute the calendar to relevant associations or entities.

**Literacy Screenings (SB 1672):** Amends the School Code. Requires each school district to report to the State Board of Education data on literacy screenings administered to students in kindergarten through third grade by July 1, 2026. Provides that the State Board of Education is required to file a report to the General Assembly outlining the data received from school districts on literacy screening by January 1, 2027.

**School Code Mandate Reduction Council (SB 1740):** Amends the School Code, the Illinois Grant Funds Recovery Act, Soybean Ink Act, and the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act. Adds consent education to the required units of instruction included in Comprehensive Health Education. Reorganizes the School Code pertaining to required courses and permissive courses in the School Code. Provides that a school district cannot require a student's parents or guardians who are unable to pay fees or fines for loss of school property to pay those fees and fines. Creates the School Code Mandate Reduction Council and requires the Council to report to the General Assembly a list of mandates to be modified or eliminated from the School Code.



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**Emergency Contract Negotiations (SB 1799):** Amends the School Code Provides that “emergency situation” means a sudden and unforeseen event or change in circumstances that would result in a near-term interruption of non-instructional services that calls for immediate action. Provides that for the second contract the mutual agreement may not be used by the affected bargaining unit as a means to compel the board of education to reopen the existing collective bargaining agreement. The mutual agreement, as codified in a memorandum of understanding, must include the development of a recruitment and retention plan. The plan may consider, without limitation, a timeline for the use of the third party, the rationale for the use of the third party, a clear job description, a targeted advertising plan, comparable pay and benefits, and additional incentives.

**ASL Implementation and AI Guidance (SB 1920):** Provides that no later than July 1, 2026, the State Board of Education shall encourage districts to collect teaching resources to support American Sign Language programs. Requires the State Board of Education in consultation with stakeholders to develop statewide guidance for school districts and educators on the use of artificial intelligence in elementary and secondary education.

**Teacher Licensure Omnibus (SB 1947):** Requires Higher Education institutions with educator preparation programs between September 1, 2026, and August 31, 2029, to participate in the Teacher Performance Assessment pilot program. Provides the State Board of Education with rulemaking authority over the Section pertaining to the administration of the teacher performance assessment. Establishes the Paraprofessional Teacher Pathway Program. Provides that the State Superintendent of Education is required to include revised examinations by July 1, 2027, for prospective educators.

**Gifted and Talented Funding (SB 1983):** Amends the School Code. Provides that all references to ISBE’s involvement in funding the education of gifted and talented children are removed. Provides that a priority emphasis on language arts and mathematics is removed.

**Safety Drill Rules (SB 2057):** Amends the School Safety Drill Act. Provides that ISBE and the Illinois State Police shall develop guidelines to school districts, private schools, and first responders as to how to develop and implement threat assessment procedures, rapid entry response plans, and cardiac emergency response plans. Provides that ISBE shall provide school districts with standards outlining what steps or consideration shall be included within the school district’s threat assessment procedure. The standards should provide guidance for how and when a school district will notify parents and community members of a threat. Provides that ISBE in consultation with the Illinois State Police shall have a year to use emergency rulemaking to adopt these changes.



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**Orphanage Tuition (SB 2149):** Provides that North Chicago School District 187 depreciation of assets calculation for Orphanage Tuition will not include assets that were constructed using federal or donated funds.

## (House Bills)

**IEP Meeting Notice Additions (HB 1366):** Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Provides that the notice given to parents and guardians before an IEP meeting is required to include information stating that the parent or guardian is allowed to bring other people with knowledge of the child to the IEP meeting. Requires the State Board of Education to distribute to every school district information about IEP processes and school districts are required to give that information to parents and guardians.

**Professional Development Providers (HB 1368):** Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Requires approved professional development providers to ensure that professional development activities pertaining to literacy instruction are in accordance with the evidence-based strategies defined in the comprehensive literacy plan for the State developed by the State Board of Education.

**Substitute Teacher Drills (HB 1787):** Provides that a school district shall provide training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills to all school personnel serving in a substitute capacity. Training shall be provided in person when available.

**Required Enrollment for Special Ed. Reimbursement (HB 1861):** Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Requires a parent or guardian with a child in a Medicaid-eligible long-term facility in Harvey-Dixmoor Public School District 205 or Thorton Township High School District 205 to enroll the child in a school where the parent or guardian is a resident whether in-State or out-of-State and if the out-of-State school refuses to enroll the child, the child is required to be enrolled in the last school district in which the child was a resident in. Provides that if the parent or guardian that is a resident in another State is successful in enrolling the child in an out-of-State school then this will initiate reimbursement to Illinois. Provides that prior to the placement of the child if the child is not enrolled in a school district or if the resident school district is unknown then the child is required to be enrolled in a resident district identified for the child unless the placement is an emergency situation. Requires a school district's superintendent or facility's director that states that a parent's or guardian's location is unknown to send an affidavit to the State Superintendent that the superintendent or director has made three satisfactory attempts on three separate days to locate the parent or guardian, and that no response was received within 14 days after the satisfactory attempts.



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**Mediation/Resolution/Settlement Agreements Conditions (HB 2337):** Provides that a mediation agreement, resolution agreement, or settlement agreement as a condition of the settlement can include the waiver of legal right or claim that is consistent with the claims raised at a mediation, resolution, or settlement meeting, the waiver is only for the student who is the subject of the resolution, mediation, or settlement agreement, and the waiver has a duration that doesn't exceed the duration of the agreement.

**Joint Agreements Criteria (HB 2390):** Amends the School Code. Provides a process for withdrawing member districts that are a part of a joint special education agreement. Requires notice, required comprehensive plans (for after withdrawal), and the adopted resolution of a withdrawing member district to be submitted to the district's regional superintendent or executive director of the intermediate service center. Requires the regional superintendent or executive director of the intermediate service center to certify that the withdrawing member district has submitted all required material to withdraw from a joint agreement and notify the other member districts and the State Board of Education. Requires a public hearing to be held by the withdrawing member district within a year and a half before its withdrawal date. Provides that a school district will be officially withdrawn from a joint agreement if the school district follows the provisions of the bill and gives a year and a half notice to the other member districts of the joint agreement.

**IEP Student Transition Plans (HB 2537):** Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Requires the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the student's IEP team to be included in the student's transition planning process when the student turns 16. Provides what information is required to be given to the student and the student's parent or guardian concerning eligibility for free education after graduation and that the student can receive IEP services until the end of the school year when the student turns 22.

**ISBE Assessment Contract (HB 2574):** Amends the School Code Provides that on or before July 1, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, ISBE shall report, for each assessment contract the State Board of Education enters into, all of the following: the effective date of the contract and the date the contract concludes; whether the contract includes any renewal options and, if so, the length and number of renewals; the total contract costs on a yearly basis; and the notice of communications with the vendor to exercise renewal options.

**Career and Technical Education Opportunities (HB 2801):** Amends the School Code. Provides that by July 1, 2026, ISBE shall provide a form, posted publicly on its website, for organizations to submit opportunities for high school students to participate in externships, internships, or volunteer work related to career and technical education career pathways. The opportunities submitted shall be reviewed and approved by ISBE. ISBE shall post a list of approved opportunities on its website and share the list with all school districts annually. Provides that by





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July 1, 2027, and by July 1 each year thereafter, the ISBE shall compile and publish a report on its website listing the total number of organizations that submitted opportunities for high school students the previous year as provided in this bill. The report shall be separated by the career areas under which each opportunity fell.

**Excused Absences FFA and 4H (HB 2802):** Provides that participation in work-based learning experiences and apprenticeships including FFA and 4H events that are approved by a licensed educator are required to be counted towards a student's attendance calculation. Requires school districts before the 2026-2027 school year to create attendance policies pertaining to activities that count towards a student's attendance calculation.

**School Bus Permits (HB 2962):** Creates another permit that pertains to multifunction school activity buses (MFSAB) that are designed to carry up to 15 passengers including the driver. Provides that the additional permit is required to be issued by the Secretary of State. Provides rule-making authority to the Secretary of State pertaining to the issuance of school bus and school vehicle permits.

**Reorganization Feasibility Study (HB 2966):** Amends the School Code. Creates a grant program for school districts to conduct reorganization feasibility studies. Provides that priority is required to be given to similar school districts that share borders. Provides the process by which school districts can apply for a feasibility study grant. Requires a school district seeking a feasibility study grant to be approved by the regional office of education or intermediate service center before applying to the State Board of Education.

**ISBE Cleanup (HB 2986):** Amends the Holocaust and Genocide Commission Act and the School Code. Provides changes to reporting requirements concerning Statement of Affairs, Reports on Contracts Over \$25,000, Administrative Cost Reporting, Annual Financial Report and Audit Reporting, and Charter School Reporting. Removes the time requirement of school districts to enroll every English learner into a transitional bilingual education program for at least three years. Removes provisions requiring the statement of affairs to the State Board of Education to include the annual fiscal year gross payment for each certificated personnel. (Teacher and Administrator Salaries). Provides that the State Superintendent's designee can serve on the interagency council on the bikeways program and the Illinois Holocaust and Genocide Commission. Requires speech-language pathologists to train at least six hours (instead of 10) in the supervision of speech-language pathology assistants.

**Mental Health Records (HB 2994):** Provides that a parent or guardian that consented to the mental health services can only access a student's mental health records for the purpose of inspecting and copying a record of the specific mental health or developmental services that the parent or guardian consented to.



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**ID Cards Information (HB 3000):** Amends the School Code. Provides that each school district that serves pupils in any grades 6 through 12 and that issues an identification card to school employees serving any grades 6 through 12 shall provide on the identification card the same contact information concerning suicide prevention that is required to be provided on a pupil's identification card.

**Dual Language Programs (HB 3026):** Amends the School Code. Provides that by December 15, 2026, ISBE shall adopt comprehensive guidance for school districts regarding the establishment of new dual language education programs and the expansion of existing dual language education programs. Provides that by July 1, 2029, ISBE's Equity Journey Continuum shall integrate the following components into the comprehensive strategic plan: Dual language education into the broader framework of student learning to ensure it is considered an essential part of educational equity and excellence; and Specific provisions for dual language teachers, focusing on recruitment, professional development, and retention of bilingual educators. Provides that by July 1, 2027, ISBE shall establish recognition pathways for biliteracy at various grade levels before high school. All aspects are permissive to school districts.

**Course Credits (HB 3039):** Provides that a student in 7th or 8th grade may receive credit towards a high school diploma if the student participates in the course where the student attends school as long as the student passes the course and the end-of-course examination given at the high school granting the credit for the same course and demonstrating proficiency at the high school level.

**School FAFSA Staff (HB 3096):** Provides that beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, each high school must designate at least one member of its staff as a contact for matters related to graduation requirements and Free Application for Federal Student Aid, annually provide the individual's name and contact information to ISBE and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission in a form and manner that these agencies prescribe, and inform high school seniors that this individual is available to answer questions about this act or to refer them to an appropriate resource, which may include, but is not limited to, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

**FAFSA Help (HB 3097):** Provides that beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, the school district shall provide appropriate support to each high school student to assist with education about and the completion of a financial aid application (FAFSA). This support may be offered in a variety of formats, times, and settings and shall include an opportunity for the student to request and receive help during the school day in completing the student's portion of the financial aid application. Provides that a high school student may choose whether to use the support or assistance provided under this Section.



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**Funding for Homeless Children/Youth (HB 3377):** Provides that school districts shall report to ISBE, on an annual basis: the amount of funds received by each school district in the preceding school year under a subchapter in the federal education code for improving the academic achievement of the disadvantaged; the amount of funds reserved by each school district in the preceding school year to serve homeless children and youth under a subchapter in the federal education code for improving the academic achievement of the disadvantaged; the number of homeless children and youth identified and enrolled in each school district for that same school year; the amount of such funds that were spent on homeless children and youth; and the activities on which such funds were spent.

**ABLE Account Information (HB 3500):** Requires information about Illinois ABLE to also be disseminated to parents of students who have section 504 plans under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As with IEP parents, this would be implemented at the local school level with information developed and distributed by the Treasurer's office. ABLE information will only be provided at the initial 504 plan meeting or if a student has an existing 504 plan the information is required to be sent using the forms of communication the school district uses currently for 504 plans to the student's parent or guardian by the 2026-2027 school year; and starting with the 2026-2027 school year the informational materials is required to be posted on the school district's website. Requires Illinois ABLE information to be provided to parents of infants and toddlers who are involved in the development of an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) under the Early Intervention program. This would be implemented by Early Intervention regional intake offices, which are the points of contact with families.

## Energy and Public Utilities

**Police Utility Poles Camera Usage (SB 1380):** Grants that county police and city police may use utility poles to place cameras for safety issues. Poles are publicly owned poles. Does NOT apply to telecom poles or private utility type poles. Provides that owners of poles may permit the process.

**Climate Change and Utilities (SB 1697):** Acts as major trailer bill to the Carbon Capture Pipeline Permits (Co2) bill in 2024. Fixes holdout owner issue and his/her compensation from the Co2 company. The non-consenting pore space owner at the injection site will be treated fairly and the new bill is to make sure they are fairly compensated. Makes changes to surface payments and repairs to farmers in the path of the pipeline. Co2 companies and farm groups are all neutral on these changes.

**Protects Mahomet Aquifer from Carbon Capture Projects (SB 1723):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that no person shall conduct a carbon sequestration activity within a sequestration facility that overlies, underlies, or passes through a sole-source



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aquifer. Specifies that this provision does not deprive the Environmental Protection Agency of the authority to deny a carbon sequestration permit. Defines “sole-source aquifer.” Adds legislative findings and a definition of the term “injection.” Changes the definition of the term “sole source aquifer.” Creates the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission. Provides that the University of Illinois shall provide administrative assistance to the Commission. Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Prairie Research Institute shall submit reports to the Commission. Provides that the Mahomet Aquifer Study Commission shall submit a final report to the Governor and General Assembly by no later than December 31, 2031. Specifies that the Commission is dissolved and the relevant provisions regarding the Commission are repealed on January 1, 2032.

**Nuclear Water Treatment Regulations (SB 2425):** Defines “water treatment residuals” and provides exemptions for two categories of low-level radioactive waste. Provides an exemption for a generator that stores waste containing or composed of radioactive material with a physical half-life of less than 120 days. Provides an exemption for a generator of water treatment residuals.

**Sunset Extensions (SB 2456):** Extends the sunset dates on multiple Acts, commissions, and Task Forces:

- Access to Voting for Persons with Disabilities Advisory Task Force.
- Public Financing of Judicial Elections Task Force.
- Illinois Elections and Infrastructure Integrity Task Force.
- Ranked-Choice and Voting Systems Task Force.
- Blue-Ribbon Commission.
- Renewable Energy Component Recycling Task Force.
- Music Therapy Advisory Board Act to add a repeal date.
- Public Building Commission Act.
- Park Commissioners Land Sale Act date extended for the Sale of Joliet Park District land.
- Expressway Camera Act repealer extended.
- Illinois Street Gang and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Law (RICO) sunset extended.
- Eminent Domain Act to specify that the Quick-take, Menard County, Athens Blacktop.
- Continues utility fees in the Renewable Energy Law of 1997.

## (House Bills)

**Illinois Century Network (HB 1062):** Amends the Illinois Century Network Act. Provides that the connection of anchor institutions to the Illinois Century Network shall be prioritized based upon



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distance from the Illinois Century Network's existing middle-mile network, and certain other criteria.

**Emergency Telephone System Act (HB 1866):** 911 reunite law from Illinois State Police. Extends sunset date to 2027. Changes definitions for the purposes of the Emergency Telephone System Act. Requires a Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) created before the effective date of the amendatory Act to adopt and maintain bylaws for the governance and termination of the Joint ETSB within six months after the effective date of the amendatory Act. Makes other changes.

**Climate Change (HB 3510):** Amends the Energy Efficient Building Act. Provides that, with respect to the Illinois Stretch Energy Code's commercial components: (1) the Capital Development Board shall create and adopt a stretch energy code with a site energy index no greater than 0.50 of the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code by December 31, 2026; the Capital Development Board shall create and adopt a stretch energy code with a site energy index no greater than 0.44 of the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code by December 31, 2029; and the Capital Development Board shall create and adopt a stretch energy code with a site energy index no greater than 0.44 of the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code by December 31, 2031.

**Local Government Billing (HB 3725):** Creates the NEW Local Government Billing Act to place restrictions on the extent that local utilities can back bill residential and non-residential customers old utility bills.

## Environment and Conservation

**Climate Displacement (SB 1859):** Creates the Climate Displacement Task Force Act. Provides that the Climate Displacement Task Force is created to make findings and recommendations regarding climate displacement within the State. Requires the Climate Displacement Illinois Task Force to submit 2 reports. The first report shall analyze scientific research and global modeling to accurately assess the level of climate displacement that is projected to happen within the US and neighboring countries. It shall also delineate findings, conclusions, and recommendations and shall be submitted to the G.A. no later than June 30, 2026. The second report shall be developed with information from the first report and shall provide a needs assessment of infrastructure, systems development, and collaboration plans between State agencies to ensure that the State is prepared through 2050 for these upcoming challenges. Findings, conclusions, and recommendations shall also be included and submitted to the G.A. no later than June 30, 2027. Requires monthly meetings. Sets a repeal date of December 31, 2028.





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**EPA-Water Supplies (SB 2266):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Exempts non-community water supplies from the general requirements of the Act, except in specific cases where they fall under regulations related to the Safe Drinking Water Act, rulemaking by the Pollution Control Board that explicitly includes them, or provisions tied to the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act. Essentially, it limits the Act's applicability to non-community water supplies unless explicitly stated otherwise in related laws or regulations.

**Shoreline Restoration Funding (SB 2314):** Amends the Healthy Forests, Wetlands, and Prairies Act. Authorizes grants to be provided under the Act for financing shoreline restoration and protection projects on behalf of counties and park districts.

**Open Land Grants to Governments (SB 2466):** Amends the Administrative Procedure Act and the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act. The intent of this bill is to make distressed local government funding of 100% permanent from the Open Spaces Land Acquisition and Development fund (OSLAD). For OSLAD grants awarded during the FY23, FY 24, and FY25 OSLAD grant cycle, a local government defined as "distressed" is eligible for assistance up to 100% for acquisition and development projects. Grants emergency rulemaking authority to the Department of Natural Resources.

## (House Bills)

**Training Programs (HB 1699):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Requires the Illinois EPA to establish an operator-in-training wastewater-operator program and an operator-in-training community water-supply operator program that does not require a high school diploma or equivalent.

**Electronic Submission Requirement (HB 2366):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that the Environmental Protection Agency is required to adopt rules requiring electronic submission. Rules are required to take effect no later than January 1, 2030.

**Wastewater Uses (HB 2391):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that treated municipal wastewater from a publicly owned treatment works is authorized for industrial uses (instead of only irrigation) under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

**Local Siting Review (HB 2419):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that the county board of the county or governing body of the municipality shall conduct a local siting review hearing in a manner that is accessible to the public, including, but not limited to, individuals with disabilities and individuals who are not native English speakers. The county board of the county or governing body of the municipality are required to certify compliance



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with this Act as part of the written record of the hearing upon completion of the hearing. Provides that the governing authority of the county or municipality may request the Department of Transportation to perform traffic impact studies of proposed or potential locations for required pollution control facilities, including studies of the emissions associated with traffic. Provides that the Department of Transportation may charge a fee to cover the costs of the emissions study.

**PFAS Product Ban (HB 2516):** Amends the PFAS Reduction Act. Beginning January 1, 2032, a person may not sell, offer for sale, or distribute the following products for sale in this State if they contain intentionally added PFAS: cosmetics, dental floss, juvenile products, menstrual products, or intimate apparel. Exempts: Products where federal law governs the presence of PFAS. Used products, a product that contains fluoropolymers consisting of polymeric substances for which the backbone of the polymer is either a perfluorinated or polyfluorinated carbon-only backbone or a perfluorinated polyether backbone that is a solid at standard temperature and pressure if that product has received approval from the Agency that the intended use of the fluoropolymer will not harm public health or the environment. Electronic or internal components. Refrigerants, foams, and aerosol propellants under federal law. Allows for civil penalties of \$5,000 for the first violation and \$10,000 thereafter. Allows for enforcement by the Attorney General or a State's Attorney.

**DNR Rewilding Policy (HB 2726):** Adds to the DNR Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that DNR has the power to exercise all rights, powers, and duties conferred by law and to take measures that are necessary for the implementation of rewilding as a conservation strategy. Strategies include, but are not limited to, the following: Restoration of land to its natural state, reintroduction of native species, particularly apex predators and keystone species, and restoration of ecological processes as defined by State-specific baselines.

**Electronic Device Waste (HB 3098):** Amends the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act. Adds provisions regarding education and consumer awareness requirements for electronic recycling events. Amends the duties of an e-waste collection program to only require certification from either the unit of local government, the third party operating a residential franchise collection program for a unit of local government, or the county or municipal joint action agency participating in the e-waste program, instead of from all three. Adds to the requirements of the Advisory Electronics Task Force. Extends the sunset of this Act from December 31, 2026, to December 31, 2031.

**Underground Storage Tank Funds (HB 3290):** Amends the Illinois Environmental Protection Act Underground Storage Tank Fund. Requires a payment determination within 120 days after receipt of both the complete application for payment and the report documenting completion of the activities approved in the plan, whichever is received later, instead of just an application.



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Limits deductibles to \$10,000 after the effective date of the Act, which shall be reduced by any deductible amount previously applied to costs incurred.

**Hunting Violation Penalties (HB 3678):** Amends the Wildlife Code. Removes language about several penalties and subjects them to Administrative Rules. In provisions regarding a certificate of competency, deletes provisions allowing a person born on or after January 1, 1980, to be exempt from requirements for a certificate of competency if the person has a hunting license issued in another State. Amends the Snowmobile Registration and Safety Act. In provisions regarding snowmobile inspections, provides that an officer may issue a summons.

## Executive

**Safe Gun Storage (SB 8):** Creates the Safe Gun Storage Act, which establishes strict requirements for firearm storage and imposes civil penalties for improper firearm storage. The bill mandates that gun owners store their firearms in a secure, locked box in any place where they know or “reasonably should know” that a minor without permission to access a firearm, an at-risk person or someone who is prohibited from obtaining a firearm can access the weapon. This includes any land, building, structure, vehicle, or place directly or indirectly under the control of the firearm owner. Gun owners who violate the act would be subject to civil penalties ranging from \$500 if weapons are not securely stored to \$10,000 if an unsecured weapon is used in a crime or suicide. These changes apply to both handguns and long guns, such as rifles and shotguns. Under current law, firearm owners are required to store their guns in a place that’s inaccessible to a child under the age of 14. This bill raises the age requirement to a child under 18 and mandates that the gun must be locked away or equipped with a device making it temporarily inoperable. In addition, the bill mandates that firearm owners report a lost or stolen firearm within 48 hours of the owner finding the firearm missing, instead of the current 72-hour timeframe. Illinois State Police would also have the ability to revoke a firearm owner’s identification card if a gun owner fails to report a stolen or lost firearm twice or more under the bill. According to supporters, the legislation aims to reduce suicides, accidental shootings, firearm theft, and unauthorized access to firearms by restricting access to firearms other than the owner. Gun advocacy groups believe the measure was unconstitutional under a U.S. Supreme Court case which ruled a court can temporarily revoke a person’s firearm rights if the court determines the firearm owner is a threat to public safety when in possession of a firearm. Other opponents felt that the civil penalties for gun owners who are accused of not safely secure a gun which ends up being used by a minor, at-risk or prohibited person to harm someone is an unconstitutional burden shift. There were also concerns that the bill placed additional burdens concealed carry license holders who carry a gun in a vehicle, as firearms owners can currently store their gun in the center console or glove box. Under the Safe Gun Storage Act, the center console or glove box would have to be lockable in order to render the firearm safely stored.



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**Prisoner Review Board/Admin. Changes (SB 19):** Amends the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act to make changes to the Prisoner Review Board. Extends term of PRB members from 6 to 8 years for new members for even less transparency and accountability. Allows the board to appoint paid “commissioners” to assist members of the board adding another layer of bureaucracy. Mandates comprehensive training for PRB members and Commissioners not only on topics like domestic violence, but also such topics as restorative justice, racial bias, risk assessment bias, law enforcement bias, prevalence of wrongful conviction, prosecutorial misconduct, police misconduct, mental health, cognitive behavioral therapy, trauma, the age-crime curve, recidivism, and the benefits of rehabilitative, educational, vocational, and health, programming in correctional facilities. Additionally, the bill introduces scraps three objective factors and replaces them with 15 new subjective factors for the PRB to consider when making parole decisions, such as rehabilitation programming participation, potential for rehabilitation, defendant’s age, home environment, and the petitioner’s background. Requires the PRB to notify registered victims of the early release, pardon, commutation, or furlough of an incarcerated person. Requires the Attorney General review and make recommendations for improvements of the victim notification system to ensure timely notice to victims and witnesses. Establishes the Director of Victim and Witness Services within PRB to ensure PRB compliance with the rights of crime victims.

**Gaming Board ID Cards (SB 100):** Amends the Illinois Gambling Act. Applies to the sworn officers who work for the Illinois Gaming Board to guard licensed Illinois casinos and enforce Illinois gaming law. Allows retiring law enforcement personnel employed by the Gaming Board, who are in good standing, to retain their Board-issued IDs, which will be marked as “retired,” or to obtain new photographic identification cards.

