



SENATE IN REVIEW

A look at the 2019 accomplishments of
the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus

John J. Cullerton, Senate President

Communications Department
www.IllinoisSenateDemocrats.com



Senators,

It has been this department’s honor to provide support for you during this productive legislative session. We worked together to address issues ranging from wage inequality to the teacher shortage to updating our regressive tax structure. We continued to expand our outreach to constituents through social media and e-newsletters to communicate the hard work you do, and, as always, advance and promote your message.

Working with you this session has been a pleasure. As you get ready to leave Springfield, we are preparing to work with you on exciting upcoming events in your district in the months ahead.

Brandy Renfro
Communications Director

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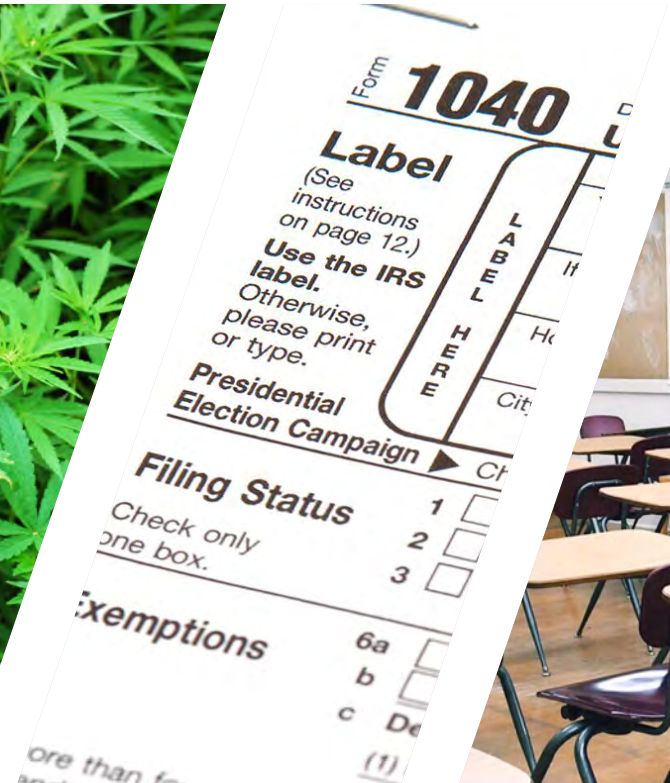
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SENATE IN REVIEW

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS





Legislative accomplishments

Senate Democrats entered a new General Assembly with an ambitious agenda. Upon arriving in Springfield, they set immediately to work on some of the most pressing issues facing our state, from wage inequality to a teacher shortage to the state’s regressive tax structure.

As always, lawmakers prioritized Illinois’ continued path toward financial stability while enacting measures to protect working families, young people, senior citizens and disenfranchised communities.

Senate Democrats raise minimum wage for first time in a decade

Senate Democrats made Illinois a leader in the Midwest by passing a new law raising the state’s minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2025.

Thanks to **Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford’s** legislation, minimum-wage earners statewide will see their first pay increase since 2010.

Senate Bill 1 increases the minimum wage to:

- \$9.25 per hour on Jan. 1, 2020
- \$10 per hour on July 1, 2020
- \$11 per hour on Jan. 1, 2021
- \$12 per hour on Jan. 1, 2022
- \$13 per hour on Jan. 1, 2023
- \$14 per hour on Jan. 1, 2024
- \$15 per hour on and after Jan. 1, 2025

Lightford is also responsible for the 2003 and 2006 laws that gradually increased the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$8.25 per hour.

Illinois’ minimum wage has been stuck at \$8.25 per hour since 2010. A single parent working at that wage qualifies for food stamps, Medicaid and often housing assistance. A \$15 per hour minimum wage would lessen the need for single parents and families to rely on assistance.

The new law also increases the minimum wage for individuals under the age of 18 but at a slower pace, going from \$7.75 currently to \$13 by Jan. 1, 2022.



Senate Democrats enact Tobacco 21 legislation to save lives

To fight for the health and safety of Illinois' teenagers and young adults, Senate Democrats rallied behind a new law raising the age to legally purchase tobacco to 21.

"Tobacco 21 will reduce access in our young populations, bring down overall smoking rates over time and save the state millions in health care costs," said **State Senator Julie Morrison**, sponsor of the legislation (House Bill 345). "Raising the age has been proven to reduce smoking rates among young teenagers who are susceptible to the impact of nicotine on the brain and have a strong chance of beginning a lifelong deadly habit."

A key benefit to raising the age is documented decreases in the number of high schoolers who smoke. In Chicago, authorities recorded a drop from 13.6 percent in 2011 to 6 percent in 2017. Raising the age was cited as a key component of the decrease.

The new law makes Illinois the first state in the Midwest to implement Tobacco 21 and one of the first 10 states nationwide to implement the policy. Before the passage of Tobacco 21, 34 local Illinois jurisdictions raised the age to purchase tobacco, including Evanston, Chicago, Maywood and Peoria.

With vaping a growing problem in many schools, teachers and administrators hailed the new law as key to addressing the public health concern.

Senate Democrats advance landmark legal cannabis plan

Recognizing that prohibition and the War on Drugs are not effective, Senate Democrats culminated two years of research, meetings with stakeholders and public hearings by passing a comprehensive piece of legislation creating a legal, well-regulated cannabis market for adults 21 and older (House Bill 1438).

"Ending prohibition is a tremendous step forward, and it's time to bring cannabis sales into the light where they are regulated to ensure safety and taxed so the revenue can help benefit the state," the bill's sponsor **State Senator Heather Steans** said. "It is time to bring restorative justice to communities that have been devastated by the War on Drugs, and it is time to create opportunities for minority entrepreneurs."

The legislation, cosponsored by **State Senator Toi Hutchinson**, will legalize cannabis sales beginning on Jan. 1, 2020.

Also included in the measure are significant provisions to address the disproportionate harm prohibition caused in minority communities. One-fifth of revenue from taxes and licenses will go to a program investing in communities that have suffered the most due to discriminatory drug policies, and qualified applicants could receive low-interest loans to start in the cannabis business.

To prioritize public safety, Steans built on the existing regulatory framework of Illinois' medical cannabis industry, one of the most well-regulated in the country. All cannabis products would be tested for potency and contaminants to ensure consumers know exactly what they are purchasing and labeled for potency and serving size.





Senate Democrats push for fair tax for all Illinoisans

After nearly a decade of work to implement a fair tax in Illinois, the Senate approved a series of proposals this spring that would update the state’s tax structure and provide relief to working and middle-class families.