**State Agency Advertising (SB 213):** Creates the Government Advertising Spending Transparency Act. No later than October 1, 2026, and October 1 of each year thereafter, each State agency or department shall report the amount and distribution of its advertising spending to the General Assembly and post the report on its website. The annual report must include: the overall amount of advertising spending made by the State agency or department; the names of each advertising vendor that received advertising contracts from the State agency or department and the amount of those contracts; the type of entity that received the advertising spending, categorized by media type, including, but not limited to, search platforms, national news outlets, digital platforms, and local news outlets; and the general subject matter of the advertising placement, such as military recruitment, public health, or job training.

**Public Labor Relations (SB 453):** Amends the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act. Removes the phrase “with fewer than 35 employees” from section 7 of the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act. Originally, special bargaining procedures for newly certified unions only applied to small bargaining units (fewer than 35 employees). By removing that limitation, the amendment



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ensures that all newly certified public employee unions, regardless of size, will now follow the same timelines and procedures for reaching an initial contract, including mandatory bargaining, mediation, and potential arbitration.

**Failure to Appear Procedures (SB 852):** Provides follow-up language for P.A. 103-789, which was supposed to just eliminate automatic driver's license suspensions for failure to appear in traffic court on a petty offense. Clarifies that current law only applies to offenses punishable by fine only and that suspensions for failure to appear on offenses punishable by jail time or when there was a fatality will continue.

**Vehicle Code/Safety Zones (SB 1507):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Directs the University of Illinois Chicago Urban Transportation Center to conduct a study focused on safety along North and South DuSable Lake Shore Drive in Chicago. The study must include Review of crash data from the City of Chicago's website. Evaluation of AI-powered cameras for improving traffic safety and reducing crashes. Analysis of risky driving behaviors specific to this corridor. Examination of psychological deterrents to habitual speeding. Comparison of AI cameras with other technology options for reducing fatalities. Also, authorizes the Department to adopt rules needed to implement this subsection.

**Educational Income Share Agreements (SB 1537):** Amends the Student Loan Servicing Rights Act. Provides that Educational Income Share Agreements are a type of student loan where a borrower agrees to pay a certain amount of their future post-graduate income to the loan provider in exchange for a loan to attend college. This bill regulates such agreements through IDFPR.

**Park Districts/Competitive Bids (SB 1612):** Modifies thresholds for competitive bidding under the Park District Code, Conservation Act, and the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act. Contracts for supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure exceeding \$60,000 for supplies or materials and \$30,000 for work, or a lower amount for any contract for supplies, material, or work if required by board policy, shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

**Cremation/Scattering of Ashes (SB 1793):** Amends the Crematory Regulation Act. Provides that when a deceased individual is a member of a religion where the tenets of their faith require the scattering of that individual's cremated remains in water, the deceased individual's cremated remains may be scattered in an Illinois river without approval through the Department of Natural Resources' permit process as long as the scattering of the cremated remains meets certain criteria. Provides that the spreading of ashes must be conducted in a manner in which no other objects, including, but not limited to, any cremation identification disc, body prosthesis, or artificial organ, other than pulverized cremated remains, are scattered into a





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river. Also provides that this Act does not grant an individual authority to trespass on private property.

**Digital Assets and Consumer Protection (SB 1797):** Requires cryptocurrency exchanges to register with IDFPR, maintain a surety bond or trust account and liquidity, and provide customer services. Allows IDFPR to examine the business at any time and for the business to pay exam fees. Requires registrants to maintain transaction and other records for five years after the date of the activity being recorded. IDFPR may take various enforcement actions, including, but not limited to, suspending or revoking registrations, issuing cease and desist orders, requesting certain court actions, assessing civil penalties, seek restitution, and issue subpoenas. Exempts banks and credit unions. Also exempts non-fungible tokens (NFTs), peer-to-peer transactions, software development, non-fungible tokens, and certain entities in specified cases already regulated by the federal government through the SEC (and IL SOS) & Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Creates the Consumer Protection Fund for the deposit of registration and enforcement fees for use of the administration of the Act and other financial laws. Grants IDFPR broad rulemaking authority throughout the bill. Defines terms and makes various other regulatory provisions. Provisions are severable, shall be construed liberally, and shall not apply if preempted by federal law. Creates Article IIA on Special Purpose Trust Companies within the Corporate Fiduciary Act to allow for the creation of special purpose trust companies to act as fiduciaries for both physical and digital assets. Makes other minor or conforming changes in the Freedom of Information Act, State Finance Act, Illinois Banking Act, and Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Effective immediately, some provisions not enforced until January through July 2027.

**Fire Districts/Design-Build (SB 1827):** Amends the Counties Code. In a provision on scope and performance criteria for design-build projects removes the requirement for the county to develop preliminary design plans. It also ensures a design-build entity cannot be disqualified for prior project awards under state procurement statutes. If a county receives only one Phase I response, it can proceed to Phase II at its discretion if deemed in its best interest. Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Removes the requirement for municipalities to develop preliminary design plans, specifying that a design-build entity shall not be disqualified for prior awards under public procurement statutes, and allowing municipalities, at their discretion, to proceed with a Phase II evaluation when only one Phase I response is received, if it is deemed to be in the municipality's best interest. Amends the Fire Protection District Act. Competitive bidding provisions within the Act do not prevent a fire protection district from entering into design-build contracts. Nothing in this Section prohibits a fire protection district from entering into design-build contracts. Fire protection districts are authorized to use a design-build contracting method for construction if a competitive process consistent with the purpose of this Section is used in connection with the selection of the design-builder.



# AT A GLANCE

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**FOID/Diversions Program (SB 1899):** Amends the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act. Provides that upon the successful completion of the First Time Weapons Offense Program, a defendant is allowed to submit an application for a FOID Card upon receiving a court order demonstrating completion of the Program. This only applies to non-violent weapon possession offenses where someone didn't have a FOID card.

**Law Enforcement Officers Employment Records (SB 1953):** Provides that law enforcement agencies must submit a written request on official letterhead, signed by the agency head or designee, along with a signed waiver from the applicant authorizing the release of employment records. Provides that the producing agency must release the personnel file within 14 days of receiving a valid request, with an option for a 14-day extension if needed. Requires the producing agency to certify in writing that no other credible, relevant, or material information that could negatively impact the applicant's fitness for employment exists outside the provided file. Grants law enforcement agencies and their employees immunity from lawsuits for disclosing or releasing personnel files in compliance with these procedures. Defines "law enforcement personnel file" and "law enforcement agency."

**Web-Based Signatures Act (SB 2044):** Amends the Conservation District Act, the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, the Cook County Forest Preserve District Act, the Park District Code, and the Chicago Park District Act, applies to park districts as well as counties, townships, and municipalities. Creates the Web-Based Signatures Act. Provides that a county, township, or municipality may allow a person to sign any document with a web-based signature if the unit of local government uses a secure web-based platform.

**Digital Asset Kiosks (SB 2319):** Creates the Digital Asset Kiosks Act. Registration Requirements: Entities operating digital asset kiosks in Illinois must register with the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (DFPR). Disclosure Obligations: Operators are mandated to provide clear and conspicuous disclosures to customers regarding the risks associated with digital asset transactions. Consumer Protection Measures: The Act aims to safeguard Illinois residents from fraud and scams related to digital asset kiosk transactions by implementing necessary safeguards. Fees and Fines: The Department may establish fees by rule, including in the following categories: 1) investigation of registrants and registration applicant fees; 2) examination fees; 3) contingent fees; and 4) such other categories as may be required to administer this Act. Definitions: The amendment provides specific definitions for terms such as "digital asset," "digital asset exchange," "digital asset kiosk," and "digital asset kiosk operator," among others. Regulatory Oversight: The DFPR is designated as the regulatory authority responsible for overseeing compliance with the Act's provisions. NEW Repeal: Adds that if SB 1797 becomes law, this Act is repealed.

**(House Bills)**



# AT A GLANCE

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**School Building Construction (HB 22):** Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that developer contributions and impact fees outlined in implementing ordinances may include funds allocated for the construction of a new school building, provided that the need for the new facility is directly and uniquely caused by the specific development or subdivision. The affected school district must also certify both the necessity of the new school and the associated costs.

**Township Code Changes (HB 32):** Amends the Township Code. In provisions concerning a township or multi-township board temporarily appointing a deputy to perform the ministerial functions of a vacant office, provides that “ministerial functions” includes, but is not limited to, serving as the ex officio supervisor of general assistance in the township and administering the general assistance program under specified provisions of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Amends the Child Labor Law of 2024. Provides that nothing in the Act prohibits an employer from employing, allowing, or permitting a minor 12 or 13 years of age to work as an officiant or an assistant instructor of youth sports activities for a township parks and recreation department if the employer obtains certification and satisfies specified requirements.

**Interchange Fee Prohibition (HB 742):** Delays the effective date of the Interchange Fee Prohibition Act from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026.

**FOID Clear and Present Danger Appeals (HB 850):** Prohibits ISP and the FOID Card Review Board being held civilly liable for damages arising from alleged wrongful or improper granting, denying, renewing, revoking, suspending, or failing to grant, deny, renew, revoke, or suspend a Firearm Owner’s Identification Card. Establishes an expedited relief process for FOID Card denials /revocations based upon an affirmed clear and present danger determination. Creates a mechanism in which a person may challenge the underlying facts of the clear and present determination. Allows the subject of the clear and present danger report to access a redacted copy of the report during the relief process. Requires Illinois State Police to conduct an analysis of data regarding the disposition of cases involving stolen firearms or a firearm with an obliterated serial numbers used in crimes and make that information available on the Illinois State Police publicly accessible databases as well as publish the results of its analysis in a report to the General Assembly, Governor, and Attorney General. Requires court clerks to send final disposition information to ISP where a firearm is alleged to have been used in the commission of an offense.

**Metro Water Reclamation Bonds (HB 1158):** Amends the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act. Increases, from \$150 million to \$250 million/year, the annual general obligation debt issuance authorization granted by State law to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.



# AT A GLANCE

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**State Agency Retainage (HB 1224):** Amends the Public Construction Bond Act. Prior to the completion of 50% of the contract for public works, the State, except for DOT, may not withhold retainage from any payment to a contractor who furnishes the bond or bond substitute required by this Act in an amount in excess of 10% of any payment made prior to the date of completion of 50% of the contract. When a contract is 50% complete, retainage must be reduced so that no more than 5% is held on subsequent payments. Retainage may be withheld only if the State agency determines that satisfactory progress (which must be outlined in the contract) has not been achieved by a contractor or subcontractor during any period for which a payment is to be made. A contractor may not withhold retainage from a subcontractor except to the extent a State agency has withheld retainage from the contractor which is due to a fault attributable to that subcontractor.

**Gun Incident Reporting (HB 1316):** Requires all school officials to immediately notify the principal's office if they become aware of someone possessing a firearm on school grounds or learn of any threat of gun violence at the school. At that point, the principal has to attempt to contact the parents or guardian of the student making the threat to ensure there is no access to a firearm.

**Open Land Acreage (HB 1367):** Reduces the minimum open space acreage from 50 to 12 acres and expands "open space purposes" to include agriculture. It also allows open space to be transferred after township changes if used by a government or nonprofit for open space. The bill permits leases up to 25 years to individuals, nonprofits, or governments for open space use, including agriculture. It also requires a 2/3 township board vote and referendum to sell or give away open space, and allows transfer to Illinois Department of Transportation for roads without referendum if proper notice and a public hearing are held and 2/3 of the board approves.

**Recovered Firearms eTrace (HB 1373):** Enhances firearm tracing and reporting procedures for law enforcement agencies. Expands the definition of "peace officer" to include investigators from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Mandates comprehensive tracking of firearms under specific circumstances such as unlawful possession, use in a crime, or when recovered from a crime scene. Requires law enforcement agencies to use the ATF's eTrace platform to trace firearms, determining how and from whom a firearm was obtained, and to participate in a collective data sharing program that allows firearm trace reports to be shared among state law enforcement agencies.

**Horse Racing Act Cleanup (HB 1505):** Amends the Illinois Horse Racing Act. Provides that the Illinois Racing Board may appoint the Director of Mutuels to serve as the State director for inter-track wagering and simulcast wagering. Provides that the pari-mutuel tax imposed at all pari-mutuels wagering facilities and on advance deposit wagering shall be remitted to the



# AT A GLANCE

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Board (rather than the Department of Revenue). States that the Board shall distribute contributed funds to a charitable organization on a schedule determined by the Board, based on the charitable organization's estimated expenditures related to the grant (rather than by December 31 of each year). Repeals provisions requiring the Board and the Department of Agriculture to establish a program to conduct drug testing on horses at county fairs. Amends the Video Gaming Act. A licensee may not advertise video gaming outside the location or on off-premises billboards, unless the ad is permanently attached to the building or a fixed pole sign on-site. This restriction does not apply for the first 90 days after the license is issued.

**Judicial Appointments and Salaries (HB 1576):** Authorizes the court to hold sessions and take evidence remotely as it deems necessary to expedite the business of the court. Authorizes the court to adopt administrative rules to provide for remote or electronic filing of a claim or other motion, participation in any capacity before the court, taking of evidence or testimony, conducting any business of the court, or payment of any fees to the court. Authorizes the court to adopt rules determining the form and manner of all filing fees and other charges due the court. Provides that all claims arising under the Act must be filed within five years of the crime on which a claim is based under the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

**Organ Donor Leave (HB 1616):** Amends the Employee Blood and Organ Donation Leave Act. Expands eligibility to include part-time employees, in addition to full-time employees, for up to 10 days of leave within a 12-month period to serve as an organ donor. Requires employers to compensate part-time employees using this leave based on the average daily pay over the previous two months of employment. Provides that part-time employees must obtain employer approval before using leave under this Act.

**Pharmacy Benefit Managers (HB 1697):** Provides that PBMs are prohibited from engaging in spread pricing and steering covered individuals to specific pharmacies, while they must remit 100% of rebates to health plan sponsors or individuals. They are required to submit annual reports detailing drug coverage and financial transactions, with non-compliance resulting in fines. Sets requirements for specialty drugs and mail-order prescription drugs. Requires PBMs to pay a \$15 fee per covered individual, contributing to the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund. This fund will support access to pharmacy services, particularly in underserved areas, through grants to critical access care pharmacies and small retail pharmacies. The Department will conduct regular examinations of PBMs and report annually on grant allocations to ensure accountability and enhance pharmacy access. Includes language that the first \$25 million received from the fund shall be used for grants to pharmacies. 340B pharmacies that are participants in the critical access care pharmacy program shall only be reimbursed for the actual acquisition costs of the 340B covered drugs dispensed to participants in the State's medical assistance program.



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**Therapy Resources Oversight (HB 1806):** Provides that an individual, corporation, or entity may not provide, advertise, or otherwise offer therapy or psychotherapy services, including through the use of Internet-based artificial intelligence, to the public in this State unless the therapy or psychotherapy services are conducted by an individual who is a licensed professional.

**Faculty Compliance (HB 1859):** Requires faculty members at a community college to meet qualifications outlined in Administrative Code and any other rules adopted by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). Prohibits a community college district from using artificial intelligence (AI) as the sole source of instruction for students.

**Cook County Public Defender (HB 2436):** Amends the Counties Code by expanding Cook County Public Defender's immigration unit to represent more non-citizen residents facing deportation. The bill broadens the public defender's ability to provide free legal services in immigration cases by allowing representation not just in immigration courts within the county, but also for non-citizen residents who have immigration cases located outside the county's geographical boundaries.

**Adoption by Filing (HB 2667):** Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. Deletes a provision that authorized certain rules to be adopted, amended, or repealed by filing a certified copy with the Secretary of State. Deletes a corresponding cross-reference in a provision concerning the incorporation by reference of certain materials in rules adopted by a State agency.

**Hospital Assessment Increase (HB 2771):** Increases the Hospital Assessment Tax retroactive to January 1, 2025. As it exists now, the tax provides funding for approximately \$4.1 billion in payments to hospitals after federal match. The proposed model will increase this amount to \$6.8 billion. These taxes are uniformly applied to all eligible hospitals meeting all current Federal guidelines. Essentially, the methodology is not changing, just the supply curve.

**Illinois Sports Financing Authority (HB 2772):** Amends the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority Act. Adds "all professional sports" under the definition of facility used in the Act. Adds a new "unlawful discrimination" section to the Act. Specifically states "A person may not engage in unlawful discrimination, as defined in the Illinois Human Rights Act, with respect to programs or activities that are offered at facilities that are funded under this Act, including facilities established or supported by bonds issued under this Act."

**Out of Network Ambulance Coverage (HB 2785):** Extends surprise billing protections to ground ambulance services for emergency situations and urgent transfers within 12 hours of a medical necessity determination. Patients will not face balance billing beyond their usual in-network copayment or coinsurance amount for these services. Reimbursement for out-of-network





# AT A GLANCE

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ambulance providers is the lesser of the negotiated rate, 85% of billed charges, or the average gross rate filed with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Starting October 1, 2026, IDPH will collect average gross rate data, with protections taking effect on January 1, 2027.

**Non-Gaming ID Badge (HB 2947):** Amends the Illinois Gambling Act. Non-gaming role applicants do not need to submit fingerprints or hold an occupational license. Instead, they can obtain a non-gaming ID badge by applying, paying a nonrefundable annual fee, and meeting the minimum age of 18. The Illinois Gaming Board may revoke badges per Section 9 or its rules, and all badge holders must comply with Board regulations.

**Dual Credits (HB 2967):** Makes changes to the High School and Community College Partnership Agreements, Out-of-State Dual Credit Contracts, Standards, and Reporting sections of the Dual Credit Quality Act. Prior to offering dual credit coursework with any post-secondary institution other than a community college, a school district must first negotiate with the designated liaison of the school district's local community college district to seek a partnership with the community college district. Creates the Dual Credit Committee.

**Emergency Service Vehicles (HB 2977):** Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Applies only to the City of Chicago. Provides that a municipality, with a population of more than 500,000, is required to allocate 10% of the funds it receives from private insurers as direct payments for ambulance or fire services it provides. These funds may only be used to purchase or maintain ambulances, fire trucks, or other emergency service vehicles. This requirement does not apply to funds received through public health programs such as Medicaid or Medicare, or payments related to liability claims, settlements, or judgments, including those from excess insurance or self-insurance reserves.

**Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave (HB 2978):** Creates the Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Act. Provides that Employees of mid-sized employers (16–50 employees) are entitled to up to 10 days of unpaid leave, and those at larger employers (51+ employees) up to 20 days, when their child is in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Leave can be taken continuously or in increments of at least two hours, and is available in addition to FMLA leave. Provides that Employers cannot force employees to use paid leave, require them to find replacements, or retaliate against them for exercising their rights under the Act. Reasonable, non-confidential verification of NICU stay may be requested by the employer. Empower the Illinois Department of Labor with the responsibility for enforcing the Act, including rulemaking, investigations, and hearings. Violations may be referred to administrative law judges, with civil penalties imposed and a portion of funds directed to the Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Fund. Provides that Employees may file a complaint with the Department or bring a civil action within 60 days of a violation. Courts may award injunctions, damages, or penalties up to \$5,000 per affected



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employee. Ongoing NICU stays are considered a single violation, and both administrative and judicial remedies are available.

**Healthcare Protection Expansion (HB 3019):** Mandates medical loss ratio reporting by insurers to the Department of Insurance, detailing premium revenue expenditures. Extends prior authorization prohibition for medically necessary treatments of mental, emotional, or nervous disorders to outpatient services and establishes notification for inpatient and outpatient services. During the initial in-patient 72-hour period, if the hospital fulfills the notification requirements, the treatment can continue without additional administrative barriers. Insurers must provide network exceptions if no in-network provider is available and offer reimbursement for travel expenses based on federal per diem rates and IRS mileage standards. Addresses Medicaid plans, ensuring compliance with federal laws and regulations.

**Potawatomi Land Transfer (HB 3176):** Amends the State Parks Act. Adds land management agreement with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation for the conveyance of property shall contain restrictions on gaming operations.

**Transportation Infrastructure (HB 3177):** Raises the cap on design-build, Contract Manager/General Contractor, and Alternative Technical Concepts project delivery methods from \$400 million to \$500 million in awarded contracts and sets this level for an annual basis rather than during the Department's multi-year highway improvement program for any 5-year period. Removes the two-project-per-year limit on IDOT's use of the Contract Manager/General Contractor method.

**Prohibiting Denial of Free Education (HB 3247):** Amends the School Code. Prohibits the denial of a child's free public education in Illinois based on the child's or the child's parent's or guardian's perceived or actual immigration or citizenship status. Requires schools to not exclude any child from participating in any program or activity at a school that is based on a child's or a child's parent's or guardian's citizenship or immigration status. Requires schools to adopt a policy for approving requests by law enforcement to enter a school building for non-emergency purposes. Provides that a school cannot disclose information regarding a child's or associated person's immigration or citizenship status if the school does not have knowledge of an associated person's or child's immigration or citizenship status to any other person, entity, or any immigration or law enforcement agency. Provides that a school cannot disclose information regarding a child's or associated person's immigration or citizenship status if the school does have knowledge of an associated person's or child's immigration or citizenship status to any other person or nongovernmental entity. Provides that if any of the provisions within the bill are not followed by an entity or person then a civil lawsuit can be filed for such violation and actual damages can apply to anyone found in violation of the language in this bill.



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**Road Cameras Human Trafficking (HB 3339):** Amends the Expressway Camera Act and the Freedom of Information Act. Exempts images from expressway cameras and automated license plate reader information collected by the Illinois State Police from public disclosure. Expands the definition of “forcible felony” in the Expressway Camera Act to now include trafficking in persons and involuntary servitude, and adds Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside counties to the expressway camera program. Extends the sunset date of the Expressway Camera Act from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2028.

**State Public Defender Act (HB 3363):** Establishes a comprehensive State Public Defender system in Illinois, creating an independent agency within the judicial branch. The initial State Public Defender is to be appointed for a two-year term by a majority vote of the Illinois Supreme Court. Each subsequent State Public Defender shall be appointed for a 6-year term by the State Public Defender Commission. The bill provides support for County Public Defenders - training, attorneys, expert witness support, case management, etc. However, the bill makes dramatic changes to the Appointment Process of Chief Public Defenders (County Public Defenders), especially outside of Cook County. In Cook County the County Board President appoints with board consent. New qualification and removal provisions apply. In all other counties a nominating committee selects one or more candidates. Final appointment is made by the State Public Defender Commission. Appointments will last 10 years, and removal is for cause only. Sets salary requirements and state reimbursements for Chief Public Defenders. Requires counties to provide sufficient office space and funding for staff.

**FY26 Bond Authorization Increase (HB 3374):** Increases GO Bond authorization by \$875 million and Build Illinois Bond authorization by \$740 million to afford new capital projects in the FY26 capital budget and beyond.

**Non-Hormonal Contraceptives (HB 3489):** Authorizes pharmacists to dispense non-hormonal contraceptives. Pharmacists are currently authorized to dispense hormonal contraceptives, which would include emergency contraceptives. Requires Medicaid coverage for non-hormonal contraceptives.

**Out-of-State Practice (HB 3637):** Amends various licensure Acts regarding protecting Illinois healthcare practitioners from discipline for out-of-state actions as long as it was allowed under Illinois law (i.e., abortion etc.). Amends the Illinois Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Provides if a drug had been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration before January 1, 2025, the revocation of approval of the drug by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration after that date shall not cause it to be deemed an adulterated drug in violation of Illinois law if the drug is recommended for use by the World Health Organization, even if the drug’s labeling reflects prior approval that is no longer in effect, so long as the drug’s labeling was true and accurate at the time of its manufacture. This provision is inoperative on and after January 1, 2035.



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**Higher Education Student Health (HB 3709):** Requires public universities and community colleges with pharmacies to make abortion medication available on campus. If a public university or community college has a pharmacy on their campus, that pharmacy must also dispense contraception.

**Township Public Safety (HB 3842):** Amends the Township Code. Requires using funds levied under the provisions to furnish the police protection. Provides a township board's authority to declare the unincorporated area of the township a special police district is to provide and maintain police protection in the unincorporated area of the township. Allows the township board to use the special police district funds levied under the current provisions for public safety but prohibits use of those funds for the purchase of red-light cameras, speed cameras, or automatic license plate readers. Further prohibits any use of the funds for school resource officer's wages or to facilitate any agreement with any law enforcement agency to hire a school resource officer. Defines "public safety" to include crime prevention measures and community safety measures, such as public information campaigns or programs; traffic safety measures, traffic control measures, and signage or notices related to those measures; anti-gang and anti-violence community support and intervention programs; and graffiti abatement.

**Cyberbullying (HB 3851):** Amends the School Code Provides that beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, "cyber-bullying" also includes the posting or distribution of an unauthorized digital replica by electronic means if the positing or distribution creates any of the effects provided in the definition of "bullying." Provides that bullying may take the form of posting or distributing sexually explicit images. Provides that "Digital replica" has the meaning given to that term in the Digital Voice and Likeness Protection Act, "Artificial intelligence" has the meaning given to that term in the Digital Voice and Likeness Protection Act, and "Unauthorized digital replica" means the use of a digital replica of an individual without the consent of the depicted individual.

## Financial Institutions

**Community Reinvestment (SB 1301):** Amends the Deposit of State Moneys Act and the Public Funds Investment Act. Requires financial institutions to have a satisfactory or outstanding rating under the Illinois Community Reinvestment Act in order to receive deposits of public funds. Does not affect funds currently deposited. This requirement already exists with respect to the federal Community Reinvestment Act as of 2022. Effective January 1, 2026.

**Credit Unions (SB 1994):** Amends the Illinois Credit Union Act & the Gestational Surrogacy Act. Allows credit unions to inform a family member, account co-owner, additional authorized signatory, beneficiary, or other person on a listed of trusted contacts that an elderly or disabled account holder is suspected by the credit union of being the victim of financial exploitation and



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explain why. If certain requirements are met, lowers the number of required annual meetings from six to four for credit unions with high ratings under the Capital adequacy, Assets, Management capability, Earnings, Liquidity, and Sensitivity (CAMELS) rating system. Increases the asset threshold placed on credit unions which requires an external Certified Public Accountant (CPA) audit from \$5 million to \$10 million. Allows for expedited mergers for credit unions with "supervisory concerns" as determined by the Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. This is achieved by allowing the Secretary to waive the requirements of notice to credit union members of a merger meeting and/or the requirement that a majority of members be present at the meeting and vote in favor of the merger. Makes minor change to phrasing requiring CPAs hired to do internal audits at smaller credit unions to comply with standards adopted by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Provides that, for gestational surrogacy contracts which require compensation to the surrogate, the escrow agent holding the compensation must be bonded at a minimum of \$1 million.

**Misleading Practices (SB 2318):** Amends Section 46 (misleading practices) of the Illinois Banking Act Provides that a company which 1.) doesn't accept insured deposits as a substantial portion of its operations; and 2.) isn't chartered by a State or the United States, happens to violate provisions prohibiting it from misleading consumers to believe that it is a bank, it is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$100,000 for violations (penalty is current law under Section 48 of the Act).

**Collection Agency Act (SB 2457):** Amends the Collection Agency Act by updating definitions, phrases, exemptions, and applicability provisions for clarity and consistency with other financial regulations. Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Removes January 1, 2026, sunset date.

## (House Bills)

**Student Empowerment Fund (HB 1430):** Amends the Student Investment Account Act. Allows the Treasurer's Office to refinance student loans through the Student Empowerment Fund program. Strikes their ability to enter into or support income share agreements. Makes conforming and technical changes throughout. This bill expands the program created in 2019 by the Act by adding refinancing loans to the list of acceptable investments while removing educational income share agreements from the list.

**Coerced Debt (HB 3352):** Amends the Collection Agency Act. Provides that people are not liable for coerced debt. Individuals may assert that they have incurred a coerced debt by submitting a statement to a collection agency. Focused on debt as the result of fraud, duress, intimidation, threat, force, coercion, undue influence, nonconsensual use of the debtor's personal identifying information as a result of abuse or exploitation or human trafficking. Requires the statement to include a number of specific items including, but not limited to, facts about how the debt was



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incurred and various types of documentation from authorities or third parties supporting the claim. If the agency determines the debt does not qualify as coerced debt, it must notify the debtor through a written statement and explain how such determination was made. If the agency determines the debt is a coerced debt, the agency must notify the debtor that it is ceasing all actions regarding the coerced debt. Regards coerced debt as an affirmative defense in any lawsuit and arbitration regarding collection of the debt. Prima facie affirmative defense is established by debtor through completion of the statement. Burden is on the collection agency to disprove the defense by preponderance of evidence. A person found by a court or arbitrator to be a perpetrator is civilly liable to the agency for the debt and to the debtor for actual damages. Establishes other provisions regarding confidentiality, penalties for noncompliance and false statements, and more.

**Banking Omnibus (HB 3467):** Amends the Illinois Banking Act. Provides that giving a notice for a board meeting or meetings with stockholders can be delivered electronically (rather than only mail). Adds that every annual or special meeting shall be held at the business office of the savings bank or virtually. Provides that the board of directors of a bank may provide by resolution that stockholders may attend, participate in, act in, and vote at any annual meeting or special meetings through the use of a conference telephone or interactive technology if specified conditions are satisfied. Removes prohibition on employees with felony records (already allowed under the Savings Bank Act). Removes need for banks to apply to IDFP to move locations. Still have to provide notice. Amends the Savings Bank Act Allows savings banks to acquire up to 15% of voting securities of a bankers' bank. Currently, the cap is set at 5%. This change creates consistency with the Banking Act. Provides that the board of directors of a savings bank may provide by resolution that members or stockholders may attend, participate in, act in, and vote at any annual meeting or special meetings through the use of a conference telephone or interactive technology if specified conditions are satisfied. Provides that a savings bank may accept deposits made by a minor and may open an account in the name of such minor and the rules and regulations of such savings bank with respect to each such deposit and account shall be as binding upon such minor as if such minor were of full age and legal capacity. Amends the Illinois Credit Union Act In list of non-prohibited acts concerning documents and confidentiality, adds "the furnishing of financial records of a deceased member to a public administrator of any county or other governmental jurisdiction for the purpose of facilitating burial of the customer." Amends and updates various outdated references and definitions. Codifies current practices. Makes numerous other minor or technical changes. Many of these changes make updates to various notice, document, and meeting provisions to allow for electronic alternates, bring parity with other financial institutions, create consistency with federal laws and nationally chartered banks, and deal with internal operations. Effective immediately.

## Health and Human Services





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**SNAP Benefits (SB 32):** Proposes that households including veterans or Armed Forces members should be categorically eligible for SNAP if their gross income is at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines. Subject to federal approval and federal funding, if required, and clarifies that there is no obligation to fund this objective with state funds.

**Health Care Workforce Task Force (SB 593):** Creates the Health Care Workforce Task Force within DPH to address workforce challenges in the health care sector. The 18-member Task Force will include state officials, legislators, and representatives from various health care and labor organizations, all appointed by designated leaders and the Governor. Members will serve without compensation and must be appointed within 120 days of the Act's effective date. The Department of Public Health will provide administrative support, and the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation will assist with data. The Task Force must: Hold its first meeting within 160 days and meet at least four times. Review laws and data on health care professions. Identify workforce shortages. Recommend strategies to attract youth and underrepresented groups to the profession. Improve training, recruitment, and retention. Promote inclusion of foreign-trained professionals. Address workplace violence and enhance access to care. It will gather input from stakeholders and report findings to the Governor and General Assembly within a year of its first meeting. The Task Force will dissolve on December 31, 2027.

**Non-Clinical Service Areas (SB 798):** Amends the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act. Provides that the definition of "non-clinical service areas" includes components in a patient care unit used as educational space, consultation and touchdown rooms, and on-call rooms. Provides that the definition of "non-clinical service area" does not include areas in a patient care unit or areas that are required by Department of Public Health licensing standards, including life safety code regulations, such as hallways and other interdependent components to a clinical area.

**Voucher Taxi and Car-Share (SB 1274):** Beginning January 1, 2026, survivors of sexual assault may use a sexual assault services voucher to cover the cost of transportation by taxi or rideshare—to the hospital they initially presented at, their home, or a survivor services shelter. Hospitals may also arrange such transportation with the survivor's written consent.

**Sexual Assault Treatment (SB 1602):** Makes various cleanup changes throughout the Sexual Assault Survivor Emergency Treatment Act. Defines "acute sexual assault" based on timeframe, removes the term "prepubescent sexual assault survivor," and standardizes language. It requires certain hospitals near public universities to submit an approved sexual assault treatment plan. Enforcement measures include fines for repeated noncompliance and violations related to forensic exams and patient care. Clarifies timelines and procedures for acute sexual assault cases in hospitals, updates transfer protocols, and removes the 2029 sunset for out-of-state hospitals. It strengthens the role of the SANE Program Coordinator,



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standardizes SANE/SAFE training requirements, expands training opportunities, and streamlines pediatric evidence collection and consent. Shifts SASETA enforcement to IDPH and simplifies billing and enforcement processes. Adds factors for DPH to consider when approving sexual assault transfer plans to avoid transfers that result in an undue burden for the survivor, prioritizing transferring patients to the closest available treatment option when it has capacity and willingness to accept those patients; other factors include staffing, patient volume, the existence of other transfer agreements, and transportation plans. Changes the term “medical forensic services” to “medical forensic examination,” which better aligns with the US Department of Justice’s National Protocol for Sexual Assault. Allows transfer hospitals to generate sexual assault service vouchers and receive reimbursement for “medical care and treatment” and follow up care furnished to survivors who decide they don’t want to transfer to a treatment hospital for a medical forensic examination and evidence collection. This increases survivor access to vouchers and follow-up care, and also benefits hospitals.

**HFS Cleanup (SB 1774):** Provides for agency statute cleanup. Repeals two sections of the Public Aid Code that are no longer necessary.

**DHS 2-1-1 Service (SB 2194):** Makes changes to the 2-1-1 Services Act which seek to bring the Act up to date. Makes clarifications to existing statute with regard to qualifications and reporting requirements of a “lead entity” designated by the Illinois Department of Human Services to oversee statewide implementation of 2-1-1. Ensures that 2-1-1 service providers must meet the minimum qualifications as determined by the lead entity. Clarifies that a lead entity may remove a 2-1-1 service provider for failure to meet minimum qualifications.

**Psychiatric Residential Facility (SB 2421):** Creates the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) Act to establish coverage for medically necessary inpatient psychiatric services delivered by certified Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities to Medicaid beneficiaries under 21 years of age.

**Medicaid Omnibus (SB 2437):** Contains the following key components:

- Certified Family Health Aide Program for Children and Adults.
- Doula rights and policies in hospitals and birthing centers.
- Standing recommendations for preventive maternal/reproductive health services.
- Expanded Medicaid coverage for asylum seekers and victims of trafficking/crime.
- Tardive dyskinesia screening guidelines for Medicaid providers.
- Semi-annual HFS reports on prescription denials and healthcare outcomes.
- Evaluation of in-home shift nursing services and reimbursement.
- Reimbursement for long-term ambulatory ECG monitoring.
- Medicaid coverage for over-the-counter choline supplements.



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- Clarification on Medicaid redetermination as annual eligibility check.
- Use of Solventum™ software for hospital reimbursement methodology.
- Employment program for noncustodial parents involved in child support.
- Emergency rulemaking for Medicaid managed care and long-term acute care.
- Multi-location hospital operations in counties under 325,000 population.
- CMS staffing ratio job codes for long-term care facilities (HCCI Initiative).
- Penalty policy for staffing violations in long-term care.
- Hospital tax waiver option for nonprofit freestanding cancer hospitals.
- Clarification on statutory text versions not affecting implementation dates.

**Mobile Mental Health Providers (SB 2500):** Refines the Community Emergency Services and Support Act (CESSA) by clarifying that mobile mental health providers coordinate but do not directly provide transportation unless equipped and staffed to do so, with specific conditions for law enforcement involvement. Training requirements are strengthened to include cultural competency and involuntary commitment procedures. Data collection is expanded to track involuntary commitments for system improvements. The implementation deadline is extended to July 1, 2027, with phased milestones for testing, evaluation, and full adoption.

## (House Bills)

**CILA Visitation Rights (HB 57):** Amends the Essential Support Person Act. Adds to the definition of “Department” to include community-integrated living arrangements, as defined in the Community-Integrated Living Arrangements Licensure and Certification Act, and the Department of Human Services. Provides that “facility” does not include any facility that the Department of Public Health or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs does not regulate. Provides that “home” means a community-integrated living arrangement as defined in the Community-Integrated Living Arrangements Licensure and Certification Act.

**Educational Day Programs (HB 1168):** Provides that the definition of “day care center” does not include programs offered by arboretums if the arboretums conduct background checks on employees.

**Long-Term Care Facilities (HB 1287):** Requires long-term care facilities licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act to have an automated external defibrillator (AED) and adopt policies for its use. Individuals certified to use AEDs must complete a CPR and AED course that meets standards set by the American Heart Association or Red Cross, and their certification must be current. Facilities must maintain AEDs per the Automated External Defibrillator Act and follow medical best practices. Compliance is required by January 1, 2030.



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**Emergency Contact Information (HB 1332):** Changes the short title from the “Caregiver Advise, Record, and Enable Act” to the “Emergency Contact and Caregiver Advise, Record, and Enable Act.” Requires hospitals to provide each patient with the opportunity to designate an emergency contact and the opportunity to authorize the hospital to share protected health information with that emergency contact. Hospitals must promptly notify a patient’s authorized emergency contact of the patient’s death, unless the legal representative objects. The notification attempt must be documented, and no violation occurs if the contact does not respond. If the patient hasn’t authorized information sharing or has revoked it, the hospital may only contact the emergency contact as legally permitted.

**Fair Patient Billing (HB 1431):** Amends the Fair Patient Billing Act to require hospitals that charge separate facility fees for outpatient services to develop a policy informing patients of the potential fee, including how they will be notified, what the fee covers, why it’s charged, and who to contact for more information. Provides that for violations involving a pattern or practice of not providing the information to patients, the civil monetary penalty shall not exceed \$50 per violation.

**Unlawful Discharges (HB 1597):** Makes changes to the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act and the Nursing Home Care Act that strengthen resident protections in assisted living and nursing homes by requiring notification of significant health changes, ensuring access to assessments and service plans, and prohibiting emergency discharges if safe care can be provided. It mandates immediate compliance with readmission orders, imposes a \$2,500 fine for noncompliance, and upholds residents’ rights against unlawful transfers or discharges.

**Crisis Assistance Funding (HB 2682):** Provides that if under crisis, a TANF applicant is experiencing deprivation of shelter, DHS is required to inform those applicants of crisis assistance funding. The Department must provide at least \$1,250 in aid for up to four months. Requires the Department of Human Services to implement the federal Family Violence Option created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, and other specified federal provisions that permit state agencies to waive TANF work and self-sufficiency requirements for individuals who are the victims of domestic or sexual violence.

**Statewide DV Hotline (HB 2774):** Requires the Department of Human Services to establish a single, statewide, easy-to-use Domestic Violence Hotline for information and referrals. The Department may contract a qualified lead entity—an Illinois-based nonprofit with experience, multilingual 24/7 access, trained staff, and appropriate technology—to operate and oversee the hotline. The lead entity must provide direct referrals, collect service data, and report regularly to the Department. The bill also allows for flexible funding sources to support the hotline’s operation. Allows for multiple funding sources to support the hotline’s operation.



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**Hospice Program Board Report (HB 2877):** States that by December 31, 2026, the Hospice and Palliative Care Board must submit a report to the General Assembly on the state of care for individuals with serious or life-limiting illnesses and their caregivers. The report must include: 1. Data on the availability and need for hospice and palliative care in Illinois. 2. Data on the value of non-hospice adult palliative care to the state and its residents. 3. Evidence-based recommendations to educate healthcare professionals and the public about nonhospice palliative care. 4. Recommendations for state standards for adult palliative care.

**DHS Healthcare Administrative Cleanup (HB 3078):** Makes various changes to statutes related to DHS healthcare administration, including the removal of inactive mandates, updates to align with current practices, and modifications affecting resource access for providers and DHS customers. Specifically, the bill: Eliminates inactive Autism Research Fund and Committee. Expands FOID reporting authority to PAs and APPNs. Removes witness requirement for self-consent to release mental health records. CILAs will no longer serve individuals solely with mental illness. Clarifies roles of Roosevelt and Wood ICRE centers; mandates background checks. Clarifies early intervention eligibility. Allows OIG to share some investigative data and death reports with IDFPR under certain circumstances.

**DHS-DD Services Rate Sheet (HB 3160):** Requires the Department of Human Services to, at least annually, provide each provider of home and community-based services an updated, detailed rate sheet for each funded client served by the provider. Also requires that the Department issue updated rate sheets within 60 days of receipt, if the Department receives information that changes a client's reimbursement rate.

**Medicare Part A Buy-In Study (HB 3214):** Requires HFS to study and report the impact of entering into a Medicare Part A Buy-In Agreement for qualified Medicare beneficiaries with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

**Alzheimer's and Dementia Assessment (HB 3328):** Requires Assisted Living Facilities that offer Alzheimer's units to assess residents before admission using validated tools approved by Alzheimer's and dementia care experts to ensure accurate evaluation of cognitive impairments. These tools must be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect current best practices and clinical standards.

**Joint Training Sessions (HB 3428):** Requires the Department of Public Health to hold semiannual joint training sessions for surveyors, nursing home providers, and assisted living providers, with input from the State long-term care ombudsman and provider associations. The training must include topics such as regional citation patterns and standardized guidance to help prevent common citations in assisted living facilities.



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**DCFS Cleanup (HB 3444):** Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Provides that a day care home or group day care home may be exempt from licensure (rather than is not required to be licensed) if it serves dependent children of military personnel, is located on a military base or federal or government property and is certified as a child development program by a branch of the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S. Coast Guard.

**MHDD-OIG Investigations (HB 3718):** Expands and clarifies DHS procedures for initial investigations into facility employees accused of misconduct against recipients of mental health or developmental disability services. Broadens the scope to include allegations of material obstruction of an investigation, physical or sexual abuse, non-de minimis financial exploitation (defined as totaling \$20 or more), and egregious neglect. Establishes specific investigative procedures for cases involving lesser forms of misconduct, including neglect, de minimis financial exploitation (under \$20), and mental abuse. Ensures that this does not apply to employees of hospitals licensed under the Hospital Licensing Act, operated under the University of Illinois Hospital Act, or affiliated with such hospitals

**Hospitals and Homelessness Support (HB 3761):** Requires the Department of Human Services' Office to Prevent and End Homelessness to maintain a centralized, publicly accessible website with up-to-date information for hospitals and health care providers on how to connect patients experiencing homelessness or housing instability to local shelter and support services, organized by each HUD-defined continuum of care region. The Department must also provide contact information, location-based lookup tools, and offer voluntary training to providers. The site must be launched by January 31, 2026, with biannual updates subject to audit.

## Higher Education

**Child Welfare Education Fellowship (SB 409):** Allows students at private colleges and universities to participate in the Pat McGuire Child Welfare Education Fellowship Pilot Program if they commit to seek and maintain employment at a child welfare contributing agency. Currently, only public university students are eligible, and they must seek and maintain employment at a purchase of service agency. The program provides up to \$20,000 in financial assistance to eligible students pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in social work. This program is subject to appropriation.

**WIU Funding (SB 1310):** Allows Western Illinois University to borrow money from the WIU Foundation or any financial institution. The amount may not exceed \$2 million. Any amount borrowed must be repaid within five years.

**Historical Cost of Attendance (SB 1376):** Creates the Historical Cost of Attendance Disclosure Act. Requires all Illinois colleges and universities that offer Bachelor's Degrees to post the cost





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of attendance for the previous 10 academic years on their website and for every year going forward. The cost of attendance must delineate which expenses are included in the 1098-T form and which expenses are not included on the 1098-T form.

**IBHE and ICCB Student Member Stipend (SB 1475):** Requires student members on the Board of Higher Education and Community College Board to receive a \$500 scholarship for each semester they serve as a student member of the respective boards.

**Sexual Misconduct Survey (SB 1928):** Requires each higher education institution to conduct a sexual misconduct climate survey of all students at that institution every two years. Changes the membership of the Task Force on Campus Sexual Misconduct Climate Surveys.

**Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (SB 1958):** At the request of a community college or a state university, a state university or community college must enter into a transfer articulation agreement with the community college district or State university to provide a seamless pathway for transfer. Creates a Model Transfer Articulation Agreement which would be enacted if community colleges and State universities aren't able to come to an agreement within 180 days of the community colleges' request. Creates Reporting Requirements on Course Transfer.

**IBHE Data Dashboard Report (SB 2039):** Creates the Illinois Board of Higher Education Data Dashboard Report. In collaboration with the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, requires the Board of Higher Education to publish a State Data Dashboard Report and Data Dashboard Report for each public institution of higher education and each private college and university in Illinois on a publicly available website.

## (House Bills)

**Financial Aid (HB 460):** Amends the Retention of Illinois Students and Equity Act. Allows students that did not register for selective service to receive financial aid from local governments. This would allow transgender students and undocumented students to receive financial aid from local governments.

**College Student Immunizations (HB 1073):** Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, if a student who enrolls in a post-secondary educational institution cannot provide the dates on which the student received 3 or more doses of a Tdap vaccine, the student must provide at least one date on which the student received a dose of the vaccine not more than 10 years prior to the beginning of the term of current enrollment.



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**Educational Credit for Firefighting (HB 1149):** Creates the Educational Credit for Firefighting Experience Act. Requires each public university and community college to adopt a policy regarding its awarding of academic credit for firefighter training.

**Community College Trustees Oath (HB 3011):** Requires each member of a community college board of trustees to take an oath swearing that he or she supports the US and Illinois Constitutions and that they will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of their community college district. The oath will be administered by the secretary of the board, a notary public, or any other officer authorized to administer oaths under State law.

**IBHE Cleanup (HB 3300):** Requires the Illinois Board of Higher Education to notify each public university of certain programs that exhibit indicators of low performance. Grants the Board of Higher Education the power and duty to accept gifts, grants, or legacies from any source when made for higher education purposes.

**Mental Health (HB 3385):** Provides that each public college or university shall provide at least three licensed mental health professionals, or if the benchmark ratio falls under three, at least the number of licensed mental health professionals required by the benchmark ratio. The mental health professional may be provided in either a part-time, on-campus capacity or a full-time, on or off-campus capacity.

**Direct Admission Program (HB 3522):** Creates the Direct Admission Program. Requires the Board of Higher Education to establish and administer a direct admission program to automatically offer admission into an Illinois public university to qualified high school seniors and public community college students in Illinois.

**Student Teachers Salaries (HB 3528):** Provides that no institution of higher education shall establish or maintain any policy which requires student teaching for student teachers to be unpaid.

## Insurance

**Riding Therapy (SB 69):** Amends the Insurance Code. Provides that a group or individual policy of accident and health insurance or managed care plan that is amended, delivered, issued, or renewed shall provide coverage for hippotherapy and other forms of therapeutic riding. Effective date January 1, 2027.

**Alzheimer's Treatment (SB 126):** Provides that starting January 1, 2027, all group and individual accident and health insurance policies, as well as managed care plans, must cover medically necessary diagnostic testing and FDA-approved treatments for Alzheimer's disease and related



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dementias. This coverage is required for any treatments prescribed to slow disease progression, as determined by a licensed physician.

**Klinefelter Syndrome (SB 175):** Provides that any group or individual accident and health insurance policy, or managed care plan, that is amended, delivered, issued, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027, must cover a karyotype test or related hormone testing for diagnosing Klinefelter syndrome.

**Nonopioid Alternatives (SB 1238):** Requires health insurance issuers to develop a comprehensive plan for pain management services that include nonopioid options starting January 1, 2027. Requires these plans to be filed with the Department of Insurance and made publicly accessible on the insurer's website. IDPH may create an educational pamphlet on nonopioid pain management alternatives.

**Surplus Line Insurance (SB 1289):** Provides that the individual determination of the "home state" for each person or business in the group surplus line insurance will no longer apply. Coverage under the insurance policy will not be treated as separate contracts for each person or business in the group.

**Managed Care and Insurance Cards (SB 1346):** Provides that health care plans must provide enrollees and prospective enrollees with an annual statement detailing all basic health care services and mandated benefits, highlighting new laws or rules. Plans offering dental coverage must issue benefit information cards, which can be electronic or physical. The cards must display whether the plan is self-insured or fully funded and indicate if it is regulated by the Department of Insurance.

**Dental Insurance (SB 1392):** Amends the Health Maintenance Organization Act, the Limited Health Services Organizations Act and the Voluntary Health Services Plan Act. Allows insured individuals to assign their rights to claim payments under dental insurance policies, similar to existing provisions for accident and health insurance. Requires that if an insured person assigns their claim to a healthcare professional, healthcare facility, dental care provider, or dental care facility, the payment will be made directly to these entities, including any required interest.

**Peripheral Artery Test (SB 1418):** Provides that a group or individual plan of accident and health insurance or managed care plan amended, delivered, issued, or renewed after January 1, 2027, must provide coverage for a peripheral artery disease screening test for any at-risk individual.

**(House Bills)**



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**Coverage for Anesthesia Services (HB 1141):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Requires an insurer to cover medically necessary anesthesia services regardless of the duration. Prohibits denials due to the duration of care exceeding a preset limit. Incorporates the coverage mandate into the required health care coverage under the State Employees Group Insurance Act of 1971, Counties Code, Municipal Code, School Code, Health Maintenance Organization Act, Limited Health Service Organization Act, Voluntary Health Services Plans Act, and the Public Aid Code (Medicaid).

**Genetic Medicine and Counseling (HB 1331):** Amends the Network Adequacy and Transparency Act. Requires the Department of Insurance to consider establishing a ratio of plan beneficiaries to genetic medicine and counseling providers.

**Student Health Parent Coverage (HB 1577):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Exempts student health insurance coverage from the requirement that dependent coverage be made available to a dependent parent.