Assistant Majority Leader Don Harmon advanced SJRCA 1 that, if approved by voters, would remove language requiring a flat tax and allow the legislature to set lower rates for those making less and higher rates for those earning the most.

“We’ve had the same tax structure in our state for nearly 50 years,” Harmon said. “Middle-class and working Illinoisans have been hurt by our inability to update our tax structure to reflect a changing economy.”

State Senator Toi Hutchinson passed Senate Bill 687, which would create a graduated rate structure for Illinois’ income tax system, with lower-income families paying less while wealthier individuals would pay more. Under the plan, those making under \$250,000 would pay less in income taxes than they do today.

“We simply cannot afford to continue careening from crisis to crisis, solving our budget woes with short-term band-aids that only further burden middle and working-class Illinois families,” Hutchinson said.

The proposed amendment passed both the House and Senate and will be placed as a question on the ballot in November 2020.

Senators invest in road safety by taking aim at distracted driving

Distracted driving and driver safety are issues that always need attention. As more young people drive and technology gets faster, the need to remind people of the perils of distracted driving increases exponentially.

Senate Democrats approached road safety with an even greater sense of urgency following a tragically dangerous year for Illinois State Troopers on the road. In total, 15 state police cruisers were struck while on the side of the road. Three of those accidents resulted in fatalities in what was described as an unprecedented spike in collisions.

State Senator Steve Stadelman passed Senate Bill 86, which clarifies that drivers may not use electronic devices to stream videos while they are driving, including tablets, laptops and video game controllers.

In response to trooper deaths, **State Senator Tom Cullerton** pushed for greater awareness of existing laws that require Illinois drivers to slow down and give officers a wide berth. Senate Bill 947 would require the Secretary of State to include information about Scott’s Law in every vehicle registration notice it sends to motorists. Scott’s Law requires drivers to move over, if possible, and slow down when approaching an emergency vehicle.



Assistant Majority Leader Tony Munoz also championed legislation (Senate Bill 1862) to strengthen the existing Scott’s Law by enhancing the penalties for violations of the law. Munoz’s measure creates a Move Over Task Force to study the issue of violations of Scott’s Law, disabled vehicle law and stationary authorized emergency vehicle law, with attention to the causes of the violations and ways to protect law enforcement and emergency responders.



Senate Democrats tackle teacher shortage

With Illinois' teacher shortage crisis worsening in many parts of the state, Senate Democrats tackled the problem on multiple fronts, from teacher salaries to certification requirements to placing educators in hard-to-staff schools.

Senator Andy Manar passed Senate Bill 10 to phase in an increase to the state's mandated minimum wage for teachers.

The legislation, which gained bipartisan support, incrementally increases to \$40,000 the minimum salary that school districts must offer teachers. The increases would begin in the 2020-2021 school year and would occur over four years, reaching \$40,000 in the 2023-2024 school year.

State Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, chair of the Senate Education Committee, passed a series of measures addressing the crisis.

She first passed House Bill 423, which places a hold on requiring educators to take a controversial basic skills exam until July 1, 2025. In the meantime, the Illinois State Board of Education will re-evaluate the methods it uses to score the test and adopt rules for any changes.

Another piece of legislation, House Bill 1472, eases unnecessary stipulations on retired teachers looking to fill needed substitute roles by allowing them to return to teaching in areas in need without impairing their retirement status.

Assistant Majority Leader Iris Y. Martinez continued her long-time advocacy for the Grow Your Own Teacher initiative, a program designed to train people to teach in hard-to-staff schools, by advancing legislation that expands the ability of schools and future teachers to participate in the program.

House Bill 35 would also extend eligibility for participation in the initiative to high school students enrolled in a dual credit course at a participating institution of higher education.

Freshman focus

Senate Democrats welcomed one of the largest and most diverse caucuses in its history this year, including eight new freshman senators.

These senators hit the ground running, taking on ambitious pieces of legislation from the start.

State Senator Christopher Belt worked to improve health



care for people transitioning out of prison by passing Senate Bill 1744, which requires the Department of Corrections to screen inmates for Medicaid eligibility before release.

Responding to the alarming rise in hate crimes in America, **State Senator Rachelle Crowe** passed House Bill 38, imposing stronger penalties on people convicted of assault or battery in a church, synagogue, mosque or other place of worship.

State Senator Laura Ellman addressed the urgency of climate change by advancing Senate Bill 2140 to repeal the Kyoto Protocol, a decades-old law that prevents Illinois from taking action to address harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Living up to her commitment to all workers, **State Senator Laura Fine** passed House Bill 253, which grants graduate and research assistants the same labor rights as other educational employees.

To address Illinois' well-documented social work shortage, **State Senator Ann Gillespie** passed a measure, Senate Bill 1888, that would allow students who are completing their social work master's degrees to sit for licensure exams in the final semester of the program, rather than having to wait to pursue a license after they have their degree in hand.

State Senator Suzy Glowiak took on one of the fastest-growing criminal activities in the world: human trafficking. She advanced House Bill 3101, which requires hotels and motels to train employees to recognize the signs of human trafficking and know what to do when reporting it to authorities.

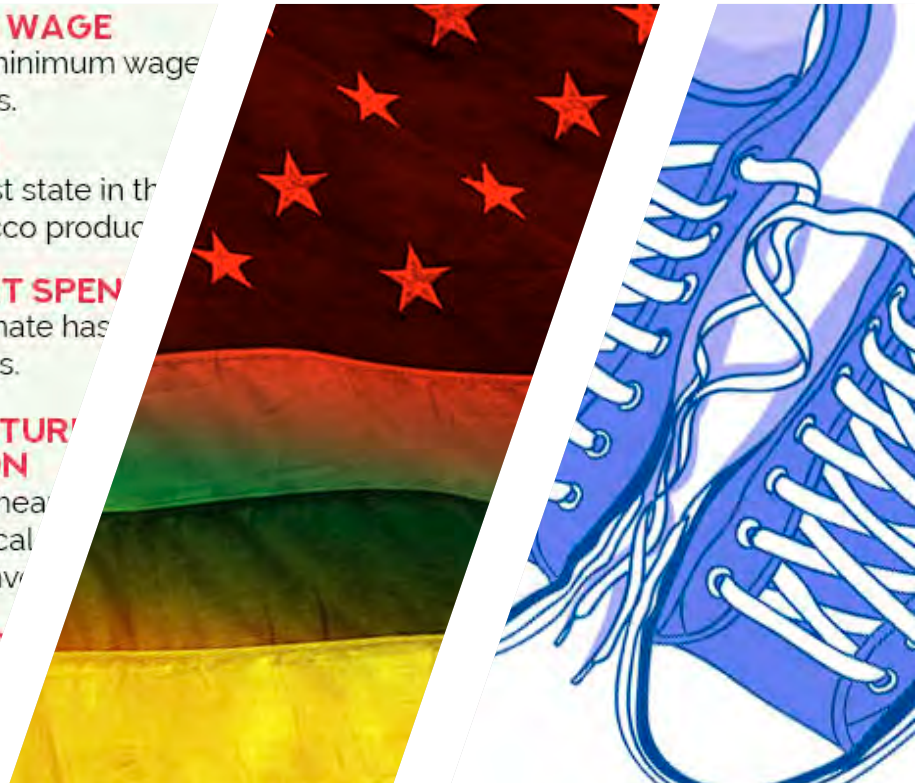
In response to a proposed immigration detention center in Dwight, Illinois, **State Senator Robert Peters** passed House Bill 2040, banning all private detention centers in Illinois, not just private prisons.