**Dental Billing Electronic Transactions (HB 1864):** Amends the Uniform Electronic Transactions in Dental Care Billing Act. Beginning January 1, 2027, dental plan carriers are not required to accept eligibility or claims transactions from dental care providers with exemptions, requiring providers with exemptions to file a form with the Department of Insurance by the same date. By January 1, 2027, dental plan carriers must establish electronic portals for providers to submit claims, attach documents, and receive remittance advice electronically. The Act also states that dental care providers are not required to accept only electronic payments from carriers. The Department of Insurance must provide the specified exemption form by January 1, 2027, and new requirements for eligibility and benefit verification portals will take effect on that date.

**Targeted Insurance Sales (HB 1865):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Prohibits insurance solicitation to nursing home/long-term care residents over 65 unless they're advised to consult a trusted person, wait 48 hours before changes, receive a contact for questions, and can opt out. Provides that policies in violation of these unlawful practices are voidable by the director. Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to prohibit nursing homes/long-term care facilities from making disruptive changes or relocating residents with impaired decision-making capacity without prior approval from their agent, family member, or guardian. Effective January 1, 2026.

**Prohibits Insurance Discrimination (HB 2425):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Prohibits discriminating against an individual with respect to life insurance final expense policies based upon a felony conviction. Provides that nothing requires a company to issue a policy to someone actively incarcerated for felony.



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**Neonatal Intensive Care (HB 2464):** Amends the Accident and Health Article of the Illinois Insurance Code. Requires coverage for neonatal intensive care from a nonparticipating provider or nonparticipating facility at no greater out of pocket cost than with a participating provider or facility as long as the care is for emergency services.

**Laser Hair Removal (HB 3248):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Requires a coverage provider, beginning January 1, 2027, to provide coverage for medically necessary laser hair removal if the procedure is a prescribed medical treatment in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical care. Incorporates the coverage mandate into the required coverages under the State Employees Group Insurance Act, Counties Code, Illinois Municipal Code, School Code, Health Maintenance Organization Act, Limited Health Service Organization Act, and Voluntary Health Services Plans Act. States the new section is not applicable to health care plans providing health care services for persons who are enrolled under Article V of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

**Complex Rehab Technology (HB 3677):** Creates the Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act. Sets requirements for sellers and suppliers of complex rehabilitation technology in the state, including the obligation to provide service and repairs for complex wheelchairs throughout their useful life. Original equipment manufacturers can redact trade secrets from documentation without affecting service usability and may withhold certain trade secret information that does not impair service functionality. Violations of the Act are considered unlawful practices under the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. The Act applies to complex wheelchairs sold or in use from its effective date. Amendments to the Illinois Insurance Code state that from January 1, 2027, insurance plans must not require prior authorization for repairs under \$1,500 and must offer rental coverage during primary equipment repairs. Requests for repairs over \$1,500 must be addressed within seven days. Makes conforming changes to the State Employees Group Insurance Act, the Counties Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, the School Code, the Health Maintenance Organization Act, the Limited Health Service Organization Act, the Voluntary Health Services Plans Act, and the Illinois Public Aid Code.

**Benefits Exchange (HB 3756):** Amends the Illinois Health Benefits Exchange Law. Provides that the Illinois Health Benefits Exchange shall allow a special enrollment period for an uninsured taxpayer and the uninsured taxpayer's qualified dependents, if applicable, if the uninsured taxpayer requested health insurance benefit information through the easy enrollment program under the Illinois Income Tax Act and the uninsured taxpayer and the uninsured taxpayer's qualified dependents, if applicable, are eligible to enroll in a qualified health plan through the Exchange. Establishes notification requirements for the Exchange. Provides that the uninsured taxpayer and the uninsured taxpayer's dependents shall have 60 days from the date of the letter to select and enroll in a qualified health plan. Provides that coverage shall be effective



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the first day of the month that follows the plan selection. Grants the Department of Insurance and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services rulemaking authority to implement an easy enrollment special enrollment period.

**Provider Panels (HB 3796):** Amends the Network Adequacy and Transparency Act. Requires a network plan to permit a beneficiary to continue an ongoing course of treatment for 90 days from the date of the notice of the provider's disaffiliation from the network plan if the beneficiary has a confirmed appointment and the provider attests that the appointment was scheduled prior to the date of notification. Requires a network plan shall provide for continuity of care for new beneficiaries for 90 days from the effective date of enrollment if the beneficiary has a confirmed appointment and the current provider attests that the appointment was scheduled prior to the effective date of enrollment. Provides that the requirement does not apply for rescheduled appointments or follow-ups after the 90 days.

**DOI Administrative Changes (HB 3800):** Resolves technical inconsistencies. Dissolves the George Bailey Memorial Fund. Repeals the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Working Group. Creates a new fee of \$500 for licenses for public adjusters who are not Illinois residents. Expands the Criminal Code definition of "Insurance Company". Amends section regarding transactions in this State involving contracts of insurance independently procured directly from an unauthorized insurer by industrial insureds to apply to insurance procured directly from an unauthorized insurer. Defines issuer to have the same meaning as defined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Effective immediately, except that the changes to provisions concerning fees under the Public Adjusters Article of the Illinois Insurance Code are effective January 1, 2026, and the changes to provisions of the Illinois Insurance Code concerning reinsurance agreements requiring approval take effect 60 days after becoming law.

**Patient Prescription Pick Up (HB 3849):** Amends the Pharmacy Practice Act and the Illinois Controlled Substances Act regarding hospice patient prescription delivery. Provides that any authorized employee of an organization that provides hospice services to a hospice patient or that provides home health services to a person may receive a patient's prescription orders, including controlled substances, and deliver the prescription orders to the patient. Currently, only an advanced practice registered nurse, practical nurse, registered nurse, or physician of an organization that provides hospice services to a hospice patient or that provides home health services to a person may receive a patient's prescription orders, including controlled substances, and deliver the prescription orders to the patient.

## Judiciary





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**Child Support (SB 27):** Amends the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act. Clarifies that “child” includes those younger than 18 AND anyone older than 18 who is not yet 19 and is still attending high school.

**Tiny Homes Exemption (SB 39):** Amends the Electric Vehicle Charging Act. Adds new exception section to EV parking spot mandates. Exempts any tiny home for veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and in need of secure, long-term affordable housing, if that tiny home is constructed by a specified nonprofit organization that exclusively funds and administers tiny homes for veterans.

**Small Estates (SB 83):** Amends the Small Estates Article of the Probate Act of 1975. Allows a small estate affidavit to be used to transfer personal property in a decedent’s estate if: 1) no letters of office are outstanding on the decedent’s estate and no petition for letters is contemplated or pending in the State or in any other jurisdiction; and 2) the decedent’s personal estate passing to any party by intestacy or under a will is limited to tangible and intangible personal property not exceeding \$150,000. Provides that motor vehicles registered with the Secretary of State are exempt from the estate.

**DCFS Consent Adoption (SB 103):** Amends the Adoption Act. Adds a person may commence an adoption proceeding for a youth in care only if the youth in care is placed with the petitioning person or persons by the Department of Children and Family Services at the time the petition is filed, and the Department has provided its consent to the adoption. Requires the Department to adopt rules or procedures or both as to what constitutes its approval of the adoption. A person whose rights have been terminated under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 does not have to be made a defendant in a petition for adoption. Creates a list of individuals that must be given notice of a petition for adoption unless a court has determined the person is not the parent of the child or has had parental rights terminated by a court. Adds that nothing in the new provisions will by preclude the rights of foster parents under the Act.

**Adoption Confidential Intermediary (SB 104):** Amends the Adoption Act. Adds that in a request for a confidential intermediary by an adoptive parent or legal guardian of a child under the age of 21, the appointment of the confidential intermediary may include, for the purpose of exchanging medical information, identifying information, or arranging contact with a mutually consenting adoptive parent or legal guardian of a child under the age of 21 who is biologically related to the petitioning adoptive parents ‘ or legal guardian ‘s adopted or surrendered child. Adds that the adoptive parent or legal guardian of an adopted or surrendered person under the age of 21 may also petition the court for the appointment of a confidential intermediary for purposes of obtaining identifying information or arranging contact with a mutually consenting adoptive parent or legal guardian of a birth sibling of the petitioner’s adopted or surrendered child younger than the age of 21. The confidential intermediary will disclose identifying



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information about the adult adopted or surrendered person on the original filed certificate of birth. Moves a provision regarding records a confidential intermediary has access to from a Section concerning the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange to a Section concerning confidential intermediaries.

**General Jurisdiction for Lawsuits (SB 328):** Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Changes the jurisdiction requires of Illinois to make the State a general jurisdiction state. For jurisdictional purposes, add to the list of eligibility that a court has jurisdiction if a corporation organized under the laws of this State or having its principal place of business in this State or Is a foreign business corporation that has consented to general jurisdiction in this State in accordance the Business Corporation Act of 1983, but only if (i) the action alleges injury or illness resulting from exposure to a substance defined as toxic under the Uniform Hazardous Substances Act of Illinois, whether the cause of action arises within or without this State, and (ii) jurisdiction is proper as to one or more named co-defendants. Amends the Business Corporation Act of 1983 to add that a state registered to do business in Illinois consents to general jurisdiction for lawsuits. Consent to such general jurisdiction terminates upon, and only upon, formal withdrawal from this State. A foreign corporation that transacts business in this State without authority is deemed to have consented to general jurisdiction to the same extent as if it were registered to do business in this State.

**ID Card Homeless (SB 1173):** Amends the Illinois Notary Public Act to state that no fee shall be charged for any notary act related to the execution of an SOS Driver Services Homeless Statute Certification form.

**Public Expression Protection (SB 1181):** Amends the Citizen Participation Act. Adds that it is public policy to protect press reporting and that the Act should be construed broadly to protect First Amendment Rights. Expands the type of claims that can be covered to include that the claim does not need to solely pertain to the moving party's constitutional rights, as this Act applies regardless of the motives of the person who brought the claim that the moving party is seeking to dispose of. The Act covers actions because of their valid exercise of their constitutional rights to petition, speak freely, associate freely, and otherwise participate in and communicate with government, including freedom of the press. Amends the section on attorney's fees to state that the court shall award a responding party who prevails in a motion under this Act reasonable attorney's fees and costs included in connection with the motion if the court finds that the motion was frivolous or filed solely with the intent to delay the proceeding. Creates a process for a legal stay on any proceedings covered under this Act. Adds the bill only applies to lawsuit commenced on or after January 1, 2026.

**Homeownership Programs (SB 1261):** Creates the Community Land Trust Home Ownership Act. Mandates that the Illinois Housing Development Authority's homeownership programs,



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including loan products, grants, and other types of assistance, shall be made available to home buyers and owners seeking to purchase or maintain housing where a leasehold interest in real property is held by a community land trust or other 501(c)(3) organization. Within 90 days after the effective date of this Act, the Illinois Housing Development Authority shall propose new or amended administrative rules to implement the Act Creates the Community Land Trust Task Force within the Illinois Housing Development Authority to explore the findings of the 2024 Community Land Trust Report. Creates The Task Force membership listed.

**Workers Comp (SB 1344):** Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Defines "Public works" to also include sewer inspection projects using closed-circuit television. Imposes monthly civil penalties for contractors and subcontractors who fail to submit certified payrolls, with enforcement through administrative hearings and the Attorney General. Collected penalties will fund enforcement and education efforts under related labor laws.

**Process Service Fees (SB 1348):** Amends the Counties Code to increase the in-person process service fees for the Cook County Sheriff when serving legal documents. Electronic filing fees remain the same.

**Condo Ombudsman (SB 1383):** Amends the Condominium and Common Interest Community Ombudsperson Act. Moves the sunset to January 1, 2029 (currently, January 1, 2026).

**Health Care Surrogate (SB 1411):** Amends the Living Will Act. Adds that a declaration is not operative as long as an agent is available who is authorized by a health care agency to make decisions concerning life-sustaining or death delaying procedures for the patient, and nothing in this Act may impair or supersede the authority of an agent under a health care agency to make decisions regarding life-sustaining or death delaying treatment. A physician, health care provider, employee, or facility may rely on and must comply with a qualified patient's declaration that is apparent and immediately available if a patient has been determined to lack the ability to give directions regarding the use of death-delaying procedures. Creates a new section on the operation of a living will. Adds that a declaration under this Act becomes operative when all of the following conditions have been met: 1. it has been validly executed; 2. it has not been revoked under the Act. 3. the patient is unable to give directions regarding the use of life-sustaining or death-delaying procedures; and 4. the patient is a qualified patient. An operative and unrevoked living will declaration continues in effect until revoked in accordance with this Act.

**Mortgage Debt (SB 1443):** Amends the Mortgage Act. Adds that the Act does not abrogate the Illinois common law that the payment in full of a debt secured by a mortgage extinguishes the lien. Payment in full of a debt secured by a mortgage pursuant to a payoff statement, as



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defined in the Mortgage Certificate of Release Act, issued by or on behalf of the holder of the indebtedness extinguishes the lien of the mortgage.

**Corporation Voting Rights (SB 1466):** Amends the Illinois Business Corporations Act to provide that any corporation, no matter when it was incorporated, may limit or eliminate cumulative voting rights in all or specified circumstances. It also makes clear that any corporation, no matter when it was incorporated, may amend its articles of incorporation to limit or eliminate shareholders' cumulative voting rights. Currently, only corporations incorporated after December 31, 1981, may limit or eliminate cumulative voting rights.

**Youth Independence (SB 1504):** Amends the Children and Family Services Act and the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. Requires the Department to make reasonable efforts to develop and assist youth in accomplishing, age and developmentally appropriate youth driven transition plans for each youth in care aged 15 and over to help such youth develop and strengthen life skills that lead to successful adult living. For all youth in care, require DCFS to describe in each service plan, and the court to review at each permanency hearing, how the youth is being engaged in age and developmentally appropriate life skills development. For youth age 15 and older with a permanency goal of independence, and for all youth in care age 17 and over, require the court to conduct annual Successful Transition to Adulthood Review (STAR) hearings to review DCFS' efforts to ensure the minor is provided with opportunities to engage in individualized future-focused planning towards adulthood, to develop age-appropriate daily living skills to live successfully as an adult, and if applicable, to be prepared to transition out of the care of DCFS at age 21. After the initial STAR hearing, subsequent STAR hearings may be conducted with the youth's permanency hearing.

**Fraud Referral and Alert System (SB 1523):** Amends the Counties Code. Recorders must establish a process to review deeds and instruments for potential fraud, and may refer suspicious filings to an administrative law judge. Counties must maintain a property fraud alert system, and recorders will create a form for real estate professionals to register property owners. Individuals filing fraudulent deeds may be held legally accountable, and affected property owners can seek legal relief in court.

**Eviction Criminal Trespass (SB 1563):** Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Adds that nothing in the Eviction Article may be construed to 1.) prohibit law enforcement officials from enforcing the offense of criminal trespass under the Criminal Code of 1963 or any other violation of the Code; or 2.) to interfere with the ability of law enforcement officials to remove persons or property from the premises when there is a criminal trespass.

**Unclaimed Property (SB 1667):** Amends the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act and the Illinois Trust Code. Aims to enhance the administration of trust and unclaimed property



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management. **Trustee Recordkeeping:** Trustees must maintain the governing trust instrument for at least seven years after the trust terminates. **Unclaimed Property:** Specifies that property in tax-deferred accounts becomes abandoned after 20 years. **Abandoned Accounts:** An account and there has been no activity in the past three years, the holder will attempt to contact the owners that are consistent with unclaimed property. **Finder Agreements:** Establishes regulations for agreements between property owners and finders, requiring finders to be licensed by the State Treasurer. Adds a January 1, 2026, effective date for the provisions creating a licensing requirement for unclaimed property finders.

**Military Justice (SB 1675):** Amends the Illinois Code of Military Justice by updating the definition and names of various military offenses such as soliciting commission of offenses, malingering, breach of medical quarantine, and several other technical modifications to offense descriptions. The bill also removes gendered language like “and a gentleman” from sections describing conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

**Post-Judgment Relief (SB 1738):** Amends the Code of Civil Procedure and the Clerks of Courts Act to update exemptions and other key post-judgment provisions in the Code of Civil Procedure that will benefit consumer judgment debtors. Key provisions include:

- **Automatic Exemption for Consumer Debt Judgments:** Defines “consumer debt judgment” and establishes an automatic exemption allowing judgment debtors to retain \$1,000 of their equity in personal property held in checking, savings, or credit union accounts. This exemption is part of the debtor’s existing exemption for personal property valued up to \$4,000.
- **Increased Personal Property Exemptions:** Raises the exemption amounts for certain personal property: Motor vehicles: from \$2,400 to \$3,600. Implements, professional books, or tools of the debtor’s trade: from \$1,500 to \$2,250.
- **Enhanced Homestead Exemption:** Increases the homestead exemption from \$15,000 to \$50,000 for a single individual and to \$100,000 for two or more individuals owning the property.
- **Changes to Exempt Personal Property List:** Modifies the list of personal property items exempt from execution.
- **Revival of Judgment Limitations:** Adjusts limitations for reviving judgments related to consumer debt, specifying different conditions based on the date the judgment was entered.
- **Clerks of Courts Act Amendment:** Prohibits fees for filing an appearance by a defendant in a small claims proceeding.

**Probate Finance Notice (SB 1777):** Amends the Illinois Banking Act, Savings Bank Act, Illinois Credit Union Act, Illinois Trust and Payable on Death Accounts Act, Financial Institutions



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Electronic Documents and Digital Signature Act, and Probate Act of 1975. Adds that a person shall confirm by examination of the letters testamentary, letters of administration, or letters of administration with the will annexed, or by examination of a document purporting to be the letters of office, that the letters were issued by the court solely to the executor or administrator. Amends the Illinois Banking Act, the Illinois Savings Bank Act, and the Illinois Credit Union Act to allow banks and credit unions to furnish financial information to the executor/lawful representative of the estate of a customer. Amends the Probate Act to create good-faith reliance for financial institutions when verifying representation made by estates, similar to what is already in existing law for other good faith reliance such as small estates affidavit, trustees, and power of attorneys. Amends the Illinois Trust and Payable on Death Accounts Act to allow account holders at financial institutions to choose a per stirpes disbursement. This per stirpes disbursement allows the holder of an account to choose that the distribution of their account goes to the descendants of a beneficiary if that beneficiary predeceases the holder of the account. Amends the Financial Institutions Electronic Documents and Digital Signature Act by providing that if the federal E-SIGN notice has been given and consent is received by a customer, then the bank is also in compliance with state law.

**Quick-take Kane County (SB 1909):** Amends the Eminent Domain Act. Provides that quick-take proceedings may be used for a period of one year after the effective date of the amendatory Act by the Kane County Division of Transportation for the purpose of intersection realignment and separation improvement. Initiative of Kane County Division of Transportation to increase capacity improvements along Randall Road, improve safety at the Hopps Road intersection that has been identified as a safety tier location, and reduce congestion and improve safety with a grade separated crossing over the Canadian National Railroad.

**Online Retail Marketplaces (SB 2001):** Amends the Auction License Act. Adds that at an auction, a seller must include an acknowledgment that 1) all property or goods offered for sale or by auction are owned by the seller, 2) the seller has full legal authority to sell such property or goods, and 3) to the best of the seller's knowledge, the property or goods to be sold have been lawfully obtained.

**Self-Storage Lien (SB 2220):** Amends the Self-Service Storage Facility Act. Adds that the notice to the occupant in an enforcement of lien action must include the website information where the online bidding of the lien sale may take place.

**State Rail Plan (SB 2253):** Amends the Department of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Requires the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to consult with rail stakeholders when preparing the State Rail Plan and creates a Freight Rail Coordination Committee to streamline coordination on highway projects involving Class 1 railroads. Provides that this section shall be repealed January 1, 2031. Amends the Public





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Officer Prohibited Activities Act and the Eminent Domain Act to improve transparency in public officer disclosures and simplifies procedures for property acquisition when clear title can't be provided. Allows for expedited timelines in eminent domain cases if the public interest justifies it, with firm deadlines and notice requirements.

**Online Auction Sale (SB 2351):** Amends the Auction License Act. Amends the definition of "Advertisement" to include online Internet promotions. Adds the definition of "Estate sale," "State sale service," and "Online auction." Adds that nothing in this Act shall be construed to apply to a third-party reseller of personal property where owners or representatives of an estate have transferred ownership of the property to the reseller to be sold anonymously. Also adds that nothing in the Act shall be construed to apply to any person as a receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, guardian, administrator, or executor; any person acting under a court order, under the direction of any public authority, or pursuant to any judicial decree; or any person acting under a trust agreement, deed of trust, or will.

**Oil and Gas Surety Bonds (SB 2463):** Amends the Illinois Oil and Gas Act. Removes cash as an item that an applicant for a permit may provide in lieu of a surety bond required for plugging obligations and the removal of liquid oil field waste from an on-site collection point. The Department of Natural Resources will create rules to allow a surety bond for \$10,000 for one well, \$25,000 for 10 wells, \$50,000 for 50 wells, or \$100,000 for any group with up to 100 wells. DNR will release the bond if: 1) all wells covered by the bond are plugged and all well sites are restored in accordance with this Act and administrative rules; 2) all wells covered by the bond are transferred in accordance with this Act and administrative rules; or 3) the permittee pays assessments to the Department in accordance with the Act for 5 consecutive years from the date of issuance of a permit after the effective date of this Act and the permittee is not in violation of this Act or any administrative rules.

**Human Rights Fines (SB 2487):** Amends the Illinois Human Rights Act. Makes it discretionary rather than mandatory that the Department of Human Rights conduct a fact-finding conference. If both parties want a fact-finding conference and request it 90 days after the charge was filed, the Department must hold one. Unless the Department issued its report before both requests were received. In addition, both parties must agree to a 120-day extension for the Department to issue its report. If the Department conducts a fact-finding conference, a complainant or respondent's failure to attend the conference without good cause shall result in dismissal or default. Provides that the changes this amendment makes only apply to actions or filings that happen on or after the law's effective date. Adds new fines: If a civil rights violation occurs, the hearing officer may recommend, and the Commission or panel may impose, Civil penalties up to \$16,000 for a first violation, \$42,500 for a second within 5 years, and \$70,000 for two or more within 7 years. Repeat offenders may face penalties regardless of time limits.



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## (House Bills)

**Attorney Fees for Home Repair (HB 24):** Amends the Home Repair and Remodeling Act. If a home repair and remodeling contract has an attorney's fees provision, attorney's fees must be allowed for all parties to the contract (allowing attorney's fees for only one party would not be allowed). Applies to contracts signed after the effective date.

**Illinois Receivership Act (HB 28):** Creates the Illinois Receivership Act. The Act creates a process where a person is appointed by the court as the court's agent under the court's direction to take possession of, manage, and, if authorized by the Act or court order, transfer, sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of receivership property. Provides criteria for a court to provide notice and an opportunity for a hearing as appropriate before the court can issue an order under the Act. Applies to real property and any personal property related to or used in operating real property, personal property, and fixtures, and other business assets such as corporations, limited liability companies, and trusts, among other things. · This Act does not apply to: an interest in real property improved by one to six dwelling units with some exceptions; a receiver that is a governmental unit or an individual acting in an official capacity on behalf of the governmental unit unless the unit elects for this Act to apply; a receiver appointed under the Illinois Mortgage Foreclosure Law or Nursing Home Care Act; or "residential real estate" as defined. Provides for powers and duties of a receiver, disqualification, status as lien holder, duties of an owner, powers of the court in managing a receivership, and defenses and immunity of a receiver.

**Gender Neutral Descriptions (HB 1083):** Amends the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Unions Act, the Conveyances Act, the Joint Tenancy Act, the Rights of Married Persons Act, and the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act. Inserts gender neutral descriptions for commissioner by replacing the gendered term "he" and "he or she" with commissioner, replacing "his or her" with appointees, and replacing "he or she" and replacing it with "the president." Inserts gender neutral descriptions showing and defining marital status. (Replaces husband or wife to either "spouse, married couple, spouse in a marriage, the spouses, spouse, abandoned spouse, absent spouse, incapable spouse, one spouse to a marriage.") Provides the recording of a quitclaim deed is exempt from all recording fees if executed for the sole purpose of reflecting a legal name change, and the grantor and grantee are the same individual or individuals. Inserts gender neutral descriptions for commissioner by replacing the gendered term "he" and "he or she" with commissioner and replacing "he or she" and replacing it with "the president."

**Joliet Arsenal Development Authority (HB 1364):** Amends the Joliet Arsenal Development Authority Act. Adds to the act that it is to facilitate and promote the utilization of property that is located along the Illinois Waterway throughout Will County. Adds that the territorial



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jurisdiction includes the municipalities of Channahon, Crest Hill, Elwood, Joliet, Lockport, Manhattan, Rockdale, Romeoville, Symerton, and Wilmington. Increases the number of Board of Directors to 15 and changes the process for appointing Board members. Reduces the number of directors appointed by the Will County to one. Adds that the mayors of the municipalities of Channahon, Crest Hill, Elwood, Joliet, Lockport, Manhattan, Rockdale, Romeoville, Symerton, and Wilmington shall each appoint one member of the Board of Directors. Creates a new process to replace the Will County Appointments with Municipal Appointments. Extends the life of the Authority to 35 years after the effective date of the law that created the Authority. Provides that upon the abolition of the Authority, all of its rights and property shall pass to and be vested in Will County.