A father to a young child himself, **State Senator Ram Villivalam** passed House Bill 3711, which requires all restrooms in all public buildings – including restaurants, stores – to have baby changing facilities.

ILLINOIS SENATE DEMOCRATIC NEWS



- MINIMUM WAGE**
Enacted a fair minimum wage for working families.
- TOBACCO 21**
Became the first state in the nation to purchase tobacco products for 21 and over.
- GOVERNMENT SPENDING**
To date, the Senate has held 10 budget hearings.
- INFRASTRUCTURE/ JOB CREATION**
Hosting public hearings and providing feedback on local development investments.
- ADULT-USE CANNABIS**
Conducted 12 public hearings in Illinois to develop an adult-use cannabis program.



SENATE IN REVIEW

SPREADING
THE NEWS





By the numbers...

This year, the Illinois Senate Democrats began using iConstituent, a constituent relationship management database that provides our caucus with a uniform system to track important issues and effectively communicate with people in their districts. The system offers a variety of tools to assess constituent requests and opinions and manage casework for legislative assistants and district office staff.

As a result, staff in the districts and the Capitol can instantly identify important issues and proactively communicate with constituents based on their concerns and interests, all while steadily growing targeted and general e-newsletter lists.

In the first year of using iConstituent, we have logged more than **169,740** emails, web forms, letters and phone calls. Currently there are **39** member offices utilizing iConstituent.

Through iConstituent we have...

- Sent e-newsletters and targeted e-blasts to **2,399,336** constituents.
- Sent **19,121** emails to constituents.

Tele-Town Hall meetings

This year, Senate Democrats participated in telephone town halls reaching a total of **294,029** people. The senators were given the ability to reach thousands of people with a single phone call, engaging them in a lively talk show format. The average number of participants was **2,740**. Senator Murphy had the most successful call this year with a total of **3,624** people. We look forward to continuing to offer this service next year.

Top 10 Issues - Spring 2019 Session	
1.	Health Care
2.	Education
3.	Human Rights
4.	Taxes
5.	2nd Amendment
6.	Public Safety
7.	Environment
8.	Local Government
9.	Transportation
10.	Pensions

Tele-Town Halls	
Total called	294,029
Active participants	24,663
Live questions	88

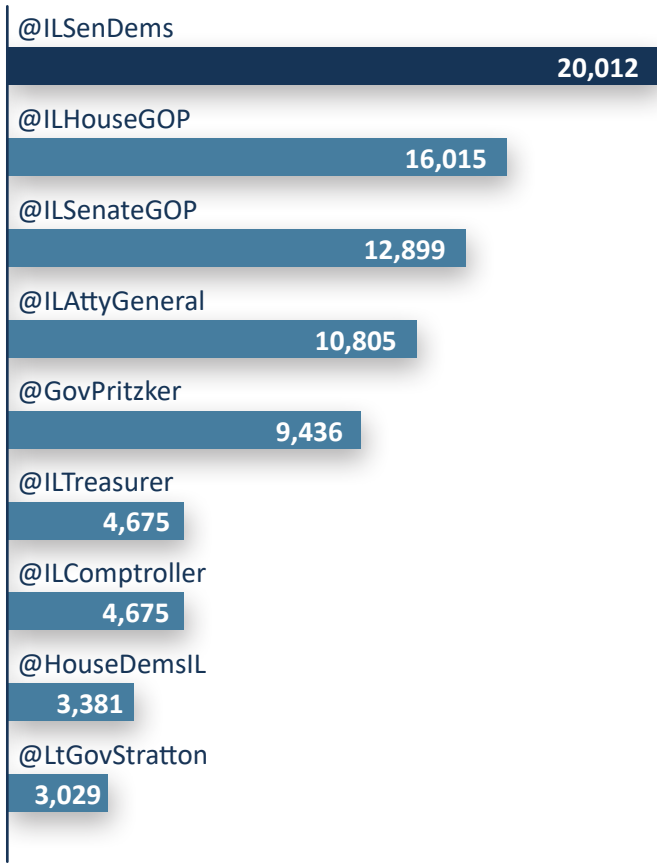
If you were buying ads, your media coverage from this year's session would have cost...



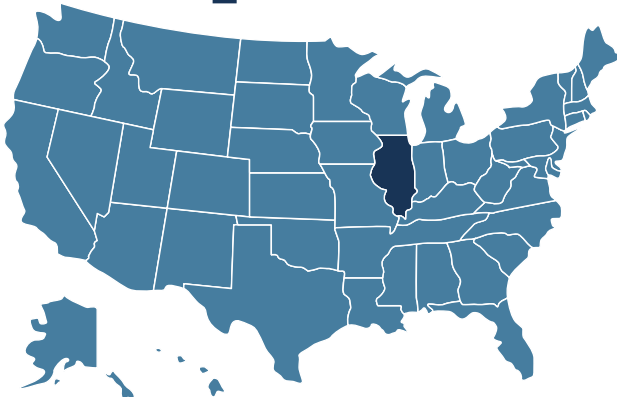


TWITTER twitter.com/ilsendems

UNDER THE DOME



STILL **#1** TOP VERIFIED STATE LEGISLATIVE TWITTER FOLLOWING OUT OF 150 STATE CAUCUS ACCOUNTS



TOP 3 TWEETS

JANUARY – MAY

May 29

The Senate has voted 38-17 to legalize adult-use cannabis in Illinois.