**Easement - Fulton County (HB 1461):** Authorizes the Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to convey a non-exclusive ingress/egress easement to KSS Conservation Partners, LLC for the sum of \$1.00. The easement grants access from the public right-of-way on Banner Dike Road to Senate Island in Fulton County. The legal description of the easement includes two segments (Segment A and Segment B) detailed with coordinates and distances. Subject to existing conditions, including a shared maintenance agreement between the DNR and KSS. If that agreement ends, the easement terminates, and the land reverts to full State ownership.

**No Fees for Unlawful Restrictive Covenant (HB 1575):** Amends the Counties Code providing that the county recorder may not impose a fee for filing a restrictive covenant modification to an unlawful restrictive covenant. A county recorder may not charge a fee for any copies of records necessary for filing a restrictive covenant modification to an unlawful restrictive covenant.

**Real Property Conservation Rights (HB 1605):** Amends the Real Property Conservation Rights Act so an owner of real property may also convey a conservation right in the property to a federally recognized Indian tribe. Adds that a conservation right includes preserving cultural heritage sites. Any holder of a conservation right may transfer or assign a conservation right to an entity eligible to hold such rights. A conservation right may be enforced in an action seeking injunctive relief, specific performance, or damages by any federally recognized Indian tribe that owns the conservation right.

**Seizure and Forfeiture Report (HB 1628):** Amends the Seizure and Forfeiture Reporting Act to require additional information and reporting procedures for property seizures by law enforcement agencies in Illinois. Requires law enforcement agencies to provide detailed reporting to the Illinois State Police about property seizures, including specific information about the seized property, the location of the seizure, and demographic details about the person from whom the property was seized, such as race, sex, age, and residential ZIP code.



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**IDPH Training Online (HB 1712):** Amends IDPH Powers and Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois so IDPH must approve training resources to support informed decisions and accurate completion of the IDPH Uniform POLST form. IDPH will post approved POLST training material to its website and establish a simple, efficient, and effective process to make available yearly training to support informed decisions and accurate completion of the IDPH Uniform POLST form for personnel employed by or contracted with facilities licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act and providers that use the IDPH Uniform POLST form.

**Code Violations (HB 1842):** Amends the Administrative Adjudications Division of the Illinois Municipal Code. Add to the authority of municipal code hearing officers to include entering orders prohibiting further code violations or compelling the remediation of existing code violations within a specified time and authorizing the municipality to take all necessary steps to remediate code violations.

**Bethalto School Quick Take (HB 2155):** Authorizes Bethalto Community Unit School District No. 8, Madison County to prepare a quitclaim deed to release any and all interest in the real property that was conveyed by Public Act 90-71 and to release the covenant and condition previously recorded as a lien against the property.

**Involuntary Admissions (HB 2387):** Amends the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code. The circuit court has jurisdiction under the Admission, Transfer and Discharge Procedures for the Mentally Ill Chapter of the Code over persons not charged with a felony who are subject to involuntary admission on an inpatient basis. The circuit court has jurisdiction over all persons subject to involuntary admission on an outpatient basis under the Admission on an Outpatient Basis by Court Order Article of that Chapter of the Code, whether or not they are charged with a felony. A petition that the respondent is subject to involuntary admission on an outpatient basis must be accompanied by 1 certificate (rather than 2) of a physician, qualified examiner, psychiatrist, advanced practice psychiatric nurse, or clinical psychologist. These changes expire on January 1, 2030. From March 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030, the clerk of the court shall submit to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts yearly reports containing the total number of petitions filed asserting that a person is subject to involuntary admission on an outpatient basis.

**Restaurant Reservations (HB 2456):** Creates the Restaurant Reservation Anti-Piracy Act Provides that a third-party restaurant reservation service shall not list, advertise, promote, or sell reservations for a food service establishment through the website, mobile application, or other platform of the third-party restaurant reservation service without a written agreement between the third-party restaurant reservation service and the food service establishment. Provides that a written agreement that contains specified indemnifications shall be void and unenforceable. Creates a civil penalty up to \$1,000 for each violation. Creates a private right of action.



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**Dillon's Law (HB 2462):** Amends the Epinephrine Injector Act. Adds references to "authorized individual" (someone who completes a training program in how to use an Epi-pen) in provisions regarding those persons who may provide or administer an epinephrine injector. An authorized individual who acts in good faith to provide or administer an epinephrine delivery system in an emergency situation pursuant to the Act, shall not, as a result of the authorized individual's acts, except for willful and wanton misconduct on the part of that individual, be liable for civil damages to a person to whom such epinephrine delivery system was given to or administered. The limitation of liability applies only to the act of providing or administering the epinephrine delivery system and shall not extend to any other care or treatment provided at or around the time of the epinephrine delivery system administration.

**Prohibit At-Home Evidence Kits (HB 2548):** Creates the Self-Administered Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Ban Act, which prohibits the sale, marketing, promotion, advertising, or distribution of self-administered sexual assault evidence collection kits to consumers in Illinois. The bill defines these kits as materials marketed for non-medical professionals to collect physical evidence of sexual assault. Allows for private right of action and potential enforcement by the Attorney General or local State's Attorneys. Aggrieved persons may file suit in circuit court and can potentially collect compensatory damages for their purchase, punitive damages up to \$1,000 per violation, and attorney's fees. The state can also seek injunctive relief and impose civil penalties up to \$1,500 for each violation.

**Guardian Training (HB 2562):** Amends the Guardianship and Advocacy Act. Training for guardians of adults with disabilities must have two components: one for guardians of the person and another for guardians of the estate. Authorizes the State Guardian to determine the content of the training. Requires training for guardians to continue to include content on Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Amends the Probate Act of 1975 to require guardians of the person and estate to complete this training within one year from the issuance of the letters of office.

**Equality for Every Family Act (HB 2568):** Creates the Equality for Every Family Act. Amends the Illinois Parentage Act of 2015. Adds that a child shall have the same rights and protections under law to parentage without regard to the marital status, age, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation of their parents or the circumstances of the child's birth, including whether the child was born as a result of assisted reproduction or surrogacy. Removes all reference to "father" in the Act. Changes the terms to "acknowledged parent", "adjudicated parent", and "alleged genetic parent." Also adds that a sperm donor cannot be determined to be an alleged genetic parent. Removes all references to "mother" in the Act, replaces it with "woman or person who gave birth to the child." Provides for who may sign an acknowledgment of parentage to establish the parentage of a child. Changes provisions regarding the use of genetic testing. Changes the burden of proof for challenging a presumption of parentage from clear and



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convincing evidence to a preponderance of the evidence. Amends the Gestational Surrogacy Act. Adds that a parentage proceeding under the Gestational Surrogacy Act may be commenced in any county in the State. Makes requirements for a gestational surrogacy agreement and damages for a breach of such an agreement. Amends the Adoption Act. Provides for a process for a confirmatory adoption for children born through assisted reproduction. A proceeding to adjudicate parentage that was commenced before the effective date of the amendatory Act is governed by the law in effect at the time the proceeding was commenced. Effective immediately, except that some provisions amending the Illinois Parentage Act of 2015 are effective January 1, 2026.

**Vehicle Towing (HB 2751):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Adds that if a vehicle is displayed for sale and the vehicle identification number (VIN) that has been destroyed, removed, covered, altered, or defaced, the vehicle's removal by a towing service may be authorized by law enforcement. Prohibits a motor vehicle dealer or person acting as a motor vehicle dealer from parking a motor vehicle for the primary purpose of displaying the vehicle for sale on: A public street or highway; A public parking lot; Any other public property; or Any private property if the public may lawfully drive a motor vehicle on the property. Creates the Unlicensed Motor Vehicle Dealer Enforcement Task Force to meet at least quarterly to review unlicensed motor vehicle dealer enforcement activities in the State and submit a report to the Secretary of State at least quarterly. Increases the administrative penalties for violation of selling a car at an exhibition without a permit from \$50 per violation to not less than \$1,000 and no more than \$3,000 per violation.

**Mobile Home Park Utility Services (HB 2849):** Amends the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant Rights Act. Prohibits park owners from requiring a tenant to pay for utility services, such as water, sewer, and trash used in common areas in which a public utility company is charging for those services. If the public utility usage for common areas is not separately measured by equipment such as a water meter, the park owner may not charge the tenants for more than 80% of the public utility services for which the park owner was billed. Requires on an annual basis that the park owner provide tenants with a written explanation of how a tenant's share of the utility charge was calculated, and upon request from a tenant, must provide a copy of the park's monthly utility bills to tenants for any utility charge separately billed under the Act.

**Judicial Officers (HB 3144):** Amends the Judicial Privacy Act. Adds administrative law judges to the definition of judicial officer in the Judicial Privacy Act, in order to help protect their identity in both private and public life. The addition will provide them with the same protection as the other category of judges already included.





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**Digital Voice and Likeness Protection (HB 3178):** Amends the Digital Voice and Likeness Protection Act Provides that a provision in an agreement between an individual and any other person for the performance of personal or professional services is unenforceable only as it relates to a new performance, fixed on or after January 1, 2026, by a digital replica of an individual if specified conditions are satisfied. Provides that the failure to include a reasonably specific description of the intended uses of a digital replica shall not render a provision in an agreement unenforceable when the uses of the digital replica are consistent with the terms of the contract for the performance of personal or professional services and the fundamental character of the photography or soundtrack as recorded or performed. Provides that the requirements do not affect any other provision of a contract.

**Domestic Violence Placement for Juveniles (HB 3281):** Amends the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986 to modify law enforcement procedures when responding to domestic violence incidents involving juveniles. Officers are now given discretion to choose alternatives to arrest. Specifically, the officer can divert the juvenile or help the juvenile, and their family find alternative placement, using the Adolescent Domestic Battery Typology Tool.

**Jury Act (HB 3359):** Amends the Jury Act. Increases the number of petit jurors that may be drawn to serve from 14 up to and including 16 if alternate jurors are required. Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Allows the court to impanel up to and including four alternative jurors instead of one or two. Applies to actions commenced or pending on or after January 1, 2026.

**Eviction of Minors (HB 3566):** Amends the Eviction Article of the Code of Civil Procedure to require dismissal of a complaint in its entirety against all defendants if it willfully and wantonly names a defendant who is a minor at the time of filing. Requires immediate sealing. A minor named as a defendant is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees, actual damages, and liquidated damages of \$1,000. Nothing prohibits a party from refiling an action against any defendants who otherwise may be properly named. The court may not waive any fees associated with refiling the action against defendants otherwise properly named.

**IHDA Data Collection (HB 3616):** Amends the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act. Expands the Act's list of legislative findings. Requires the Illinois Housing Development Authority to collect data and calculate the percentage of affordable middle housing based on the total number of: 1. owner-occupied housing units in each local government that are affordable to households with a gross household income that is at or below 30% of the median household income within the county or primary metropolitan statistical area; 2. rental units in each local government that are affordable to households with a gross household income that is at or below 30% of the median household income within the county or primary metropolitan statistical area; 3. owner-occupied housing units in each local government that are affordable to households with a gross household income that is between 80% and 140% of the median



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household income within the county or primary metropolitan statistical area; and 4. rental units in each local government that are affordable to households with a gross household income that is between 60% and 80% of the median household income within the county or primary metropolitan statistical area.

**Peoria County Property (HB 3740):** Authorizes an exchange of real property in Peoria County between the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Thomas E. Heinz and Andrea L. Heinz.

## Labor

**Nurse Agency Licensing (SB 67):** Amends the Nurse Agency Licensing Act. Changes “any person” to “any nurse agency” Provides that the Department of Labor may impose a fine of up to \$500 for the submission of false or misleading information. (previously fine of \$500). Provides that any person who violates the Act or its rules will be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per violation, payable to the Department of Labor.

**Nursing Mothers in Workplace (SB 212):** Requires employer to compensate the employee to express breast milk for her nursing infant child during the break time at the employee’s regular rate of compensation. Provides that employers cannot require employees to use paid leave during this break time, nor can they reduce the employee’s compensation in any other manner during this time. Removes the provision from the amended bill that allowed employers to reduce an employee’s compensation for the time spent expressing milk or nursing a baby.

**Military Funeral Honors Leave (SB 220):** Renames the Family Military Leave Act to the Military Leave Act. Allows employees of businesses with 51 or more employees to take paid leave to participate in funeral honors details for veterans. Allows employees to take leave up to 8 hours per month and 40 hours per year, or more, if authorized by the employer or specified in a collective bargaining agreement at their regular rate of pay.

**Police Supervisor (SB 1701):** Adds more clarity as to who is a “police supervisor” especially for city (municipal) police officers. Amends the definition of “Managerial employee” to include undersheriff, chief deputy, and jail superintendent to be considered part of management which means that they can’t be in a union unless the sheriff and the union agree otherwise. Provides that if a city police officer’s rank is not part of a promotional testing system under Division 1 or Division 2.1 of the Illinois Municipal Code, then that officer is considered a supervisor. For the State Police, anyone with the rank of Major or higher is considered a supervisor. But if a police officer is already in a union, in a tested rank, or has always been in a union-covered position, they are not counted as a supervisor for union purposes. Still, if they’re in a supervisory role, they must do the job, or they can be held responsible.



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**Workers' Rights and Safety (SB 1976):** Creates the Workers' Rights and Worker Safety Act. Prevents state agencies from weakening wage, hour, or coal mine safety rules below federal standards in place as of April 28, 2025, unless authorized by a new state law. Provides that the Act does not prevent State agencies from setting rules that go beyond federal standards. Agencies are free to provide more stringent protections for workers' rights and safety than those in federal law as of April 28, 2025. Provides that if federal protections are reduced, Illinois must restore the prior federal standard as a minimum. Defines "Employee"; "Employer"; "Federal coal mine safety law"; "Federal wage and hour law"; "State agency"; and "Stringent." Creates the Safe and Healthy Workplace Act. Requires Illinois to step in when federal OSHA standards are repealed or don't exist, ensuring private-sector workers still receive basic safety protections. Allows the Illinois Department of Labor to adopt rules based on the repealed federal standards and enables enforcement through lawsuits by the Department, workers, or safety-focused organizations. Provides that Courts can award relief, including penalties and attorney fees, and the Act remains enforceable even if parts are found invalid. Defines "Interested party" as any organization attentive to worker safety laws. Provides that a prevailing employee, interested party, or the Department may receive appropriate relief, including injunctive or declaratory relief and other remedies deemed necessary to make the employee(s) whole. Amends the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Requires the Illinois Department of Labor to adopt a standard that reflects the original, more protective version of a federal occupational health or safety standard if, after April 28, 2025, the U.S. Secretary of Labor revokes, repeals, amends, or reinterprets that standard in a way that makes it less effective in ensuring safe and healthful workplaces.

**Wage Payment/Collection (SB 2164):** Amends Illinois' Wage Payment and Collection Act. Provides that a final and binding administrative decision issued by the Department of Labor becomes a debt owed to the State if not paid within 35 days. This debt may be collected using all remedies available under the law, and the Department's decision can be enforced in the same way as a civil judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Provides that if wages remain unpaid, 5% damages are accrued for each month that the underpayment persists until the Department's final order becomes a debt owed to the State. These damages are applicable whether the claim is filed with the Department or pursued in a civil action. Provides that in a civil action, employees may recover not only underpaid wages and the 5% monthly damages but also costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in pursuing the claim. Removes the provision that previously allowed the Department to file a verified petition in circuit court to enforce the final administrative decision. Now, the Department's final decisions are directly enforceable as State debts without needing a court petition.

**Personnel Code Veteran Appointments (SB 2175):** Amends the Personnel Code Provides that certain provisions related to probationary separation, term appointments, and veterans' hospital visits are subject to Jurisdiction B. Changes references to "veterans hospital visits" to



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references to “veterans medical appointments.” Provides that an employee who is also a veteran shall be permitted four days per year to receive medical care authorized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, at any type of health care provider or health care facility, for examination or treatment of a military service-connected condition.

## **(House Bills)**

**Prevailing Wage (HB 1189):** Amends the Prevailing Wage Act. Provides that the definition of “public works” includes all federal construction projects administered or controlled by a public body if the applicable prevailing wage is equal to or greater than the wage rate determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor for similar construction in the same locality.

**Victims’ Economic Security and Safety (HB 1278):** Amends the Victims’ Economic Security and Safety Act. Provides that employers cannot take adverse actions against employees for using employer-issued devices to record incidents of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or other crimes committed against the employee or their family/household members. Prohibits employers from depriving employees of employer-issued equipment solely because it was used to record such incidents. Provides that employees must be granted access to any related photographs, recordings, or digital documents stored on employer-issued devices. Provides that employers must comply with legal investigations, court orders, or subpoenas involving devices, data, or documents, but this does not impact employee rights under this section. Provides that employees must still comply with reasonable employer policies and perform their job functions, regardless of using employer-issued equipment for personal use. Effective Immediately.

**Service Member Employment Leave and Compensation (HB 1362):** Amends the Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. Defines “workdays” to mean actual work shifts, not calendar days. A shift counts as one workday if it’s 24 hours or less—even if it crosses into the next day. Shifts longer than 24 hours count as two workdays. Provides that public employees lose eligibility for differential pay after “consecutive three-year period of voluntary military service. Eligibility restarts after returning to work for at least 90 days. Pay is capped at 60 workdays per year and doesn’t apply to unpaid military time (e.g., travel or unpaid service). Provides that Service members may choose to use accrued vacation or similar paid leave during military service—but employers cannot require them to do so. This applies to both paid and unpaid active service. Provides that public employees can receive full public pay for up to 30 days annually during military training or substitute training orders. These can be served at different times during the year. Provides that “Active service” does not include absences to work as a military technician, sometimes known as a federal dual-status technician. Defines “orders in lieu of annual training” and allows employers to request documentation from the military to confirm such orders.



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**Federal Personnel Standards (HB 1586):** Amends the Personnel Code. Provides that employees who administer major federal programs in Illinois the administration of the federal programs listed (and anything they may be subsequently named) shall continue to be conducted by employees subject to the Personnel Code. These programs must be hired through a merit-based system, unless federal law says otherwise.

**Child Labor Law (HB 2327):** Amends the Child Labor Law of 2024. Allows for any minor 14 years of age or older to work as scorers at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex during the U.S. Open and Grand American World Trapshooting Championships, as long as they stay at least 15 feet behind the firing line of the trap shooters participating in the competitions.

**PFAS Ban in Firefighter PPE (HB 2409):** Amends the PFAS Reduction Act. May be referred to as the Deputy Chief Pete Bendinelli PFAS PPE Act. Beginning January 1, 2026: Anyone selling firefighting personal protective clothing containing PFAS chemicals to any person, local government, or State agency is required to provide written notice to the purchaser at the time of sale. Beginning January 1, 2027: Any person that sells auxiliary firefighting personal protective equipment to any person, local government, or State agency is not allowed to knowingly manufacture, sell, offer for sale, distribute for sale, or distribute for use any auxiliary firefighting personal protective equipment containing intentionally added PFAS chemicals. Beginning January 1, 2030: Any person that sells auxiliary firefighting personal protective equipment to any person, local government, or State agency is not allowed to knowingly manufacture, sell, offer for sale, distribute for sale, or distribute for use any auxiliary firefighting personal protective equipment containing intentionally added PFAS chemicals.

**Occupational Safety and Health (HB 2488):** Amends the Equal Pay Act of 2003. Removes the requirement to file an annual Employer Information Report EEO-1 with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to ensure that all private employers in Illinois with 100 or more employees—regardless of whether they file EEO-1 reports—are held to the same state equal pay reporting standards. Removes language that requires wage data to be organized specifically according to EEO-1 job categories and demographic definitions to give the Illinois Department of Labor greater flexibility to determine reporting formats and categories that reflect the state's needs, without being constrained by federal definitions. Defines “job category” to mean one of the following job categories: executive/senior-level officials and managers, first/mid-level officials and managers, professionals, technicians, sales workers, administrative support workers, craft workers, operatives, laborers and helpers, and service workers. Amends the Prevailing Wage Act. Clarifies that the “prevailing wage” includes both the hourly wage and the value of annualized fringe benefits—like health care, vacation, pension, and training programs—for journeymen doing similar public works jobs in the local area. Bill takes effect upon becoming law.



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**Warehouse Tornado Preparedness (HB 2987):** Creates the Warehouse Tornado Preparedness Act. Defines “warehouse” and “warehouse workers.” Provides that all operators of a warehouse within this State shall prepare a tornado safety plan for each warehouse they operate within 120 days after the effective date of this bill for each existing warehouse OR for warehouses opened on or after 120 days after the effective date of this bill, no later than seven days after the warehouse becomes operational. Provides that each plan shall be specific to the warehouse it was prepared for and must be reviewed and updated at least once per year or upon any significant change to the operations of the warehouse that affects the applicability or accuracy of the information in the plan. Provides that the operator of a warehouse should coordinate with the warehouse’s local emergency services and disaster agency and fire department or fire protection district to create plans that, when implemented, will be consistent with the local jurisdiction’s response activities. Provides that copies of the tornado safety plan and all updates made to the plan must be filed with the Fire Department or Fire Protection District in the jurisdiction in which the warehouse is located and the Local Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) in the jurisdiction in which the warehouse is located. Provides what the tornado safety plan must contain. Provides that warehouse facilities constructed after the effective date of the Act must provide the means, through modification, installation, or demonstration via rational analysis, to meet a life-safety performance level (also known as “risk-reduction/target approach”). Sets forth provisions concerning the “life-safety performance level” (also known as “risk-reduction/target approach”). Redefines “warehouse” to mean a building, rather than an establishment, where goods are stored and workers regularly perform their duties, ensuring that structures like silos, which are not regularly occupied, are not unintentionally included.

**Enhancement of Employees’ Rights (HB 3046):** Amends the State Universities Civil Service Act. Provides that nothing in this Act or any rules adopted under this Act shall prevent the parties to a collective bargaining agreement subject to the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act from agreeing to a provision that enhances employees’ rights.

**Transportation Benefits Program (HB 3094):** Amends the Transportation Benefits Program Act. Provides that this Act does not apply to a covered employer in the construction industry with respect to employees with whom the covered employer has entered into a bona fide collective bargaining agreement. Defines “Construction industry” and “Covered employee.” Makes changes to definitions.

**Unemployment Insurance Recovery (HB 3200):** Unemployment Insurance Benefits. Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act. Expands UI benefits for those who voluntarily leave their work because they are deemed physically unable to perform work by a licensed and practicing nurse practitioner, or licensed and practicing physician assistant and the employer is unable to accommodate the individual. Allows for claims dated December 28, 2025, through December





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24, 2028, deemed to be unable to perform the individual's work due to a mental health disability by a licensed and practicing psychiatrist and the employer is unable to accommodate the individual. Authorizes the Department to recover overpaid benefits, penalties, and interest from individuals and employers using existing collection mechanisms. It also allows the Department to retrieve unclaimed property or inactive debit card funds linked to ineligible benefit payments, provided federal law permits. Recovered funds must be returned to the appropriate unemployment insurance fund. Provides that employers that willfully fail to pay required contributions or submit mandated reports may be enjoined from operating in Illinois after proper notice and court action. Additionally, the Department must submit a fiscal impact report on the mental health-related claims provision to the General Assembly by January 1, 2030.

**Education Labor Relations (HB 3309):** Amends the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act. Provides that Employers shall also provide the State labor organization with a copy of the information provided to the exclusive representatives. Defines "State labor organization" to mean the statewide labor organization with which an exclusive representative is affiliated.

**Workplace Transparency (HB 3638):** Amends the Workplace Transparency Act. Prevents employers from imposing unfair contract terms on employees, such as waiving rights or requiring out-of-state claim resolution, unless the agreement is voluntary, in writing, and protects employee rights. Limits confidentiality promises to five years from the date the employee discloses the alleged incident, rather than the date the incident occurred. Provides that an employee, prospective or former employee shall be entitled to consequential damages, in addition to reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in challenging a contract for violation of this Act upon a final, non-appealable action in favor of the employee, prospective or former employee. Defines "Concerted activity" to mean activities engaged in for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection as provided in 29 U.S.C. 157 et seq., as it existed on January 19, 2025, and the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act, Illinois Public Labor Relations Act, and Labor Dispute Act. Replaces "consequential" damages with "compensatory damages."

## Licensed Activities

**EMS Personnel Qualification (SB 711):** Amends the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act, establishes new requirements for EMS personnel through IDPH. In provisions concerning education and training requirements, provides that a failure rate per course of 30% or greater at the first attempt on the licensure examination shall require the EMS System to submit a quality improvement plan to the Department of Public Health.



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**Dentistry Anesthesia Panel (SB 1325):** Amends the Dental Practice Act to reorganize the Board of Dentistry from 11 members to 13 members, adds two new spots: at least one member holds a permit to administer moderate sedation; and at least one member holds a permit to administer deep sedation and general anesthesia.

**Dental Practice Act (SB 1463):** Amends the Illinois Dental Practice Act. Rewrites and updates portions of the Dental Practice Act. Creates a temporary practice six-month window for dental graduates and hygienists while waiting for their full license from the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

**Physical Therapy Telehealth (SB 2153):** Amends the Illinois Physical Therapy Act regarding telehealth services revisions. Physical therapists may use telehealth to perform an initial physical therapy evaluation if one of the following criteria is met: the patient has a referral or diagnosis; the patient is an established patient; or the physical therapist has the capacity to perform or facilitate a referral for an in-person, hands-on examination or re-examination by a physical therapist at any time throughout the course of the patient 's care.

**Cosmetology-Hydrodermabrasion (SB 2154):** Amends the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act. Provides that the use of hydrodermabrasion devices such as the Hydrafacial machine, when done for cosmetic or beautifying purposes and not for the treatment of disease or of a muscular or nervous disorder, constitutes the practice of cosmetology and the practice of esthetics.

**Explosives and Consumer Fireworks (SB 2431):** Amends the Illinois Explosives Act by making changes to the regulations surrounding the acquisition, possession, use, transfer, and disposal of explosive materials.

**Electronic Prescriptions Veterinarians (SB 2469):** Amends the Illinois Controlled Substances Act regarding electronic prescription requirements relating to licensed veterinarians. Provides that a prescriber shall not be required to issue prescriptions for a substance classified in Schedule II, III, IV, or V electronically if the prescription is issued by a licensed veterinarian within seven (rather than two) years after November 17, 2023.

**Dental Practice Act (SB 2492):** Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Illinois Dental Practice Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. Amends the Illinois Dental Practice Act with substantive rewrite provisions.

**Respiratory Care Practice Act (SB 2494):** Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Respiratory Care Practice Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. Amends the Respiratory Care Practice Act with substantive rewrite provisions. Adds Athletic



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Trainers sunset language on to the bill. Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Athletic Trainers Practice Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031.

**BCENT Sunset Extension (SB 2495):** Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act of 1985 from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031.

**Physical Therapy Act-Sunset (SB 2496):** Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Illinois Physical Therapy Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. Amends the Illinois Physical Therapy Act with substantive rewrite provisions.

**Roofing Licensing Sunset (SB 2503):** Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act to change the repeal date of the Illinois Roofing Industry Licensing Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. Amends the Illinois Roofing Industry Licensing Act with substantive rewrite changes.

## (House Bills)

**Retired Health Care Professional (HB 1270):** Amends the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois concerning the requirements that a health care professional must meet before he or she can have his or her license placed on volunteer status. Provides that a current licensee can apply with IDFPR to place his/her license on volunteer status if the applicant: holds an active license that is not subject to discipline or is not under investigation by the Department; agrees to only engage in volunteer practice in a free medical clinic or in a public health clinic; and agrees to not practice for compensation.

**Therapist/Counselor Licensure (HB 1365):** Amends the Clinical Psychologist Licensing Act, the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act, the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act, the Music Therapy Licensing and Practice Act, and the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act: Establishes temporary licenses for: social workers, professional counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, music therapists, clinical psychologists, and occupational therapists whose license application is pending and creates termination conditions for such licenses. Removes good moral character standards as qualification requirements for the licensing of social workers and music therapists. Provides that the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation must allow reasonable exam accommodations for licensed marriage and family therapists and clinical psychologists whose primary language is not English if a test in the therapist's or psychologist's primary language is not available.

**CPA Act Updates (HB 2459):** Amends the Illinois Public Accounting Act. 1.) Changes the definition of "CPA firm" to remove a reference to limited liability companies and to include



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professional limited liability companies. Makes conforming changes. Removes a reference to limited liability companies for facing a Class A misdemeanor for the unlicensed use of the title “Certified Public Accountant”, “public accountant”, or the abbreviation “C.P.A.”, “RCPA”, “LCPA”, “PA”. 2.) Provides that the Board of Examiners shall certify applicants who successfully complete the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination and complete of 150 or 120 (instead of just 150) semester credit hours, to whichever applies to the applicant. 3.) Changes references from “substantial equivalency” to “enhanced mobility”. Removes that an out of state licensee must have four years of experience to qualify for licensure as a licensed CPA. 4.) Changes the organization that the Department may rely on for enhanced mobility determinations from the National Qualification Appraisal Service of the National Association of State Board of Accountancy to the Public Accountant Registration and Licensure Committee. 5.) Provides that if an individual whose principal place of business is not in this State but who has a valid CPA license issued by another state and whose issuing state equivalent criteria meets the States criteria shall be considered substantial equivalent by the Public Accountant Registration and Licensure Committee (instead of the National Qualification Appraisal Service of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy). If the licensure requirements of the issuing state are not equivalent, the individual must petition the Public Accountant Registration and Licensure Committee (instead of the National Qualification Appraisal Service of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy) for an equivalency determination of education, exam, and experience. 6.) Provides that, on and after January 1, 2027, the Department may license CPAs to individuals who have received a bachelor’s degree in accounting from an accredited college or university and an exam certificate from the Board and have had at least two years of experience as defined by IDFPR rule. 7.) Provides that, on and after January 1, 2027, the Department may license CPAs to individuals who have received a master’s degree OR a bachelor’s degree with 30 hours of accounting from an accredited college or university and an exam certificate from the Board, and at least one year of experience as defined by Department rule.

**CE Revisions (HB 2517):** Amends the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois regarding continuing education requirements for certain healthcare providers. Provides that on and after July 1, 2026, for health care professionals who report to the Department that they provide “maternal health care services” and seek to renew a license or registration, the currently required one-hour course in training on implicit bias awareness shall include training in potential maternal health risk factors associated with childbearing individuals who are part of a marginalized racial or ethnic group with increased maternal mortality rates.

**Collaborative Agreements (HB 2688):** Amends the Nurse Practice Act in provisions concerning home-birth practices and written collaborative agreements. Provides that, in the case of home birth services provided by a certified nurse midwife, a written collaborative agreement may



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permit, but shall not prohibit, a certified nurse midwife to provide home birth services within the scope of the certified nurse midwife's training and experience. Provides that, if a collaborating physician does not provide home birth services, home birth services may be provided by a certified nurse midwife working under a written collaborative agreement with the collaborating physician if the services are provided in a federal primary care Health Professional Shortage Area with a Health Professional Shortage Area score greater than or equal to 12 or a "maternity care desert." "Maternity care desert" means a county without any hospital, any birth center, or any licensed health care professional offering obstetric care.

**Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection (HB 3345):** Renews and rewrites the Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act. Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act. Changes the repeal date of the Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2028. Amends the Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act with substantive rewrite provisions.

**Certified Veterinary Technician (HB 3360):** Amends the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act. Provides that "certified veterinary technician" or "veterinary technician" means a person who is a graduate of a veterinary technology program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities and who has successfully passed the Veterinary Technician National Examination. Provides that every holder of a license shall display the license or a copy of the license in a conspicuous place in the holder's principal office or any other location where the holder renders services as a veterinarian or a certified veterinary technician. Requires every displayed license to have the license number visible.

**Clinical Psychologist Licensing (HB 3373):** Amends the Clinical Psychologist Licensing Act in provisions concerning the qualifications of applications and examination. Provides that, beginning one year after the effective date of the bill, the required licensure examination may be taken upon graduation and before completion of a postdoctoral supervised experience.

**Volunteer Health Practitioners (HB 3435):** Amends the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act. Provides that, if a state licensed health or mental health professional with a valid license from another state or territory is operating under the auspices of the American Red Cross, the professional may practice in the State to the extent authorized by the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act as if the practitioner were licensed in the State, regardless of whether an emergency declaration is in effect.

**Licensure Data Collection (HB 3487):** Amends the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois regarding data that is requested by IDFP during the licensure process. Provides that, in conjunction with applications for licensure and renewals,



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IDFPR shall request, and applicants may voluntarily provide primary language spoken, anticipated date of retirement, type of employment, and ZIP code (rather than only sex, ethnicity, race, and disability under current law).

**Continuing Education Credit (HB 3850):** Amends the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code regarding accepted forms of continuing education (CE) training credit for certain health care professionals. Provides that simulation training by an approved sponsor as specified in a health care professional's licensing Act or applicable administrative rules shall be acceptable for the purposes of earning continuing education credit. Defines "health care professional" (doctor, nurse, physician assistant, surgical assistant).

## Local Government

**Water Main Installation Projects (SB 224):** Provides that for water main installation projects, all water mains and related appurtenances, including but not limited to fire hydrants and valves that are owned and controlled by a public water supply and located within a public right-of-way or utility access easement, must be included in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency written approval. The Agency is responsible for the design review and permitting of the water main and fire hydrants, which must be installed in accordance with the Agency's written permit and in compliance with the Illinois Plumbing License Law and associated rules for hydrants connected to a plumbing system.

**Sublease Eligibility (SB 637):** Amends the Cook County Forest Preserve District Act. With approval from the Forest Preserve District Board, the zoological park's managing authority may sublease or license up to 15 acres for recreational use by a government or nonprofit entity to support the park's mission. Agreements expire after 15 years or when the park's contract with the Forest Preserve District ends, whichever comes first. This authority ends on December 31, 2030.

**Emergency Aid (SB 784):** Amends the Interstate mutual Emergency Aid Act. Allows public safety agencies to provide assistance during disasters not only in our state but also in bordering states. This includes responding to events like fires, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, hazardous material incidents, or other such disasters. The new provisions override any conflicting rules in the Act, enabling cross-state aid during disasters. This Act applies to mutual aid agreements when no declaration of emergency has been declared. Public safety agencies already have the ability to enter into mutual aid agreements cross-state, this is clarifying and formalizing current practice.





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**Cemetery Board (SB 1241):** Allows a township supervisor, in the absence of a township collector, to appoint a cemetery board of managers and approve the treasurer's bond for the board of managers.

**Human Trafficking (SB 1422):** Changes the title of the Act to "Human Trafficking Recognition Training Act." Replaces specific business types with the broader term "employer." This change requires that Human Trafficking Recognition Training, whether provided by the employer or the Department, includes curriculum content (in section 15) to be relevant to the employer's industry—lodging establishments, restaurants, or truck stops. Requires lodging, restaurant, and truck stop employers to provide Human Trafficking Recognition Training for guest-facing employees within six months of hire and every 2 years after. Penalizes lodging, restaurant, and truck stop employers for failing to provide Human Trafficking Recognition Training. The penalty is a business offense with fines up to \$1,500 per violation (Attorney General or State's Attorney can bring civil action). Local authorities can enforce compliance, giving employers 30 days to fix violations before facing legal action. The notice shall include information concerning where an employer can obtain the training curriculum developed by the Department under subsection (b) of Section 15. The Department's Training program will be created and published by October 1, 2026.

**Rooftop Safety (SB 1742):** Creates the Rooftop Safety for First Responders Act. All existing buildings, new construction, new roofs, roof replacements, and renovation projects that increase the area of a home or business by more than 50% are subject to the following requirements: For low-sloped roofs next to a fully enclosed shaft or court, a parapet, extended masonry, guard, or any combination of these elements must be provided at the roof edges. All skylights and other openings within the plane of a low-sloped roof, unless legally required to remain open or unobstructed, must be one of the following: Glazed with wired glass, plain glass, glass block, or polycarbonate plastic that is designed and constructed to withstand a minimum dynamic load test of no less than 400 pounds. By January 1, 2027, and every two years afterward, municipalities must survey buildings with skylights or openings on low-sloped roofs. The survey results must be compiled into a building inventory and shared with local police and fire departments. In counties with more than one million people, survey results must be integrated into computer-aided dispatch systems.

**Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing (SB 2303):** Amends the Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act. Provides that any unlicensed person, entity, or business offering fire sprinkler contractor services under this Act shall be fined no less than \$10,000 for a second offense within 24 months, and no less than \$25,000 for more than two offenses within that period, with all fines deposited into the Fire Prevention Fund.

**(House Bills)**



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**Non-resident Library Cost (HB 42):** Amends the Illinois Local Library Act and the Public Library District Act of 1991. Authorizes costs paid by people residing outside of the relevant library jurisdiction to be paid quarterly or biannually if permitted by the library board's regulation.

**Southeast Joliet Sanitary District (HB 663):** Amends the Sanitary District of 1936. Provides for the conditional and voluntary dissolution of the Southeast Joliet Sanitary District and the transfer of its assets, liabilities and responsibilities to the City of Joliet, or Will County if needed. Requires that both the District and the City of Joliet adopt a resolution for the transfer. Requires the resolutions passed by both the Sanitary District and City contain the reasons for the dissolution; that there is no outstanding debt of the District and Joliet has sufficient funds to satisfy any debt; no grants will be impaired by the transfer; and that the City assumes all responsibilities, except any deemed unnecessary by the city to operate the facilities. Provides Will County will take responsibility for and control over assets deemed unnecessary by the City of Joliet. Requires the City of Joliet to notify the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regarding the dissolution.

**Municipality Audit Requirements (HB 1082):** Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Exempt small municipalities (under population of 1,000) from the annual audit requirement. Provides for other conditions and audits in other circumstances. Municipalities under a population of 1,000 will instead file an annual financial report with the Comptroller. Municipalities under the population of 1,000 but operate a public utility or have bonded debt shall file an audit report every 4 years. Requires an annual audit report if there is an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion. Provides that beginning in FY27, municipalities shall submit completed audit reports and annual financial reports within 180 days after the close of the fiscal year, unless the Comptroller provides an extension.

**Bloomington and Normal Water Reclamation District (HB 1538):** Amends the Sanitary District Act of 1917. Allows the board of trustees of the Bloomington and Normal Water Reclamation District to enter into agreements to sell, transfer, or distribute treated wastewater to a private entity located within 50 miles of the District's boundaries. Permits the District to accept wastewater for treatment from a private entity within the same distance. The District may acquire real property, either through gift, grant, purchase, or other means, in fee simple or any lesser interest, as needed to exercise its powers under these provisions.

**Courthouse Flag Display (HB 1615):** Permits the United States national flag to be displayed on the grounds of a courthouse (rather than only on the top of a courthouse). In provisions concerning the display of United States national flags, provides that every county in the state must ensure that the provided flag is raised on the flagstaff at or above the courthouse.



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**MWRD Deputy Executive Director (HB 1908):** Amends the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act. Provides that the executive director of the District, with the advice and consent of the board of commissioners, may appoint a deputy executive director. Provides that the deputy executive director must be selected solely upon administrative and technical qualifications and without regard to political affiliations and shall serve under the direct supervision of the executive director.

**America's Central Port District (HB 2139):** Amends America's Central Port District Act. Modernizes and updates the statute to permit borrowing from other local agencies, the use of automated clearing house transactions, and summary audit reports.

**Emergency Services (HB 2142):** Amends the Emergency Services Districts Act. Allows an emergency services district to borrow money, manage property (including mortgaging and selling), and own real estate for district operations—similar to powers held by fire protection districts. Permits an emergency services district to provide ambulance service within a fire protection district if that fire district stops collecting its ambulance tax in the overlapping area. Requires public notice of a new district petition to be published for two consecutive weeks; if no local newspaper exists, notices must be posted in at least 10 public places 10 days before the hearing. Requires the hearing on creating a new district to be scheduled in time for the referendum to appear on the next general election ballot; removes the 20-day hearing deadline after petition filing.

**Lift Assist Service Fee (HB 2336):** Amends the Illinois Municipal Code and the Fire Protection District Act. Municipalities or fire protection district may fix, charge, and collect reasonable fees from an assisted living facility or nursing home facility for each lift assist after the sixth one provided to the same facility in a year provided by a municipal fire department, firefighter, emergency response unit, or public safety employee of a municipal department. A "lift-assist service" refers to fire or emergency personnel helping lift an individual at an assisted living or nursing home facility, not related to transport to a healthcare facility. Fees must not exceed the actual cost of personnel and equipment used.

**Water Main Installation Projects: (HB 3141):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act. For water main installation projects, all water mains and related appurtenances, including but not limited to fire hydrants and valves that are owned and controlled by a public water supply and located within a public right-of-way or utility access easement, must be included in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency written approval. The Agency is responsible for the design review and permitting of the water main and fire hydrants, which must be installed in accordance with the Agency's written permit and in compliance with the Illinois Plumbing License Law and associated rules for hydrants connected to a plumbing system.



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**Highway Commissioner Compensation (HB 3238):** Amends the Illinois Highway Code. Allows a highway commissioner's salary to be paid from the corporate road and bridge fund or the permanent road fund or both.

## Pensions

**Chicago Municipal Electronic Records (SB 1752):** Grants the Chicago Municipal Pension Board the authority to reproduce its records using photography, microfilm, or digital/electronic means, ensuring compliance with the Local Records Act. It also establishes that these reproductions are legally considered original records for all purposes, including use as evidence in court and administrative proceedings.

## (House Bills)

**IMRF Sheriff's Annuitant (HB 79):** Increases the cap for hours that an IMRF sheriff's law enforcement annuitant can work before being considered a "participating employee", thereby suspending their pension. Allows retired sheriff's law enforcement employees to return to work as a school security guard for an additional 400 hours each year for a total of 999 hours without suffering a suspension in retirement annuity, compared to the current limitation of 599 hours.

**Downstate Fire Annuitant (HB 1648):** Allows retirees to transfer all or a part of their pension to a fire-related association or for hospitalization insurance purposes.

**2025 Pension Omnibus (HB 3193):** Amends the Illinois Pension Code. Makes changes in provisions and sets forth provisions concerning: the cancellation of pensions as a result of re-employment under the Chicago Teachers Article; persons who held elective office under the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Article; the transfer of service credit; employer contributions; establishing credit for military service and certain other service; the ordinary disease benefit under the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Article; the computation of service under the Chicago Teachers Article; indemnification of trustees; the occupational disease benefit under the Chicago Firefighters Article; the election of members to Board of the Firefighters ' Pension Investment Fund; the calculation of final rate of earnings and survivors insurance benefits under the State Universities Article; the optional defined contribution benefit under the Downstate Teachers Article; the deferred compensation plan under the State Universities Article; an estimated payment for members eligible to receive an alternative retirement annuity under the State Employees Article; an additional employer contribution for employing affected annuitants under the State Universities Article; and other provisions. Amends the State Mandates Act to requirement implementation without reimbursement. Adds the Joliet Regional Port District to the list of participating instrumentalities whose employees may participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.



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**Chicago Police and Fire Pensions (HB 3657):** Amends the Chicago Police and Chicago Fire Articles of the Illinois Pension Code to achieve parity with Downstate Police/Fire survivor benefits.

## Public Health

**Baby Foods (SB 73):** Provides that manufacturers of baby food in the state must test each production batch for toxic heavy metals (arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury) using accredited laboratories. The results must be provided to the Department of Public Health upon request and made publicly available on the manufacturer's website. From January 1, 2027, baby food labels must include a QR code linking to detailed test results and FDA guidance on heavy metals' health effects. Consumers can report non-compliant products to the Department of Public Health. Provides that the Department of Public Health shall implement a system for consumer reporting of baby foods under this subsection.

**Testing for Prenatal Syphilis (SB 119):** Specifies that health care professionals should "test" pregnant individuals for prenatal syphilis rather than just take blood samples. Provides that the first test should be done at the initial examination and the second during the third trimester, between 27 and 32 weeks of gestation to ensure treatment begins 30 days before pregnancy. Broadens the scope of who can conduct prenatal syphilis tests from "physician or other person" to "appropriate health care professionals" to clarify anyone in the testing process (nurses, nurse practitioners, etc.) are covered as well.

**Swimming Pool Equipment (SB 189):** Provides that the rules adopted by the Department of Public Health shall permit sporting good equipment systems and fitness equipment systems to be installed in swimming facilities. This section does not apply to school swimming facilities.

**Health Task Force (SB 291):** Creates the One Health Framework Task Force Act. Establishes a task force within the Illinois Department of Public Health to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among health professionals and state agencies using the One Health approach. This approach aims to optimize the health of people, animals, and ecosystems by addressing zoonotic diseases, environmental health, and public health preparedness.

**Public Health and Emergency Plan (SB 1594):** Replaces references to the Emergency Medical Disaster Plan with references to the Public Health and Emergency Medical Plan.

**Amniotic Fluid Embolism (SB 1814):** Provides that the Department of Public Health shall conduct educational activities for providers on the signs, symptoms, and management of amniotic fluid embolism. The Department shall make available information about amniotic fluid embolism on the Department's website.



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**Fertility Options (SB 2215):** Provides that the Department of Public Health shall provide information for physicians to distribute to women over the age of 25 years, or women interested about fertility options on blood tests to predict their ovarian reserve.

## **(House Bills)**

**TICK Act (HB 1754):** Creates the Tracking Infectious Cases Knowledgeably (TICK) Act. Provides that the Illinois Department of Public health shall provide educational materials regarding alphagal syndrome data on its website where applicable. Provides that the Illinois Department of Public health shall undertake an awareness and education campaign for community members, local health departments, and medical providers on the signs and symptoms of alpha-gal syndrome, including education on proper procedures by which to order a test for diagnosis of alpha-gal syndrome.

**Accessible Opioid Antagonists (HB 1910):** Amends the Illinois Local Library Act. Provides that all libraries open to the public in the State shall maintain a supply of opioid antagonists in an accessible location.

**Physical Harm or Injury Report (HB 2179):** Amends the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Establishments Act. Provides that an establishment must report to the Department of Public Health any incident or accident that results in significant physical harm or injury to a resident or any situation where a resident requires outside emergent medical treatment as a direct result of an incident or accident.

**Drug Reuse Program (HB 2346):** Amends the Illinois Drug Reuse Opportunity Program (IDROP) Act. Mandates the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to develop and maintain a list of participating pharmacies on its website, educate pharmacies about voluntary participation, and create educational materials to inform the public about the program's benefits. Additionally, IDPH is required to gather and publish participant information in an annual report to the General Assembly, beginning December 31, 2026.

**Youth Sports Commission (HB 2418):** Creates the Commission on Youth Sports. Members are not compensated. Two-year terms. Repealed in December 2028.

**Hypodermic Syringes and Needles (HB 2589):** Amends the Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act. Provides that if the pharmacy has sterile hypodermic syringes or needles in stock, a pharmacist, based on the pharmacist's professional and clinical judgment, shall sell sterile hypodermic syringes or needles to any qualifying individual when sterile hypodermic syringes or needles are required for the proper utilization or administration of medications, including any counseling or referrals to relevant healthcare services.





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**OTC Sale of Ephedrine (HB 2874):** Amends the Illinois Controlled Substances Act. Provides that the law concerning limitations on the over-the-counter sale of ephedrine without a prescription does not apply to the sale of any product dispensed or delivered by a practitioner or pharmacy according to a prescription issued by a prescriber authorized by the State or another state for a valid medical purpose and in the course of professional practice.

**Cold Spa (HB 3050):** Defines “cold spa” and provides details on how to operate a cold spa and sets the minimum temperature and maximum temperatures allowed. Amends the Swimming Facility Act. Provides that permits for construction or major alteration of a swimming facility are valid for a period of two years from the date of issue.

**Methamphetamine Precursor (HB 3087):** Increases the maximum amount of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine allowed in a single targeted package from 3,000 milligrams to 3,600 milligrams and removes the previous restriction limiting pharmacies to selling only two targeted packages per retail transaction. Requires manufacturers of methamphetamine precursor products to start paying monthly fees to the Central Repository in order to better track and control the distribution of substances that can be used to manufacture methamphetamine while creating a funding mechanism for the state’s precursor tracking program. Prescription-only methamphetamine precursor products are exempt from these fee requirements.

## Revenue

**TIF Extension Omnibus (HB 3662):** Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Extends the life of 10 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts for an additional 12 years. All letters of support from impacted taxing districts have been received. Senate Republican members with TIF extension in HB 3662 are Senator Anderson (City of Lewistown); Senator Fowler (City of Carbondale and City of Vienna); Senator Tracy (City of Pittsfield).

## **State Government**

**Regional Manufacturing Partnerships (SB 58):** Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may enter into grants, contracts, or other agreements to provide technical assistance in support of regional manufacturing partnerships.

**Criminal Justice Information Authority (SB 106):** Allows the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to do the following: 1. use outside entities to evaluate grant applications; 2. make grants to community-based organizations, local government agencies, non-profits for criminal justice, and public safety programs; 3. Adopt rules.



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**Non-Profit Investments (SB 246):** Amends the State Treasurer Act. Scales back types of non-profits allowed to invest. Allows the State Treasurer to establish and manage a non-profit investment pool to provide additional investment opportunities for not-for-profit corporations in Illinois. Adds that the Treasurer may establish and administer an electronic payment processing options otherwise available to non-profits. Requires submission of financial audit or annual org. report to be eligible. Restricts the type of non-profits allowed to invest to 501(c)(3) & (5). These cover non-profits which operate for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes (501(c)(3)) and labor, agricultural, and horticultural organizations (501(c)(5)). Details investment policy and notice, interest earnings distribution, and surety bond requirement.

**CDB Report on Projects (SB 1230):** Requires the Capital Development Board to submit a report to the General Assembly and Governor that includes all planned and ongoing projects. Due July 1, 2026, and every year after.

**Environmental Report (SB 1265):** Changes the Attorney General's Environmental Barriers Act to make data on the Attorney General's website about annual enforcement efforts available by January 31 annually.

**T-CPR Training for 911 Dispatchers (SB 1295):** Amends the Illinois State Police Law and Emergency Medical Services Systems Act Requires 911 dispatchers to be trained in telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation (T-CPR), beginning January 1, 2026. Gives IDPH the responsibility of ensuring that emergency medical dispatchers are training to provide TCPR.

**Giant City Visitors Center (SB 1339):** Renames the visitors center in Giant City State Park to the "Bob Kristoff Visitor Center" and the arena at Giant City Stables to the "Richard A. Kelley Arena."