66,769 👁️ 2,242 💬

January 17

This morning in Chicago, @GovPritzker will sign @DonHarmonIL's measure regulating gun dealers at the state level, SB 337. @MomsDemand @ICHV

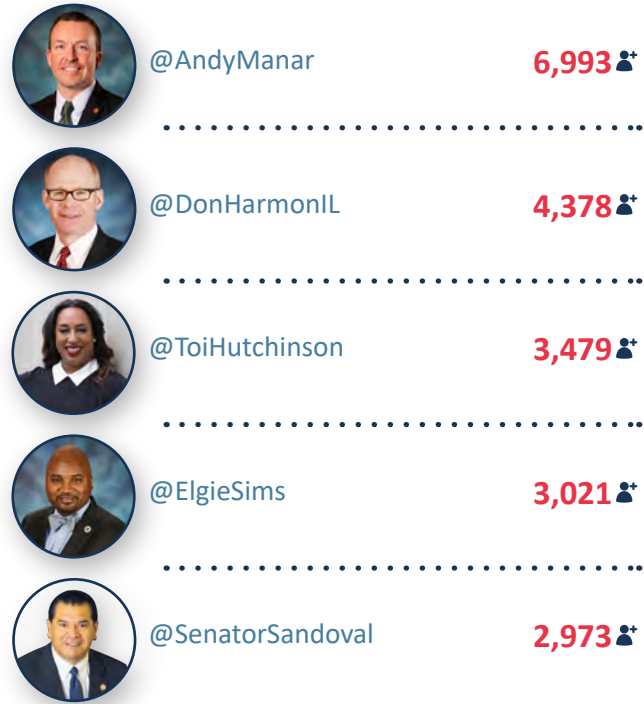
19,442 👁️ 193 💬

January 7

Peters selected to fill Senate seat vacated by Raoul. <http://ow.ly/EuBx30ndQkN> pic.twitter.com/t6V10seskf

18,150 👁️ 14,549 💬


TOP 5 ACCOUNTS








FACEBOOK facebook.com/IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus


TOP 5 ACCOUNTS

- 
@StateSenatorAndyManar **9,686**

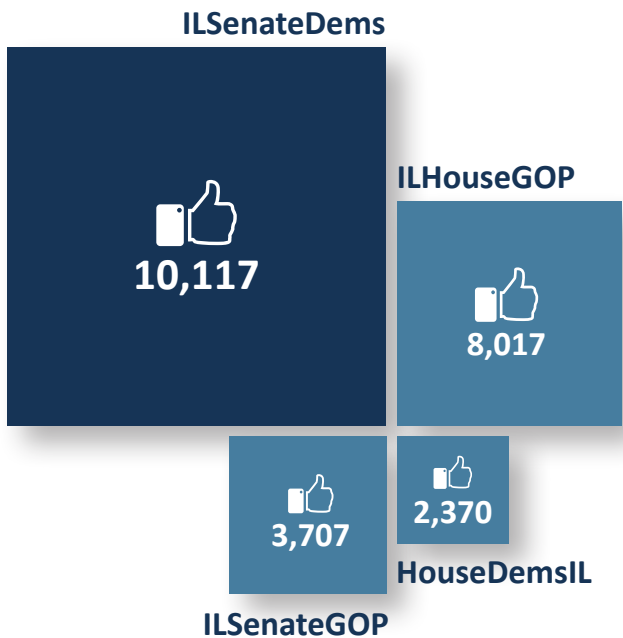
- 
@SenatePresidentJohnJCullerton **5,031**

- 
@SenatorBush **5,020**

- 
@KimberlyALightford **4,359**

- 
@SenatorDonHarmon **3,990**

CAUCUS FACEBOOK LIKES



TOP 3 POSTS

JANUARY - MAY

March 6

This morning in Chicago, @GovPritzker will sign @DonHarmonIL's measure regulating gun dealers at the state level, SB 337. @MomsDemand @ICHV

10,486 **4,011**

March 15

Sen. Andy Manar: The Bunker Hill Democrat is renewing his efforts to impose state oversight on pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs, that negotiate drug prices and benefits on behalf of insurance plans.

10,454 **1,233**

January 15

Lightford becomes First Black Female Sen. Majority Leader in State History.

10,057 **972**

VIDEO POSTS HAVE THE MOST IMPRESSIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

March 15

Manar leads fight on behalf of rural pharmacies

Minutes Viewed:

1,600



January 9

Illinois Senate Inauguration preview (live)

Minutes Viewed:

794



February 8

Lightford closing remarks on minimum wage increase

Minutes Viewed:

280





VIDEO



FEATURED VIDEOS

MONTHLY MINUTE



Senate Democrats Monthly Minute: Illinois needs to fund infrastructure

CASTRO WHM



Senator Castro on Dolores Huerta #WomensHistoryMonth

GILLESPIE



Senator Gillespie explains the process of a Senate Bill

60% MORE VIDEOS PRODUCED THIS YEAR

- SENATORS' NEWS STORIES
- PRESS CONFERENCES
- EVENTS
- MEMBER PROFILES

250+ MADE SINCE JANUARY THAT'S 4-6 VIDEOS PER DAY

100% ACCESSIBLE

AUDIO AND PODCASTS



- 250+ pieces of featured audio produced for radio media outlets in 2019
- New this year - Podcast
 - 5 episodes of Senate Showcase
 - 17 episodes of The Majority Report
 - 23 episodes of remarks from senators on key issues
 - All now available on iTunes, Spotify, Google Play, Spreaker and Tune In



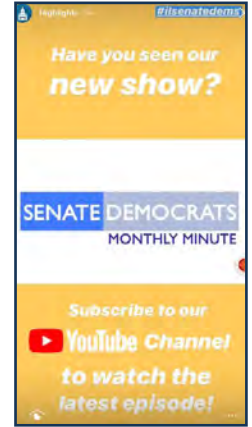
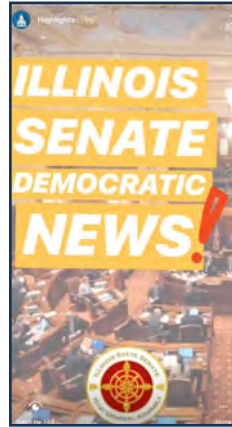
INSTAGRAM @ilsenatedems

INSTA STORY

- 24-HOUR viewability
- Provides current and upcoming event updates
- Increases engagement with followers

+24% NEW FOLLOWERS SINCE SPRING 2018

100+ NEW PHOTOS & VIDEOS POSTED IN 2019



January 15

Illinois State Senators Kimberly Lightford and Cristina Castro attend the signing of Executive Order 2019-02.

♥ 85 💬 446



March 27

Senator Iris Y. Martinez and other senators honor the oldest women in their districts and throughout Illinois with SR 249, Women of Wisdom.

♥ 61 💬 397



March 6

Illinois Senate President John J. Cullerton visits with Chicago Mayor-elect Lori Lightfoot during her visit to the Capitol.