**CMS Real Properties Management (SB 1343):** Amends the CMS Law of the Civil Administrative Code. Codifies CMS's ability to manage real properties and to grant and accept easements with respect to these properties, without limitation, at the discretion of the CMS Director. Removes outdated language regarding the James R. Thompson Center and adds 115 South LaSalle Street in Chicago to the list of properties managed by CMS.

**Secure Choice Savings Program (SB 1441):** Specifies that enrollees in the Secure Choice Program may have both a traditional Individual Retirement Account and a Roth Individual Retirement Account. Clarifies on what grounds an employer may be considered noncompliant, and authorizes the Illinois Secure Choices Savings Board to enter into agreements with other states to achieve cost savings through economies of scale. Clarifies that employers must enroll



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new employees as soon as practicable, but no later than 120 days after the employee is first employed by the employer in the Secure Choice Savings Program.

**Fire Marshal Report (SB 1446):** Requires the State Fire Marshal to track and record the manner of death for all firefighters in the state, beginning no later than six months after effective date.

**Therapy Dogs (SB 1491):** Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to develop a course and certification program for certified therapy dog teams consisting of officers employing the use of therapy dogs in relation to crisis and emergency response.

**Endangered Missing Person Advisory (SB 1548):** Amends the current Illinois State Police outreach program that promotes awareness of the Endangered Missing Person Advisory. Provides that they may also promote awareness to people with developmental disabilities, to communities of people with developmental disabilities, and organizations that serve people with developmental disabilities.

**Library Systems Grants (SB 1550):** Clarifies that grants are for library systems and public libraries that are part of a library system to plan, construct, and improve/enhance library security.

**Freedom Trails Commission (SB 1607):** Creates the Illinois Freedom Trails Commission Act. Establishes the Illinois Freedom Trails Commission to explore, research, and commemorate the journeys of freedom seekers and the sites and landmarks in the State that became the networks of the Underground Railroad. Provides that the Commission shall implement educational, landmark preservation, and grant programs. Sets forth provisions concerning membership; terms; compensation; administrative support; and staff. Provides that the Commission shall submit an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly.

**Secretary of State Petty Cash Fund (SB 1614):** Allows the Secretary of State to maintain a petty cash fund of more than \$1,000 for making change at Secretary of State Motor Vehicle Facilities. Allows those funds to be retained on the premises of the facility.

**Illinois State Police Trainings (SB 1764):** Reorganizes and codifies ISP specialized and cadet trainings. There are no new trainings included in this bill, and all trainings included within are currently required trainings for the ISP. This bill is reorganizing sections to increase transparency and create an easy to locate central location for trainings.

- The reorganization of the Division of Academy and Training's section of ISP's Civil Code better reflects the specialized, in-service, and cadet trainings provided to Illinois State Police officers. This also creates a centralized location in statutory law to find training



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requirements for Illinois State Police officers (currently trainings are spread throughout various Acts).

- Several training items have been stricken; however, they were only moved to help with the reorganization.
- Allows ISP to post juvenile reports online, juvenile information is still protected (Nothing else is changed besides the delivery method, currently a paper report).
- Codifies the existing Missing Person Clearinghouse.
- Establishes a term for the Chair of the Forensic Science Commission.
- Includes cleanup to reflect current ISP terminology and divisions.

**State Employment Requirements (SB 1884):** Amends the Personnel Code. Provides that the Department of Central Management Services may consider relevant work experience if the Department determines that it is equivalent to a college degree when appropriate.

**Illinois State Police Fund Consolidation (SB 2002):** Consolidates and dissolves multiple underutilized funds pertaining to the Illinois State Police, and the funds included within are consolidated into State Police Law Enforcement Administration fund and the State Police Operations Assistance Fund. In total eight funds are consolidated. Effective September 1, 2026.

**ISP HazMat and Motor Carrier Safety Enforcement (SB 2108):** Makes the Illinois State Police the lead agency for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program Grant and enforcing the Illinois Motor Carrier Safety Law and Hazardous Materials Transportation Act. Requires personnel and materials related to enforcing the Act to be transferred to the Illinois State Police from the Illinois Department of Transportation. Gives the Illinois State Police the responsibility of making an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly regarding the agency's efforts in the prior fiscal year to fill open technical manager positions. Effective October 1, 2025.

**IDOT Local Government Portal (SB 2129):** Requires the Illinois Department of Transportation to establish an online portal for local governments to submit forms electronically.

**Firearm Violence Prevention (SB 2280):** Amends the Reimagine Public Safety Act by modifying reporting requirements for the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention. Changes the frequency of two key reporting obligations the annual report to the General Assembly and the compilation of funding recommendations. Instead of submitting the report no later than January 1 of each year, the Office will now issue the report annually, identifying communities experiencing concentrated firearm violence in municipalities with populations over 1,000,000 and between 35,000 and 1,000,000 residents. The report will continue to explain investments to reduce firearm violence and recommend strategies to end the state's firearm violence epidemic.



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**2025 Revisory (SB 2394):** Revises multiple sections of law by combining multiple enactments and making technical corrections. The combining revisories in this bill consist primarily of material combining and revising laws enacted during the 103rd General Assembly. Public Acts 103-584 through 103-1059 were considered in preparing these combining revisories. The technical revisories in this bill address a wide range of technical problems.

**Illinois Emergency Management Agency Mobile Support Teams (SB 2408):** Clarifies requirements for mutual aid and Mobile Support Teams (MSTs) activations and enables IMEA Director to have a designee administer the oath MSTs, including via video call. Also, aligns the agency with requirements in the Stafford Act.

**Industrial Zoning Task Force (SB 2506):** Removes the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the member representing the Office of the Governor from the Task Force on Interjurisdictional Industrial Zoning Impacts. Adds two members who are zoning and land use attorneys: one member who is a zoning and land use attorney, appointed by the President of the Senate; and one member who is a zoning and land use attorney, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Extends the Reporting Deadline from December 31, 2025, to August 1, 2027. Extends the sunset of this section from June 1, 2026, to June 1, 2029. Effective upon becoming law.

## (House Bills)

**State Treasurer Investment (HB 1447):** Changes state agencies' requirement to publish/update information regarding the investment of public funds online to the end of the month, instead of the 15th of each month.

**DoIT Act Clean-up (HB 1631):** Amends the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act. In provisions regarding the acceptance and distribution of electronic records and electronic signatures by governmental agencies, provides that, to the extent that a governmental agency uses electronic records and electronic signatures, the governmental agency (rather than the Department of Innovation and Technology and the Secretary of State) may specify (rather than shall adopt rules specifying) the required format and attributes of the electronic records and electronic signatures and the specific processes and procedures governing their use. Authorizes the Secretary of State and the Department of Innovation and Technology to adopt rules setting forth minimum requirements concerning the required format and attributes of electronic records and electronic signatures and the processes and procedures governing their use. Provides that the rules adopted by the Secretary of State shall apply only with respect to the Secretary of State. Further provides that the rules adopted by the Department of Innovation and Technology shall apply only with respect to client agencies, as that term is defined in the Department of Innovation and Technology Act.



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**First Responders Suicide Task Force (HB 2551):** Reinstates the First Responder Suicide Task Force. Adds one member who represents an organization that provides mental health training and support for first responders. Adds two members who represent organizations that advocate on behalf of public safety telecommunicators. Requires a new report to be submitted by December 31, 2026. Repeals the section on January 1, 2027.

**Secretary of State Omnibus (HB 2983):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code with the Secretary of State's Driver Services Omnibus bill. Makes various updates to the Illinois Vehicle Code, including requiring bicyclist and pedestrian safety education in the Rules of the Road and driver education courses, permitting online and remote knowledge testing, and adjusting qualifications for school bus driver applicants and driving school instructors. Also allows for the destruction of outdated driving records, extends CDL farm permits, removes some license suspension duration limits, and clarifies that traffic signals apply to bicyclists.

**Regional Human Rights Authorities (HB 3095):** Amends the Guardianship and Advocacy Act: Each regional human rights authority shall consist of at least seven members and no more than nine members, appointed by the Director of the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission. A quorum for the above bodies shall consist of a majority of appointed members.

**Retired Police Dogs (HB 3140):** Establishes the Care for Retired Police Dogs Program within the University of Illinois System to provide veterinary care funding for retired police dogs who have served at least five years in law enforcement or correctional agencies. The program will be administered by a not-for-profit corporation that meets specific criteria, including being a tax-exempt organization dedicated to protecting retired police dogs. Funding will come from the Illinois Police K-9 Memorial Fund, with grants available to former handlers or adopters of retired police dogs to reimburse veterinary expenses, up to \$1,500 per dog annually.

**Local Regulation of State Facilities (HB 3493):** Amends the Capital Development Board Act. Provides that no ordinance or permitting requirement of a unit of local government shall be enforced against the construction/reconstruction of a State facility. Exceptions are made for Sanitary Districts and Wastewater Systems. Preempts home rule.

## Transportation

**Three-Point Seat Belts on School Buses (SB 191):** Requires that by January 1, 2027, all newly purchased or leased school buses be equipped with a three-point harness seatbelt.





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**Farm CDL Seasonal Extension (SB 849):** Amends the Vehicle Code. Extends the seasonal period for restricted CDL farm licenses from 180 days to 210 days within any 12-month period.

**Mutual Aid Box Alarm Systems Chiefs (SB 1158):** Expands eligibility for Fire Chief license plates to include Mutual Aid Box Alarm Systems (MABAS) chiefs, with plates to be surrendered upon resignation, termination, or reassignment. Authorizes trained and authorized MABAS chiefs to use red or white lights, sirens, and warning devices when responding to emergencies, like other emergency services.

**United Nations Protection Force Plates (SB 1160):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code to include Somalia, Panama, and Grenada as applicable countries for United Nations Protection Force license plates.

**Out-of-State Firefighter CDL (SB 1249):** Allows out-of-state firefighters who possess appropriate driver's licenses in their residing state to operate an emergency vehicle in Illinois.

**Disability Plate Decal (SB 1256):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that if a permanently disabled applicant is issued registration plates or a parking decal or device under the Code, the applicant shall submit proof of the applicant's permanent disability once every five years. Adds a physical therapist to the list of those who may submit a statement or documentation to certify that a person applying for a disability is disabled.

**Plates and Registration (SB 1467):** Provides that expanded-use antique vehicles can no longer be classified as commercial vehicles or farm trucks under the Illinois Vehicle Code. Increased security and privacy protections ensure that personal information submitted for vehicle registration remains confidential. Changes to registration and insurance rules, include a lower antique vehicle registration fee (max \$6 per year), a shorter grace period for insurance verification (30 days instead of 45), and a 30-day validity for printed proof of registration after sticker expiration or purchase.

**Illinois Traffic Study Requirement (SB 1559):** Amends the Department of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Regarding traffic control and prevention of crashes: 1.) Requires the Department of Transportation to identify trends, patterns, and correlations including, but not limited to, trends, patterns, and correlations associated with the occurrence of fatal or serious injury traffic crash outcomes in pedestrians and bicyclists' population groups. 2.) If necessary, the Department shall conduct an analysis to identify potential actions to increase traffic safety, such as modifications to street design and infrastructure. 3.) Allows the Department to coordinate with other departments, agencies, or organizations deemed relevant. 4.) The Department shall make the reports on the analyses and results of the study



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available to the public upon request. 5.) Adds clarifying language that traffic studies following a pedestrian fatality on State highways.

**Tampering with Registration Plates (SB 1883):** States that it is unlawful to place tape on any registration plate, and states that devices used to hide or obscure registration plates are unlawful.

**Yield to Emergency Vehicles (SB 1922):** Amends the Right-of-Way Article of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Requires drivers to yield the right of way to emergency vehicles, personnel, and pedestrians engaged in work or at an emergency scene.

**School Zone Pedestrian Crosswalk Beacons (SB 1941):** Allows local governments to install flashing crosswalk beacons in intersections adjacent to elementary or secondary schools.

**Transportation Changes (SB 1999):** States that the Department of Transportation must implement a life-cycle cost analysis for new road projects over \$500,000, excluding rehabilitation and preservation projects. Also, makes the one IDOT appointee on the Residential Sound Insulation Program Advisory Committee a non-voting member unless a tie needs to be broken. As well as requires crash reports to be electronically submitted in an approved format by the Administrator, effective January 1, 2027.

**Boat Safety Instructions (SB 2019):** Amends the Boat and Registration and Safety Act. Removes language that provides that a Boating Safety Certificate is not required by a person using only an electric motor to propel the motorboat.

**Tow Truck Registrations (SB 2040):** Provides that the Secretary of State shall begin suspending all tow truck registrations for failing to satisfy any fine or penalty issued by the Illinois Commerce Commission on July 1, 2026. Provides that the Secretary shall notify the person whose name appears on the certified report that the person's tow truck registrations shall be suspended within 30 days (rather than will be suspended at the end of a reasonable, specified period) unless the Secretary is presented with a notice from the Commission certifying that the fines or penalties owing the Commission have been satisfied or that inclusion of that person's name on the certified report was in error. Removes the requirement that a contest of a suspension or impending suspension be upon filing a written request with the Secretary and that the filing fee is \$50.

**Cycle Rider Safety Training (SB 2075):** Amends the Cycle Rider Safety Training Act. Gives IDOT emergency rule-making authority for implementation. Emergency rule-making authority expires after one year. Removes mopeds and motor-driven cycles from the definition of "cycle" in the Cycle Rider Safety Training Act. Requires the Department of Transportation to recruit and



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contract course providers, including businesses, community organizations, and schools, based on training needs and cost-effectiveness. Excludes dealerships from being training providers. Establishes grant funding rules, ensuring providers are only paid for held courses, equipment maintenance, or approved expenses while requiring instructor qualifications, annual evaluations, and liability insurance.

**Boat Safety (SB 2179):** Amends the Boat Registration and Safety Act. Enhances boating safety requirements by mandating federally compliant navigation lights, sound signaling devices, and engine cutoff switch usage for certain motorboats. Updates operational rules by clarifying right-of-way in narrow channels and clarifying age limits for motorboat operation. Updates licensing procedures by requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish passenger-for-hire and rental boat license rules.

**Bicycle Definition (SB 2285):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code to redefine bicycles to include low-speed electric vehicles. Clarifies that bicycles have two or more wheels not less than 12 inches in diameter and are designed for the transportation of one or more persons with operable pedals.

## (House Bills)

**Driver's Licenses (HB 1120):** Removes provisions that require the Secretary of State to designate a space on each driver's license for the licensee to indicate a person's blood type and Rh factor.

**Vehicle Code Exams (HB 1226):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. In-Person Renewal: Requires drivers 79+ to renew their license in person. Driving Test Requirement: Drivers 87+ or 75+ with a CDL must demonstrate safe driving ability. Currently, those 75 or older are required to renew in person and complete an actual driving demonstration. Medical Reporting: Allows immediate family members to report medical conditions affecting driving ability, but prohibits anonymous reports. Effective July 1, 2026.

**O'Hare Driver Safety Act (HB 1502):** Shifts enforcement, rulemaking, and violation authority from the Toll Authority to the Illinois State Police. Clarifies definitions and expands "traffic route" to include all routes within a half-mile radius of O'Hare, including those under IDOT jurisdiction. Authorizes the State Police to install and operate automated traffic safety systems on light poles under IDOT and Toll Authority control. Allows the State Police to use an expedited procurement process for system contracts, with limited exemptions from the Illinois Procurement Code, for one year via the Concealed Carry Act.

**Highway Advertising Control (HB 1821):** Requires the Illinois Department of



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Transportation to adopt rules specifying standards for sign registration under the Highway Advertising Control Act of 1971. Mandates that written permit denials include specific citations to applicable federal or state laws or regulations, along with detailed reasons, and sets a 30-day window to initiate appeals and outlines new hearing procedures, including a written recommendation from an administrative law judge. Incorporates the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act and make the Illinois Department of Transportation rulemaking mandatory.

**EMS Chief License Plates (HB 2359):** Allows the Secretary of State to issue EMS chief license plates starting in the 2027 registration year. Requires the plate to be surrendered if the holder resigns, is terminated, or is reassigned to a position other than an EMS chief position. Permits the issuance of a permanent plate for a one-time fee of \$8.

**Air Medal Special Plate (HB 2362):** Allows the Secretary of State to begin issuing the Air Medal license plates in the 2027 registration year. Provides that the plates may only be issued to residents of the state who have been awarded the Air Medal by the United States Armed Forces, and allows the Air Force Medal license plates to be affixed to motorcycles.

**Armed Forces License Plates (HB 2386):** Provides that beginning July 1, 2026, the Secretary of State may issue special license plates designated as “Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal” plates to Illinois residents who have received the medal for qualifying service in U.S. military operations after July 1, 1958. The design and format of the plates will be at the discretion of the Secretary and may be personalized or issued as vanity plates.

**Traffic Signal Preempt Device (HB 2442):** Allows vehicles used by a local or county emergency management services agency to install and operate a traffic control signal preemption device to be used when responding to a bona fide emergency, and when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

**Bike Trail Signage (HB 2675):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code to require permanent signage at highway crossings on publicly owned paved bicycle trails, unless already controlled by a traffic device. Clarifies temporary signage rules for emergencies and hazards, and requires advance warnings for vehicles approaching trail crossings unless existing traffic control is in place.

**Driver Training Instructors (HB 3125):** Expands eligibility for a driving school instructor’s license to include individuals who have held a valid driver’s license,



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including a Temporary Visitor's Driver's License, for at least two years prior to applying, provided they are currently authorized to work in the United States and meet all other existing statutory and regulatory requirements for licensure.

**Fire Department Vehicles (HB 3388):** Provides that permanent vehicle registration plates shall be issued, at no charge, to all-terrain vehicles owned by counties, townships, or municipal corporations and used as fire department vehicles.

**Radiation Protection (HB 3744):** Amends the Radiation Protection Act of 1990. Provides that all intrastate and interstate shippers of irradiated nuclear reactor fuel are required to notify the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security no less than seven days prior to any transportation of irradiated nuclear reactor fuel. Provides that the Agency may collect, store, and dispose of uncontrolled sources of radiation that have entered the public domain, and that the Agency considers to be a threat to public health and safety or the environment. Authorizes the Agency to assess actual costs, as appropriate, for the collection, storage, and disposal of uncontrolled sources of radiation that have entered the public domain and that the Agency considers to be a threat to public health and safety or the environment against any person that owns, owned, possesses, or is responsible for the radioactive material entering the public domain.

## **Veterans Affairs**

### **(House Bills)**

**Military Registration Plates (HB 2506):** Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code Provides that any additional fee collected for the issuance and renewal of the military series registration plate shall not be included in the authorized fee waiver. The fee waiver is for Veterans with a service-connected disability rating of 50% or higher that can provide a letter from the Department of Veterans' Affairs verifying the disability for the application.

**Veterans Affairs (HB 2547):** Amends various Acts by replacing all references to the "Department of Veterans' Affairs" with "Department of Veterans Affairs." Finalizes IDVA's rebranding project, which included the creation of a new logo and a modification to the agency's name, to align with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) by removing the apostrophe from every reference of "Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs" in the Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS).

**Veterans' Dependents Scholarship (HB 2572):** Amends the School Code. Provides that the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs shall determine, by rule, the eligibility of the persons



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who make application for the scholarship or grant. Amends the Deceased, Disabled, and MIA/POW Veterans' Dependents Educational Opportunity Grant Act. Provides that the Department shall determine, by rule, the eligibility of the children who make application for the scholarship or grant.

## Legislation Awaiting Final Passage in House

**Cannabis Odor in Vehicle (SB 42):** Provides that the smell of burnt or raw cannabis in a motor vehicle driven or occupied by someone 21 years of age or older cannot alone be probable cause for a person's vehicle to be searched. Also removes current law requirements that cannabis possessed in a vehicle must be stored in an odor-proof container, but it continues to require that cannabis be stored in a secured, sealed or resealable child-resistant container.

**Post-Conviction Petition (SB 248):** Amends the Illinois Code of Criminal Procedure to provide yet another pathway for inmates convicted of a felony before turning 21 years old to challenge their sentences without having to meet the typical "cause and prejudice" standard that normally applies to subsequent post-conviction petitions.

**Controlled Substances (SB 1773):** Amends the Illinois Controlled Substances Act to make several key changes to the classification and definition of controlled substances. Adds xylazine as a Class III controlled substance, which means it will be regulated more strictly than previously.

**Wireless Communication Device Policy (SB 2427):** Provides that on or before the 2026-2027 school year, each school board shall adopt and implement a wireless communication device policy that:

- Prohibits a student from using a wireless communication device during instructional time (with exceptions); and
- Includes guidance for secure and accessible storage of wireless devices during instructional time or directs the district superintendent or their designee to provide such guidance.

Provides that "wireless communication device" does not include any device that a school district or teacher has directly issued to, provided for, or required a student to possess and use for educational purposes during instructional time. Provides that a school district shall publicly post the policy adopted and implemented on its website. If the school district does not operate a website, then the school district shall provide a copy of the policy to the parents or guardians of every student enrolled in the district.





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**Disposable Food Container (SB 1531):** Creates the Disposable Food Service Container Act. Provides that, beginning January 1, 2030, a person may not sell or distribute in this State a disposable food service container that is composed in whole or in part of polystyrene foam.

**DHS/Gambling Disorders (SB 118):** Authorizes new programs and gambling disorder prevention efforts that DHS may implement. Examples include focusing on creating and distributing educational materials, curricula, and training for professionals, and promoting collaboration with community organizations, healthcare providers, and jails to address gambling disorder risk. The measure also gives DHS new authority to issue grants to promote gambling disorder prevention. Local health departments, correctional institutions, hospitals, universities, and community or faith-based organizations may apply for DHS grants to support gambling disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery programs, with funding also sought from other sources to evaluate these initiatives. Subject to appropriation.

**Counties Code/Recall Officials (SB 1954):** Amends the Counties Code. Allows the Sangamon County Board to establish a process for recall elections by county board referendum resolution. Applies to all countywide elected officials listed under Article 3 of the Counties Code. The following details are the procedures for recall. If the county board adopts such a resolution calling for a referendum on whether the county should adopt a recall election process, the referendum will appear on the ballot at the 2026 general election. It cannot take place at a later election. If the referendum passes, then recall elections may be proposed by a petition signed by a number of electors equal in number to at least 15% of the total votes cast for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election in the county. This would be 11,922 signatures as 79,483 people voted for Governor in 2022 in the county. The signature collection period is 150 days. If the petition for recall is determined to be valid and sufficient, the State Board of Elections must certify it as such within 50 days of being submitted and it must call a special election for recall within 100 days after petition certification. Recall is successful with a simple majority (over 50%) of voters voting to recall. The countywide elected official is immediately removed upon certification of the recall election results. Vacancy is filled in accordance with the Election Code or Counties Code.

**Property Tax/Affordable Housing (SB 1911):** Amends the Property Tax Code. This is a trailer bill to the Affordable Housing Omnibus (P.A. 102-0175/HB 2621) passed in 2021, which created an affordable housing special assessment incentive. Changes two years in the bill from 2037 to 2034. Replaces references to substantially rehabilitated residential real property with the term qualifying rehabilitation of a residential real property. Changes references from qualifying residential real property to qualifying developments. Defines “qualifying development.” Requires the Department of Revenue to publish on its website data concerning increases, if any, in the Consumer Price Index. Provides that the minimum per square foot expenditure requirements to be applicable statewide as of April 1 of each year to be eligible for the reduced



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valuation shall be based on the Consumer Price Index data on the Department of Revenue's website. Provides that, in counties with a population of 3,000,000 or more, by March 15 of each year, the county assessor shall calculate and make available on its website the minimum per square foot expenditure requirements for the Affordable Housing Special Assessment Program. Makes other changes. Limits the language that allows redevelopment projects with seven or more units of affordable housing scattered across multiple sites/building to qualify for the reduced assessment incentives to only applying in Cook County.

**College Press/Public Media (SB 1988):** Stipulates that public media produced at a public university or community college is not subject to prior review by public officials of that institution. Allows an employee or an agent of an entity creating public media produced at a public university or community college to commence civil action to obtain appropriate injunctive and declaratory relief for violations by that institution if that institution reviews public media produced at a public university or community college. Adds that a public university or community college is immune from any lawsuit arising from expression made by public media produced at that institution, with the exception of the institution's own expression.

**NOTE:** SB 1988 was amended in a House Executive Committee, but not called for vote on House Floor. It would have changed SB 1988 to Bachelor's Degrees at Community Colleges: Allows community college districts to offer baccalaureate degree programs. Creates nine regions. Limits the number of baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges to two and sets caps for the different regions.

**Climate Resilience Projects (SB 2306): Amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act.** The definitions of "lease agreement" and "loan agreement" are expanded to include any financing or refinancing agreement made by the Authority under subsection (aa) of Section 801-40 or for any lawful purpose. The Authority can finance or refinance various costs (e.g., accounts receivable, working capital, liabilities, and operational expenses) for eligible entities like government units, health institutions, and educational or cultural organizations. Allows the Authority, as the State's Climate Bank, to utilize already authorized funding sources for projects to support "clean water projects, drinking water projects, and wastewater treatment projects, or climate resilience projects." This also includes federal or other funds, charitable contributions, and earnings from financing activities related to these projects. **Amends the Climate Bank Loan Financing Act.** "Climate resilience project" means a project to reduce hazards or risks to people and property from future disasters or climate-related conditions. "Climate resilience project" includes, but is not limited to, projects that ensure access to clean water and drinking water, support wastewater treatment or resiliency of other essential infrastructure and other projects that reduce the potential impact of disasters or climate change. Allows governmental units to manage, build, and maintain clean energy and climate resilience projects, purchase related property, and charge fees for infrastructure use. Adds climate resilience projects to the authority to issue bonds for clean energy infrastructure.



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**SNAP E&T Program (SB 1298):** Allows individuals enrolled in college at least half-time to qualify for SNAP without the work requirement by making college equivalent to a “SNAP Employment and Training Program,” thereby removing the work requirement entirely. Those individuals would still have to meet the income eligibility requirements, however. Requires that a public higher education institution demonstrably serve low-income students in order to be considered equivalent to an acceptable SNAP E&T program. By January 1, 2026, and every three years thereafter, the Illinois Board of Higher Education and Illinois Community College Board must provide DHS with data on: The percentage of students receiving Pell Grants and Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants by program of study. Alternative low-income indicators may be used if Pell/MAP data is unavailable. Graduate programs at public institutions may also qualify as SNAP E&T components if: 1. The institution provides data on Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 0 (via FAFSA or Alternative Application); and 2. The program demonstrably serves low-income students. Institutions must report this data by January 1 every three years, and qualifying programs will be recognized for SNAP E&T eligibility as of March 1 of that year. Requires DHS to publish on its website an updated list of programs of study that serve low-income students by institution of higher education beginning March 1, 2028, and every March 1 thereafter.

**Stuttering Coverage (SB 40):** Amends the Illinois Insurance Code and the Limited Health Service Organization Act. Mandates that health insurance coverage for children under 19 with early-acquired speech-language disorders, including stuttering, must include both rehabilitative services and habilitative services. Amends the Public Aid Code. Effective July 1, 2025 (pending federal approval), requires Medicaid to cover medically necessary speech-language rehabilitative services and habilitative services for individuals under 21 with early-acquired speech-language disorders like stuttering. The House tried to amend it with the Climate Change legislation, an Energy Omnibus bill for 2025 from environmental groups and Governor’s IPA and CUB groups. Some provisions include: rate increase, change in siting powers.

**Consumer Fraud (SB 1486):** Creates the Junk Fee Ban Act. Provides that it is an unlawful practice for any person to advertise, display, or offer a price for a good or service that does not include all mandatory fees or charges other than: 1. taxes or fees imposed by a government entity on the transaction; 2. shipping charges that will be reasonably and actually incurred to ship the physical good or product to the consumer; or 3. fees collected and passed on to a quasi-governmental entity, including any assessment fees associated with a government created special district. A third-party delivery platform or company is compliant with this Section if the platform or company : 1. clearly and conspicuously discloses at the point when a consumer views and selects either a vendor or goods or services for purchase, that an additional flat fee, variable fee, or percentage fee is charged, and the amount of the fee; and 2. after a consumer selects the goods or services for purchase but prior to checkout or completion of the transaction, displays a subtotal page that itemizes the price of the goods or services for



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purchase and the additional flat fee, variable fee, or percentage fee that is included in the total price. A person offering services for which the total price of the service cannot reasonably be known at the time of the offer due to factors that determine the total price that are beyond the control of the person offering the service, including factors that are determined by consumer selections or preferences or that relate to distance or time, is compliant with this Section if the person discloses in a clear and conspicuous manner: 1. the factors that determine the total price; 2. any mandatory fees or charges associated with the transaction; and 3. that the total price of the services may vary.

**Protective Services Act (SB 1551):** Amends the Adult Protective Services Act. Adds that if a broker-dealer, investment advisor, or qualified individual reasonably believes that financial exploitation of an eligible adult may have occurred, they shall promptly notify the Department and the Illinois Securities Department within the Office of the Secretary of State, or the provider agency designated to receive such reports under this Act. The broker-dealer, investment advisor, or qualified individual may also notify any third party previously designated by the eligible adult. Disclosure shall not be made to any designated third party who is suspected of financial exploitation of the eligible adult. Adds that a broker-dealer, investment advisor, or qualified individual who, in good faith and exercising reasonable care, makes a report or disclosure to the Secretary of State shall be immune from any administrative, civil, or criminal liability.

**Electronic Filing Charities (SB 1599):** Provides that by January 1, 2026, the Attorney General must offer options for charitable organizations and trustees under the Solicitation of Charity Act and the Charitable Trust Act the option of filing reports and statements electronically.

**Emergency Price Gouging (SB 1932):** Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Completely removes the AG's investigatory and disclosure provisions. No requirement for a business to provide cost breakdowns or explanations upon request. AG authority to publicly disclose information during litigation is eliminated. Shifts more discretion to the courts. Removes the prima facie standard for proving a violation. Introduces a rebuttable presumption: Any price increase of 20% or more is assumed to be unconscionably high unless the seller proves it was caused by additional costs. Eliminates the ability of businesses to justify price increases based on maintaining their usual profit margins (which was a defense under the original bill). Allows indefinite extensions if disaster declarations are renewed. Provisions related to FOIA eliminated. Miscellaneous additions and removals of certain goods. Exempts petroleum products from the scope of the bill.

**Motor Vehicle Franchise (SB 1939):** Amends the Illinois Motor Vehicle Franchise Act. Adds "Common Entity" to the list of definitions and means: a company directly or indirectly controlled by, or has equity interests owned, beneficially or of record, through any form of



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ownership structure, by a manufacturer, importer, distributor, or an affiliate thereof; or shares common management. Adds that it is a violation for any manufacturer to directly or indirectly compete with their franchisee in the sale, lease, or warranty services of new motor vehicles. Adds that it is a violation of a manufacturer to establish or utilize any common entity, affiliate, or spin-off company to sell, lease, or otherwise distribute new motor vehicles directly to consumers or to circumvent the manufacturer's new motor vehicle distribution obligations. A manufacturer or distributor shall not engage in the sale of new motor vehicles directly to the general public in this State unless the manufacturer or distributor was lawfully licensed to sell new motor vehicles directly to consumers in this State before January 1, 2022. Clarifies that the bill applies to manufacturers and distributors who have a dealership in Illinois.

**Vacant County Property (SB 1424):** Amends the Counties Code. Provides that a county with a population between 500,000 and 600,000 may lease vacant real estate, structures, or facilities it owns to promote economic development, job creation, or community revitalization, as long as it does not interfere with public services or involve properties used for government-operated services. Leases must be approved by a three-fourths majority of the county board, cannot exceed 99 years, and are prohibited if they could lead to the privatization of government services; this provision will expire five years after the effective date of the amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly.

**Electronically File Ordinance and Estimate (SB 2102):** Amends the Property Tax Code. Allows local taxing districts to file their budget and appropriation ordinance and estimate of revenues electronically with the county clerk (currently only paper submissions are allowed). Requires the county clerk to provide a receipt to the taxing district if the taxing district files their budget and appropriation ordinance and estimate of revenues electronically.

**Estimated Pension Payment (SB 1937):** Allows Tier 1 alternative formula members to opt for estimated payments to begin within 30 days after either their last day of employment or 30 days after filing for retirement benefits, whichever is later.

**Cold Spa (SB 25):** Defines "cold spa" as a basin of water that is maintained at a temperature of not less than 40 degrees Fahrenheit and not greater than 92 degrees Fahrenheit. Provides conditions for the operation of a cold spa by a licensee under the Act.

**Banning Food Additives (SB 93):** Prohibits the manufacture or sale of food products for human consumption that contains potassium bromate, propylparaben starting January 1, 2027. A person or entity that is found to have violated this shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for a first violation and not to exceed \$10,000 for each subsequent violation.



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**Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Alerts (SB 1420):** Provides that the Department of Public Health shall adopt rules requiring a local health department to make public announcements for the purpose of informing the general public when a positive case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, ehrlichiosis, and anaplasmosis is detected within a county or area under the local health department's jurisdiction.

**Investment Information Online (SB 90):** Changes state agencies requirement to publish/update information regarding the investment of public funds online to the end of the month, instead of the 15th of each month. Clarifies that electronic fund transfers do not require a warrant. House tried unsuccessfully to amend the bill to make it the Cannabis Omnibus. Merges the medical and recreational cannabis industries beginning on July 1, 2026. Allows craft growers to expand immediately from 5,000 square feet to 14,000 square feet rather than going through IDOA for incremental expansion. Expands DCEO Cannabis Business Development Fund program to allow for financial assistance and financial intermediary agreements. Extends time by which conditional licensees must become operational another 180 days. Contains various forms of financial and regulatory assistance and relief for smaller operators and social equity licensees. Allows for drive through and curbside pickup for pre-orders at dispensaries. Creates transporter transfer sites. Makes numerous other changes. Effective immediately.

**Eddie Thomas Act (SB 1524):** Requires the Department of Corrections to compile a report of hospice and palliative care provided to committed persons. Also, demographic data and number of individuals to be included, and it must include policies and administrative directives of each department institution and facility regarding institution of hospice and palliative care. Additionally, this act is named after a former street gang member sentenced to prison for murder. The House tried unsuccessfully to amend the bill to address Juvenile Right to Counsel. Amends the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 so that a minor who was under the age of 18 (rather than 15) at the time of the commission of an offense is presumed to be indigent and must be represented by counsel during the entire custodial interrogation of the minor, unless the minor has legal representation or is exercising the minor's right to seek alternative counsel. Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 which makes changes to child victim testimony by closed circuit TV.

**RTA Restructuring (SB 2111):** Renames the RTA as the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) and restructures governance of CTA, Metra, and Pace with new boards, appointment procedures, and oversight authority centralized in NITA starting February 1, 2026. Grants NITA expansive new powers, including fare-setting, regional service planning, infrastructure oversight, a new strategic plan framework, performance audits, unified fare collection, safety programs, transit-supportive development, and fast-track capital project authority. Adds sweeping transparency, accountability, and safety measures, including a regional service council structure, a Chief Internal Auditor, diversity reporting, a Transit Ambassador Program,





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and service standard enforcement, with extensive technical changes across dozens of existing statutes. Creates a Transit Integration Policy Development Committee within IDOT and establishes a Transit Coordination Oversight Officer to guide policy reforms, with a required implementation report due by 2027 and follow-up by 2030. Prohibits mandatory minimum parking requirements for new developments within a half mile of public transit hubs, while still allowing developers to include parking voluntarily and local governments to regulate street and bike parking.

**Patient Access to Pharmacy Protection Act (HB 2371):** Creates the Patient Access to Pharmacy Protection Act seeking to ensure the availability of 340B discounted drugs across Illinois.

## Legislation Awaiting Concurrence in the Senate

**DCEO Economic Development Omnibus (SB 2008):** Replaces everything after the enacting clause. Creates the Statewide Innovation Development and Economy Act. Provides that the purpose of the Act is to promote, stimulate, and develop the general and economic welfare of the State and its communities and to assist in the development and redevelopment of major tourism, entertainment, retail, and related projects within eligible areas of the State, thereby creating new jobs, stimulating significant capital investment, and promoting the general welfare of the citizens of the State, by authorizing municipalities and counties to issue sales tax and revenue (STAR) bonds for the financing of STAR bond projects and to otherwise exercise the powers and authorities granted to municipalities to provide incentives to create new job opportunities and to promote major tourism, entertainment, retail, and related projects within the State.

**Clean Slate Act (SB 1784):** Automates the sealing or expungement of eligible criminal records including serious crimes. This would allow individuals with past convictions to have their records automatically cleared, eliminating the need for having to actually have to file for it and attend court: Includes provisions for ISP to provide reports of cases with missing disposition information to the clerk of the circuit court. Modifies the definition of “seal.” Makes changes to the categories of records eligible for sealing. Replaces references to “offender” with “petitioner.” Modifies provisions relating to when records are eligible to be sealed. Removes provisions preventing subsequent felony conviction records from being sealed under specified circumstances. Establishes procedures for automatic sealing of records and sealing of municipal ordinance violations and Class C misdemeanors. Creates a Clean Slate Task Force, the Speaker of the House and Senate President have three appointees each. The House and Senate Minority Leaders have two appointees each.

**Property Tax Omnibus (SB 2156):** Amends the Property Tax Code. Makes changes concerning the following: claims for refunds; billing; tax deeds; the maximum income limitation under the



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Low-Income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption; subdivisions; eligibility under the Energy Assistance Act; multi-township assessors; tax certificates; and affordable housing programs. Amends the Fox Waterway Agency Act. Allows the Agency to impose property taxes, subject to referendum approval.

**Juvenile Offender Commitment Age and Child First Reform Task Force (SB 2418):** Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to establish a Youth Nonviolent Crime Resource Program designed to provide support services for individuals under 18 years old who have been adjudicated delinquent for nonviolent crimes. Further, establishes the Child First Reform Task Force within the Department of Juvenile Justice to comprehensively review juvenile detention centers in Illinois. Raises juvenile commitment age and limits commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice to those at least 13 years old and under 20, that have been found guilty of a felony offense or first-degree murder. Further provides that instead of detention, minors under the age of 13 who are in conflict with the law may be held accountable through a community mediation program or through other court-ordered intervention services.

**Game Officials Background Checks (HB 2521):** Amends the Interscholastic Athletic Organization Act to enhance background check requirements for sports officials making the Illinois High School Association responsible for licensing all game officials. Requires submission to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check to screen for disqualifying criminal or drug offenses. Requires the IHSA to perform a check of the offender registries once every five years for each licensed official. Pending full check clearance, requires that prospective game officials must be supervised at all times by someone who has received full check clearance.

**K-2 Suspensions Length (HB 3772):** Amends the School Code and the Department of Early Childhood Act. Provides that unless a student in grades K-2 brings a weapon on school grounds a student in those grades cannot be expelled. Requires a superintendent to provide verbal or written approval to suspend a student in K-2 for longer than 3 days. Provides that no suspension can be made that is longer than the time it takes for a school district to develop a behavior intervention plan or safety plan. Provides that a school board cannot expel a student in K-2 for bringing a knife, billy club, or knuckle weapon on school grounds unless the student has the intent to cause bodily harm with the weapon. Provides that no action can be brought against a school board for expelling a K-2 student where that student brought a firearm, or a knife, billy club, or other object with the intent to cause bodily harm. Provides that students in K-12 are eligible to participate in an alternative learning opportunities program (ALOP). Requires that placements in out-of-district ALOP programs for students in grades K-2 be limited to 90 days. Provides that written or verbal approval of a suspension lasting more than 3 days is required to be received by a superintendent of a school district, a director of an early childhood program, or their equivalent for a student in an early childhood program. Provides that if the



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superintendent or director does not give approval by the 3rd day of a suspension then the student is required to be allowed to attend school on the 4th day. Provides that for suspensions that last longer than three days the length of the suspension for a K-2 grade student is required to be tied to the time it takes for a school district to review, amend, develop, or implement a behavioral intervention plan or safety plan. Provides that the length of suspensions for early childhood students is required to be tied to the time it takes a school district or early childhood program to review, amend, develop, or implement a behavior intervention plan or safety plan. Provides stronger language by changing a “may” to a “shall” where the bill is requiring that suspension lengths are tied to the time it takes for an early childhood program or school district to review, amend, develop, or implement a behavior intervention plan or safety plan.

**OMA/FOIA Omnibus (SB 243):** Open Meetings Act: Allows township officials to satisfy OMA training by taking a class offered by an organization that represents townships. Sets the requirements for what must be in the training. A public body may hold a closed meeting for self-evaluation, practice and procedures, or ethics when meeting with a regional association of which the body is a member. Currently just allowed for a statewide association. (HB 1777) New section that states a public body may not hold or schedule a regular or special meeting on the day of a general primary election, general election, or consolidated election. Allows for attendance by means other than physical presence for a member of a public body that is in the performance of active military duty as a service member. (HB 2465/SB 243 underlying bill) Freedom of Information Act: Adds language that “junk mail” is not considered a public record. Defines junk mail. (HB 21) Electronic requests for records must contain the entire request in the body of the request and the public body is not required to open electronic attachments or hyperlinks (for cybersecurity reasons). (HB 2334) If a public body has a reasonable belief that a request was not made by a person may require the requester to verify orally or in writing that the requester is a person. The deadline to reply to the request is tolled for 30 days until the requester verifies that they are a person. A public body may not require the requester to submit personal information, private information, or identifying information to verify that the requester is a person. (HB 2578) Each public body must post on its website a brief description of itself and other specific information, rather than at each administrative or regional office. If the public body does not have a website, it must display the information at each of the administrative or regional offices. (HB 2883) Exempts from inspection and copying a law enforcement record created for law enforcement purposes and contained in a shared electronic record management system if the law enforcement agency or criminal justice agency who received the request did not create or have a role in creating the record. (HB 2421) Documents that have been deemed to be security sensitive under the U.S. Nuclear Regulation Commission and National Materials Program are exempt from inspection and copying. (HB 3611) Any office or employee of the public body that discloses records in accordance with an opinion from the Attorney General is immune from all liabilities and not liable for penalties under the Act. (Currently only applies to the public body itself). (HB 2885)



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**6th Judicial Circuit Court Resident Judges (HB 1823):** Amends the Circuit Courts Act in a provision concerning resident judgeships of the 6th judicial circuit. Removes existing language that the first three judgeships of the 6th Judicial Circuit that become vacant after January 7, 2022, convert to resident judgeships elected from Champaign County. The remaining two at-large judgeships convert to resident judgeships elected from Macon County. Persons elected to those judgeships shall be residents of the county that elects them. Adds that when a vacancy occurs in an at-large judgeship, the at-large judgeship shall be converted to a resident judgeship for either Champaign County or Macon County, depending on which of those two counties the incumbent at-large circuit judge resided in when the incumbent judge was elected. Adds one additional associate judge for the 7th circuit in Sangamon County.

**RTA Restructuring and Revenue (HB 3438):** Renames the RTA as the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) and restructures governance of CTA, Metra, and Pace with new boards, appointment procedures, and oversight authority centralized in NITA starting February 1, 2026. Grants NITA expansive new powers, including fare-setting, regional service planning, infrastructure oversight, a new strategic plan framework, performance audits, unified fare collection, safety programs, transit-supportive development, and fast-track capital project authority. Adds sweeping transparency, accountability, and safety measures, including a regional service council structure, a Chief Internal Auditor, diversity reporting, a Transit Ambassador Program, and service standard enforcement, with extensive technical changes across dozens of existing statutes. Creates a Transit Integration Policy Development Committee within IDOT and establishes a Transit Coordination Oversight Officer to guide policy reforms, with a required implementation report due by 2027 and follow-up by 2030.

**Property Tax Exemption (HB 3790):** Amends the Property Tax Code. Provides that the maximum income limitation for the Low-Income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption shall be \$75,000 for taxable year 2026, \$77,000 for taxable year 2027, and \$79,000 for taxable year 2028 and thereafter. Provides that no annual tax sale shall be held on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act and before March 10, 2026. Provides that no scavenger sale shall be held on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act and before March 10, 2026. Provides that deadlines for applications for judgment and order of sale are tolled until March 10, 2026. Amends the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Act. Makes changes concerning the maximum household income.

**Diversifying Faculty and Minority Teachers Scholarships (SB 1331):** Amends the Transitions in Education Act. Removes a portion that encourages the Board of Higher Education, State Board of Education, and Illinois Community College Board to provide an annual information session about the Minority Teachers of Illinois scholarship program. Removes the words “minority” and “racial minority” from the Diversifying Faculty and Minority Teachers Scholarships. Diversifying Faculty scholarships are only awarded at institutions in which at least 45% of the students



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receive federal Pell Grants - Chicago State University, Governors State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Teachers Scholarships are only awarded to students who were enrolled in a K-12 public school district that had an average of at least 70% of students who were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

**General Jurisdiction for Lawsuits (SB 26):** Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Changes the jurisdiction requires of Illinois to make the State a general jurisdiction state. For jurisdictional purposes, add to the list of eligibility that a court has jurisdiction if a corporation organized under the laws of this State or having its principal place of business in this State or is a foreign business corporation that has consented to general jurisdiction in this State in accordance the Business Corporation Act of 1983, but only if the action alleges injury or illness resulting from exposure to a substance defined as toxic under the Uniform Hazardous Substances Act of Illinois, whether the cause of action arises within or without this State, and jurisdiction is proper as to one or more named co-defendants. Amends the Business Corporation Act of 1983 to add that a state registered to do business in Illinois consents to general jurisdiction for lawsuits. Consent to such general jurisdiction terminates upon, and only upon, formal withdrawal from this State. A foreign corporation that transacts business in this State without authority is deemed to have consented to general jurisdiction to the same extent as if it were registered to do business in this State.

**Workplace Privacy (SB 2339):** Amends the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act. Provides that if an employer receives a written notification of a discrepancy from federal agencies or other nonimmigration enforcement entities (e.g., SSA, IRS), the employer must not take adverse action against the employee solely based on that notice. Provides that these protections apply to both public and private employers, and employers must notify employees and their representatives within five business days, explaining the discrepancy and response procedures. Empowers the Attorney General to initiate or intervene in civil actions for violations Provides that an “interested party” who prevails in a civil action shall receive 10% of any statutory penalties assessed, plus any attorney’s fees and costs. The remaining 90% of any statutory penalties assessed shall be deposited into the Child Labor and Day and Temporary Labor Services Enforcement Fund. Provides that violations incur civil penalties ranging from \$100–\$1,000 per offense, increasing to \$1,000–\$5,000 for repeated violations within three years; penalty amounts consider business size and violation severity, with enforcement rules and hearings overseen by IDOL and subject to administrative and judicial review.

**Hair Braiding Licensure Repeal (HB 3356):** Removes “Hair Braiding” from the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act, effective January 1, 2026.



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**Township Code (SB 634):** Amends the Township Code to remove Article 90 establishing Sangamon County Official's ex-officio status as the township officers of Capital Township. (Capital Township is relatively coterminous and within Springfield's boundaries.) Springfield is responsible for taking care of the roads, so Capital has no highway commissioner or road function. The Sangamon County Clerk functions as the Township Clerk/Assessor; and the County Treasurer functions as the Township Supervisor. Capital Township's functions are assessing property and administering general assistance to residents who qualify. Amends the Illinois Highway Code. Allows a highway commissioner to hire an attorney of his or her choice to represent the road district in legal matters.

**Kaskaskia Regional Port District (SB 1989):** Amends the Kaskaskia Regional Port District Act. Transfers the Southwest Regional Port District into the Kaskaskia Regional Port District. Adds to the Kaskaskia District: Canteen, Centerville, East St. Louis, Stites, and Sugar Loaf Townships of St. Clair County. Requires transfer to be completed by December 1, 2025. Deletes authorization for the Kaskaskia Regional Port District to (i) acquire or operate aquariums, museums, planetariums to display objects pertaining to natural history and (ii) water and sewage systems. Provides that 8 members of the port district board shall reside in St. Clair County, four members shall reside in Randolph County, and three members shall reside in Monroe County. Provides that the terms of all the members appointed by the Governor as of May 1, 2025, expire when the amendatory Act takes effect and each newly appointed member serves for a three-year term. Repeals the Southwest Regional Port District Act. Amends the Eminent Domain Act. Makes a conforming change to the Eminent Domain Act. Effective immediately.

**End of Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients (SB 1950):** Creates the End-of-Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients Act, or "Deb's Law." Authorizes a qualified adult patient (18 years or older) with a terminal disease, expected to result in death within the next six months, to request that a physician prescribe aid-in-dying medication that will allow the patient to end the patient's life in a peaceful manner. Key provisions include: the procedures and forms to be used to request aid-in-dying medication; the responsibilities of attending and consulting physicians; the referral of patients for determinations of mental capacity; the residency of qualified patients; the safe disposal of unused medications; the obligations of health care entities; the immunities granted for actions taken in good faith reliance upon the Act; the reporting requirements of physicians; the effect of the Act on the construction of wills, contracts, and statutes; the effect of the Act on insurance policies and annuities; the procedures for the completion of death certificates; the liabilities and penalties provided by the Act. Effective nine months after becoming law.

**Eliminating Food Deserts (HB 1607):** Creates the Task Force on Eliminating Food Deserts Act. Establishes the Task Force on Eliminating Food Deserts in the Department of Public Health to review the effectiveness of current State-led efforts to eliminate food deserts in Illinois and





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advise the General Assembly on policy, funding, initiatives, and best practices for the elimination of food deserts in Illinois.

**Military Veterans Assistance (SB 1368):** Amends the Military Veterans Assistance Act. Provides that in counties that did not have a Veterans Assistance Commission prior to January 1, 2026, and in which there exists a judicial circuit whose jurisdictional boundaries include multiple counties, veteran service organizations located within any of those counties that are within the judicial circuit 's jurisdictional boundaries may come together and create a Jurisdictional Veterans Assistance Commission that shall provide services to veterans and their families. Amends the Counties Code. Permits each county that has a population of less than 3,000,000 and that is a participant in a Jurisdictional Veterans Assistance Commission to levy a tax not to exceed .03% of the assessed value annually on all taxable property of the county for the purpose of providing assistance to military veterans and their families. Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Requires a county that has a population of less than 3,000,000 and that is a participant in a Jurisdictional Veterans Assistance Commission to levy, within the time that such levy is authorized to be made, a tax of an amount which, when added to the unobligated balance available for such purpose at the close of the preceding fiscal year, equals .02% of the last known assessed value of the taxable property in the county.