♥ 70 💬 464

SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS



Reaching out to the Latino Community in Español

The Illinois Senate Democrats continue to dominate the airwaves in Spanish language news coverage of the Illinois General Assembly. The increasing production of in-house digital content allows our caucus to distribute our message throughout multiple platforms, such as major television networks, social media, web pages and print.

This comprehensive approach maximizes the impact of video interviews with members that are provided to media for their news stories. With our work, we have become a de facto news bureau for the Spanish language networks based in Chicago.

Another attribute of this strategy is that our content is edited in-house and distributed across our digital platforms, providing more exposure to our senators with Latinos, who are 10 percent more inclined to stream and receive their news from digital platforms than other audiences.

Despite the advance of the digital revolution, our caucus continues to work closely with traditional media outlets to seize as many earned media opportunities as possible. Members frequently appear in news stories and pay visits to television studios. In particular, Latino and non-Latino senators are regular guests for Univision’s public affairs show “Al Punto,” aired by the leading Spanish language television network in the country.

From offering translations services in Spanish to producing digital content that serves today’s needs in the communications field, the Illinois Senate Democrats are leading the way in spreading the news among Latinos, and we do so in Español.





Senate Women's Caucus: Standing up for women's rights

After successfully passing a joint resolution to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in Illinois last year, the Senate Women's Caucus has tackled a wider range of women's issues in 2019.

An omnibus bill providing greater protections for private sector workers who experience sexual harassment and discrimination passed the Senate without opposition this spring. It was drafted based on recommendations that were made last year during the Senate sexual harassment task force hearings.

"Right now, Illinois workers who are harassed or discriminated against don't have the protections they need to seek justice and hold perpetrators accountable." Senate Sponsor Melinda Bush said. "This bill strengthens workers' rights and includes reasonable requirements for employers that will create safer workplaces."

Senate Bill 1829 passed the Senate on a unanimous vote.

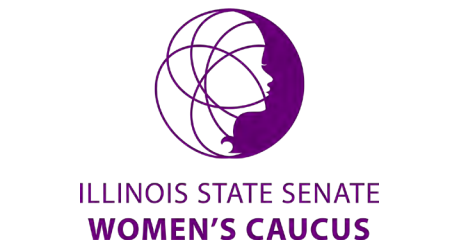
Maternal health issues have been on the radar this session. While rates of maternal mortality are declining in other developed countries, the United States is experiencing a spike

in deaths among pregnant and recently pregnant women and a wide and growing disparity among women based on their race and ethnicity.

State Senators Toi Hutchinson, Cristina Castro, Iris Y. Martinez and Jacqueline Collins sponsored a number of proposals to address the growing public health concern. Black and Hispanic women have far higher rates of pregnancy-related death than white women. Legislation this session looked at ways to improve physical and mental health care for pregnant and postpartum women, including greater awareness and training for health care professionals working with new mothers.

Majority Caucus Whip and co-chair of the Women's Caucus Linda Holmes and Assistant Republican Leader and co-chair Sue Rezin say the group will meet this summer, and they anticipate adding women's justice issues to their agenda. They are working in conjunction with Illinois First Lady MK Pritzker, and the Women's Justice Institute and Women's Justice Task Force of Illinois.

"Incarcerated women get less support and fewer programs than



men, and they are more likely to be incarcerated for charges related to mental health and substance abuse issues," Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford said. "With the draconian programmatic cuts under the Rauner administration, it is imperative we learn about and focus more resources on women's justice and mental health issues in a bipartisan manner. We appreciate First Lady Pritzker's engagement in our efforts."

More than two-thirds of incarcerated women in America report having a history of mental health problems – a far higher percentage than their male counterparts. Members of the Women's Caucus plan a summer fact-finding tour to gather information and find opportunities for legislation to provide better resources for incarcerated women.



Senate Black Caucus: Fighting for prosperity and equality for the black community

The Illinois Legislative Black Caucus (ILBC), a collective of African-American lawmakers, spent this legislative session continuing to advocate for issues that are central to the black community, including education, health care, minority business enterprise and criminal justice reform.

African-American Illinoisans face many challenges as a result of the previous administration's disastrous tenure. Black Caucus Chairman Kimberly A. Lightford led the group in making the priorities of the caucus and their constituents known to Gov. J.B. Pritzker as he began his first term.

The Black Caucus was able to pass historic legislation early on in

the legislative session: Lightford's plan to raise the minimum wage for the first time since 2010.

Under the new law, minimum-wage earners will earn \$15 an hour by 2025. A gradual implementation and a payroll tax credit are meant to help businesses with 50 or fewer full-time employees adjust.

The plan provides stability to working families throughout Illinois and shows the caucus' commitment to these populations.

The Black Caucus also sought a raise for in-home care workers, who serve nearly 1,000,000 seniors throughout Illinois. State Senator Mattie Hunter sponsored legislation to provide a rate increase to Community Care Program workers

from \$11.08 per hour to at least \$13 per hour by July 1, 2019.

The Illinois Department on Aging's Community Care Program hasn't seen an increase in program funding in eight years.

Senator Toi Hutchinson spearheaded revenue efforts this spring to lift the tax burden on working, low-income and middle-class families.

Hutchinson's plan sets a graduated rate structure for Illinois' income tax system, with lower-income families paying less while wealthier individuals would pay more. The proposed plan would lower taxes for 97 percent of Illinoisans and only raise rates for those making more than \$250,000.



Fixing the broken criminal justice system is still a top priority for the Black Caucus. The fatal shooting of Laquan McDonald shook the black community and further motivated the caucus to fight for justice.

Senator Emil Jones III led efforts on criminal justice reform by sponsoring a plan to require associate judgeships in Cook County circuit court to be elected positions rather than appointed ones.

Currently, associate judges are not held to the same judicial standard as elected judges. Associate Judge Domenica Stephenson recently released three police officers who covered up Laquan McDonald's murder.

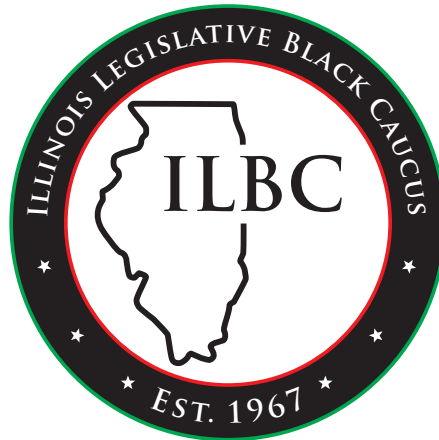
Data collection around police stops for drivers and pedestrians remains an important tool for police officers and the public to identify and prevent racial disparities in Illinois' law enforcement.

Senator Elgie R. Sims Jr. sponsored legislation that aims to make sure the concerns of Illinoisans are better addressed, resources such as specialized training are provided, the honest efforts of Illinois' law enforcement professionals are demonstrated and the civil rights of all Illinois citizens are protected.

The bill would also fulfill the requirement to study and identify the best use of technology to collect and examine stop data.

Senator Christopher Belt worked to help those transitioning out of the justice system learn the status of their Medicaid eligibility with a

plan that requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to screen inmates for eligibility before release and to assist eligible inmates in completing a Medicaid application.



Mental health is also a major priority of the Black Caucus. Senator Robert Peters led a measure allowing a person charged with a misdemeanor determined to be mentally unfit to stand trial to be transferred to a diversionary program instead of entering the criminal justice system.

These diversion programs work to identify individuals with mental illnesses, provide them with stabilizing treatment, and direct them toward community provided mental health services and away from incarceration.

In response to rising maternal mortality rates, State Senator Jacqueline Collins oversaw the passage of the first two components of a wide-ranging legislative plan to improve pregnancy and postpartum care for Illinois mothers.

One piece of legislation creates a Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality among African Americans

to address an infant mortality rate among children of women of color that is double that of white women.

Another adds a host of maternal rights to the Medical Patient Rights Act, including the right to care before, during and after childbirth.

The Black Caucus also continued their efforts to level the playing field for minority-owned businesses to receive state contracts. State Senator Napoleon Harris led a measure to increase the amount of state contracts awarded to businesses owned by minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

The plan requires the Department of Central Management Services to increase the number of state contracts issued to these businesses from 20 percent of the total dollar amount of state contracts to 30 percent.

In addition, the Black Caucus also supported other general initiatives, including a capital plan to fix the state's crumbling infrastructure and legislation appropriating census funding to ensure all Illinois communities are properly counted to protect federal representation and funding. Sims and Hutchinson also brought the concerns of the black community to the budget negotiation table as budgeteers.

The Senate Black Caucus worked in a bipartisan manner to draft and pass a budget that supports and protects programs that are crucial to African Americans throughout Illinois.



Senate Latino Caucus: Cultivating a welcoming state for Latinos

The members of the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus (ILLC) continued to put forth legislative measures that uplift the Latino community throughout Illinois. Members stood for important issues dealing with access to scholarships, accountability for presidential candidates, access to professional licenses, minority-owned businesses and tenant rights.

For many, obtaining a college degree can be a life-changing accomplishment. Unfortunately, the cost of higher education has risen to levels that make it

extremely difficult for working and middle-class families to afford. Undocumented students suffer greatly from the impact of the skyrocketing price tag on degrees, as they are currently ineligible for state or federal financial assistance.

Newly appointed co-chair of the ILLC, Senator Omar Aquino set out to make state-funded financial aid accessible for undocumented and transgender students who are currently barred from those opportunities.

The Retention of Illinois Students and Equity Act allows undocumented and transgender

Illinois residents to be eligible for state financial aid at institutions of higher education.

As the attacks on immigrant communities from the Trump Administration continue, along with questions surrounding President Trump's finances, Assistant Majority Leader Tony Munoz worked to provide Illinois voters with more information on presidential and vice-presidential candidates before they appear on the ballot.

Munoz's plan would require presidential candidates to file their five most recent years' tax returns



with the Secretary of State before appearing on a primary or general election ballot. The measure would make those financial records public information and codify the decades-long tradition of financial transparency.

Often, undocumented or permanent residents work to complete the requirements of obtaining a professional license just to be turned away by employers for their immigration status.

To make professional licenses more accessible to all qualified individuals, Assistant Majority Leader Iris Y. Martinez led a proposal prohibiting the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and the State Board of Education from denying an occupational or professional license based solely on the applicant's citizenship status or immigration status, unless forbidden by law.

The plan also requires the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to allow an applicant to use a taxpayer identification number as an alternative to a Social Security number.

While Illinois is celebrated for its diversity, the allocation of state contracts often fails to reflect that.

Continuing his work to expand minority-owned businesses across Illinois, Senator Martin A. Sandoval promoted legislation to expand benefits under the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women and Persons with Disabilities Act to businesses with an annual gross of

\$75 million or more.

Sandoval wants to provide valuable support to minority businesses regardless of the amount of money they bring in.

Currently, any businesses owned by minorities, women or persons with disabilities are ineligible to receive those benefits if their gross earnings cross the \$75 million dollar cap.



Fighting for tenant rights, Senator Cristina Castro spearheaded the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act to prohibit landlords from evicting tenants based on actual or perceived immigration status, or disclosing or threatening to disclose a tenant's actual or perceived immigration status for the purposes of harassing or retaliating against the tenant.

The measure also provides an affirmative defense against eviction for tenants whose rights under the Act have been violated, and puts a stop to the practice of landlords threatening or retaliating against undocumented immigrants who report code violations or make maintenance requests.

In March, Dwight village trustees

voted to annex 88 acres for an immigrant detention center. About 300 people attended the meeting when the vote took place, including a number of protesters who marched from the Amtrak station to Dwight High School, where the meeting was held.

Standing with protesters for the rights of people seeking refuge, the ILLC was vocal in taking a stance against the proposed detention center, which would be managed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, citing the inhumane treatment of undocumented people at similar detention centers at the southern border.

To secure proper funding and representation for Latinos across Illinois, Latino Caucus members joined calls against the citizenship question proposed by the Trump Administration to deter undocumented people from participating in the 2020 Census.

Additionally, the ILLC worked to increase funding efforts to reach hard-to-count areas for the census and counteract the fearmongering coming from the White House.

The ILLC continues to serve as a voice for all Latinos across Illinois and works to protect the rights and humanity of all marginalized populations.



Senate Asian American Caucus: Giving voice to a growing community

This year, the number of Asian Americans serving in the General Assembly tripled from one member to three, enough to have a collective voice on critical issues facing the Asian Pacific American Community in the state of Illinois.

In January, two new Asian-American state legislators began their terms in the General Assembly: Illinois' first Asian-American state senator, Ram Villivalam, and the state's second Asian-American state representative, Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz. They joined the first Asian-American state representative Theresa Mah, who

was elected to the House in 2017.

Together, they formed and established the Illinois Asian American Legislative Caucus (IAALC).

In response to the incredible population growth of the Asian Pacific American community in Illinois, IAALC seeks to provide a forum to address the political, social and economic concerns of Asian Americans, promote solutions and legislative action, and encourage full participation and active involvement in the policy-making process by the Asian-American community in the state.

The bicameral, bipartisan group is composed of members of the Illinois General Assembly who identify as Asian Pacific American and members who represent districts with large concentrations of Asian Pacific American residents.

"Ten years ago, there were no Asian Americans elected to the major political offices in Illinois. Today, there are dozens, from the U.S. Senate to local municipal offices throughout the state," said Villivalam, IAALC's Senate Co-Chair. "In the State Capitol, we now have two Chinese-American state representatives and an



Indian-American state senator. Our increasing numbers in the General Assembly are a testament to the growing political influence of the community and the diversity we represent.”

The IAALC’s first order of business after its formation in January 2019 was to advocate their budget priorities. Understanding that the success of the Asian-American community in Illinois depends on collecting high quality data, members of the IAALC worked toward securing appropriations for culturally and linguistically appropriate census outreach targeting hard-to-reach communities and acquiring funding for language assistance programs.

The IAALC also called for the restoration of the Immigrant Services Line Item (ISLI) in the budget. ISLI funds two critical programs, the New Americans Initiative and the Immigrant Family Resource Program (RFP), which engage 60 statewide community-based organizations and agencies in the provision of essential human services for immigrant and refugee communities. ISLI currently stands at just \$5.6 million, a drastic cut from the initial \$10 million when it began in 1999. The current amount represents .01 percent of the state budget, while immigrants make up 14 percent of the population.

The Asian American Caucus also directed their efforts this session to supporting the more than 1.78 million immigrants in our state by championing legislative measures

intended to provide dignity and respect for immigrants.

Gong-Gershowitz, the IAALC Secretary-Treasurer, passed House Bill 836 to ensure that children are



able to have short-term guardians if their parent is detained or deported by Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. Mah, the Caucus House Co-Chair, also carried Senate Bill 1290, the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act, through the House to prevent landlords from discriminating against renters because of their immigration status. And Villivalam spearheaded Senate Bill 1429 to make sure that a person’s immigration status isn’t unnecessarily disclosed in court.

“As we try to keep building a more welcoming Illinois, the IAALC is committed to fighting for progressive solutions that are inclusive and humane for all immigrants and refugees,” Gong-Gershowitz said. “We will continue to encourage our colleagues in the legislature to proactively defend and protect immigration communities in our state.”

The Caucus also worked to

support Asian-American families in Illinois. Mah’s House Bill 3217 would create the Asian American Family Commission to advise the governor and the General Assembly, as well as work directly with state agencies, to improve and expand existing policies, services, programs and opportunities for Asian-American families.

To wrap up the year, the caucus celebrated the achievements and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in our state with Senate Resolution 420, declaring May 2019 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in Illinois.

Moving forward, IAALC also intends to form close partnerships with the various Asian Pacific American organizations across Illinois to develop and accomplish its goals.

“Our Asian Pacific American communities in Illinois are diverse, but they have many shared goals,” Mah said. “We will be working together to bring greater focus to good jobs, strong schools, affordable health care and stronger investments in the success of future generations of Illinoisans in every community throughout our state, and especially the communities that have sent us here to represent them at the Capitol.”



After nine years, John Mulroe leaves Senate for role as Cook County judge



Illinois Senate Democrats bid farewell this year to a member dedicated to the health and safety of the public and the men and women who work on the front lines to ensure them. Senator John G. Mulroe resigned from the Senate June 21, 2019 in order to accept an appointment as a Cook County judge.

In addition to operating his own law practice, Senator Mulroe has worked in public service as an assistant state's attorney for Cook County, a hearing officer with the Chicago Park District and an arbitrator with the Cook County Mandatory Program. He also taught at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine. Mulroe first joined the Illinois Senate in 2010. Over a decade-long career, he successfully sponsored and passed into law nearly 200 pieces of legislation.

Mulroe often focused on public safety and health care as chair of the Public Health and Judiciary Committees, in particular focusing on women's health and the unique challenges faced by Illinois' first responders and the men and women who serve the United States in

uniform. Since 2015, he has focused on making 3-D mammography more accessible in order to detect breast cancer earlier. He has advocated for better cancer screenings, joined a task force dedicated to fighting Hepatitis C, been a vocal proponent of reducing noise for communities near O'Hare International Airport, and worked to address the shortages of health care professionals in parts of Illinois. Mulroe was also the first member of the Senate to take up the Tobacco 21 legislation, fighting to raise the smoking age in Illinois, a measure that finally became a reality this year.

He has moved to protect police and firefighter pensions and to secure tax breaks for those first responders who are permanently disabled as a result of their work in service to the community. He's also been a tireless advocate of surviving spouses of first responders and uniformed service members.

"I had the opportunity to work on some really important legislation during my time in Springfield and make tangible, positive changes in the lives of Illinois residents," Mulroe said. "My time as a state senator was incredibly

valuable and the lessons I learned during my time in the statehouse will be crucial as I take this new step in my career."





SENATE IN REVIEW

MEET THE NEW
SENATORS OF THE 101ST





CHRISTOPHER BELT



WHAT WAS THE BEST CONCERT YOU EVER ATTENDED?

New Edition



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM?

Baseball - St. Louis Cardinals

Football - Dallas Cowboys

Basketball - L.A. Lakers



IF YOU COULD HAVE DINNER WITH ANYONE FROM HISTORY, WHO WOULD IT BE?

Jesus Christ



IF YOU COULD OFFER A NEW SENATOR ANY ADVICE WHAT WOULD IT BE?

To understand the bills that he/she is advocating for and to believe in the legislation that he/she signs on to champion.



RACHELLE CROWE



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD?

My home



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE LOCAL FESTIVAL?

International Horseradish Festival in Collinsville



WHAT TOWN DID YOU GROW UP IN / WHERE IS YOUR HOMETOWN?

Wood River, Ill.



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM?

St. Louis Cardinals



LAURA ELLMAN



WHAT PETS DO YOU HAVE?

I just got a puppy on Mother's Day, Rocket, who has joined us and our dog Jackie.



WHAT WAS THE BEST CONCERT YOU EVER ATTENDED?

Every concert my kids or husband perform in. My family has volumes of musical talent. I am a happy listener.



AS A CHILD, WHAT DID YOU WISH TO BECOME WHEN YOU GREW UP?

Zookeeper



WHAT'S A GREAT BOOK YOU'VE READ RECENTLY?

Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand



LAURA FINE



WHAT ACCOMPLISHMENT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

Besides my kids, running marathons.



WHAT'S A GREAT BOOK YOU'VE READ RECENTLY?

Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg by Irin Carmon; Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens



IF YOU COULD TIME TRAVEL WHERE WOULD YOU GO?

I would go back to a park with my children when they were young. Fun days!



IF YOU COULD OFFER A NEW SENATOR ANY ADVICE WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Nothing ever dies in Springfield — If you have a piece of legislation that is important to you, keep working on it until you cross the finish line.



ANN GILLESPIE



WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT IS REALLY POPULAR NOW, BUT IN FIVE YEARS EVERYONE WILL LOOK BACK ON AND BE EMBARRASSED BY?

Posed selfies



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM?

Chicago Cubs



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE CHILDHOOD BOOK?

Miss Flora McFlimsey's Christmas Eve by Marian Foster Curtiss



IF YOU COULD OFFER A NEW SENATOR ANY ADVICE WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Pace yourself — A lot of people will be inviting you to a lot of things. One of the best pieces of advice I received is that you don't have to go to everything.



SUZY GLOWIAK



WHO WAS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER? WHY?

Mr. Freeman, seventh grade science, because if you answered correctly you could hit the piñata for candy.



WHAT'S THE MOST RIDICULOUS FACT YOU KNOW?

There are more CEOs named John than there are women CEOs.



WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED WITH DURING HIGH SCHOOL?

Band, jazz band, marching band, orchestra.



WHAT MAKES A GOOD LEADER?

Passion, empathy, an open mind and just showing up.



ROBERT PETERS



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

Super Sad True Love Story by Gary Shteyngart



CAKE OR PIE?

I'm a pie fan; so diverse for dessert or meals.



WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

From Dad: Never put life in the idea of what success / failure is. Define what you are good at, but don't let others decide what is and isn't success. Weight of success for me is different for others.



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED DURING YOUR FIRST LEGISLATIVE SESSION?

Take the time to listen to your fellow legislators and those who advocate. Always remember, at the end of the day, you are still your first and last name. Senator is just a title.



RAM VILLIVALAM



WHO WAS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER? WHY?

My fifth grade teacher. She taught me a lot about diversity and inclusion.



WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED WITH DURING HIGH SCHOOL?

Soccer, volleyball, chess team, math team.



WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Policies that impact working and middle-class families.



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED DURING YOUR FIRST LEGISLATIVE SESSION?

Any piece of legislation may impact a constituency that one might not expect that it impacts.



SENATE IN REVIEW

FEATURED
STORIES





Published: Wed., March 13, 2019



Illinois lawmakers unveil March to Mental Health initiative

Illinois lawmakers introduced a package of legislation to improve accessibility to mental health treatment this session.

State Senator Michael E. Hastings is a supporter of the initiative.

“It’s no secret that we have a societal problem on our hands with the accessibility of mental health treatment,” Hastings (D-Tinley Park) said. “We must make sure those who need help are able to receive it as quickly and safely as possible. This package is a necessary step as we in the Illinois Senate look to make mental health treatments more accessible to those in need.”

State Senator Melinda Bush

(D-Grayslake) and State Senator Robert Peters (D-Chicago) also voiced the importance of accessibility to mental health care.

“When left untreated, mental illness can completely sideline a person’s life, leaving them less likely to pursue an education or participate in the workforce,” Bush said. “Requiring insurers to cover treatment for serious mental illnesses will save money in the long run and will help these individuals stay on track.”

“There is a stigma that is placed not only on mental health issues, but seemingly on the mere discussion of mental health

itself,” Peters said. “Mental health issues are real and are potentially serious, and folks who suffer from them need to be able to both talk about their issues as well as get the necessary treatment they require to get better. We need to move away from criminalizing mental health here in Illinois and in the United States.”

The pieces of legislation covered in today’s mental health press conference regarding access to treatments were: Senate Bills 35, 1135, 1188, 1715 and 1716.



Published: Thurs., March 21, 2019



Holmes measure bans testing cosmetic products on animals

A measure regarding animal welfare sponsored by State Senator Linda Holmes (D-Aurora) has passed the Illinois Senate.

Senate Bill 241 amends the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to prohibit importation or sale of cosmetic products or ingredients that use animal testing after Jan. 1, 2020. Modern testing alternatives are less expensive, faster and more predictive of human reactions than past practices of painful tests on animals to assess the safety of chemicals used in cosmetics.

This ban does not include cosmetic products or ingredients

that have been tested on animals but are currently being sold before the bill's effective date.

"Consumers' expectations are moving toward products that are not tested on animals, and more big personal product brands are changing their practices," Holmes said. "There are alternative testing methods that are good for business, safe for consumers, and certainly move us forward to a humane approach by eliminating the cruel practices of the past."

Thirty countries have adopted cruelty-free cosmetics testing and in September 2018, California passed

a law prohibiting the importation and sale of new cosmetics that have been tested on animals. Major cosmetics producers are listening to consumers. In 2018, the world's second-largest personal-care producer, Unilever, announced they will stop animal testing. Their popular beauty brands include Dove, Degree and TRESemmé.

Senate Bill 241 passed the Senate today. It now moves to the House for their consideration.



Lawmakers, advocates stress importance of accurate 2020 Census count



Published: Thurs., April 04, 2019

local governments for the purposes of encouraging full participation in the 2020 Census, especially those historically under reported.

State Senator Elgie R. Sims Jr., who is sponsoring Senate Bill 1600, which would also appropriate funds to the Secretary of State, noted that minority communities are often underrepresented in the census count.

“It is vital that all communities are accounted for in the next Census,”

Sims (D-Chicago) said. “Minority communities historically have been underrepresented. We must take every necessary step to ensure that census data is as accurate as possible to provide the necessary resources for every community.”

State Senator Emil Jones III spoke on his legislation, Senate Bill 1621, that makes changes to the Illinois Complete Count Commission to make sure it approaches historically undercounted communities with a strategic focus.

“Senate Bill 1621 directs the Illinois Complete Count Commission to expand the census to address the poor communities that the census historically overlooks,” Jones (D-Chicago) said. “The census should reflect a fundamental truth: We all count.”

Senate lawmakers and advocates gathered Thursday to stress the importance of getting a full and accurate count in Illinois during the 2020 Census.

Assistant Majority Leader Iris Y. Martinez spoke to the potential consequences of an undercount.

“The census is used to determine federal funding and representation for our state,” Martinez (D-Chicago) said. “That means, if we are undercounted, we stand to lose billions in federal funding, along with two congressional seats and two Electoral College votes.”

Martinez is the sponsor of legislation, contained in Senate Bill 1408, that would appropriate \$25 million to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide grants to community providers and local governments for the purposes of

encouraging full participation in the 2020 federal census.

Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford, who is also sponsoring legislation to appropriate funds for grants to ensure an accurate count, spoke about the impact an undercount could have on minority communities.

“We know that minority communities are in jeopardy of losing out on funding for vital services and representation if they are once again undercounted, and there are a number of challenges in ensuring participation,” Lightford (D-Maywood) said. “My colleagues and I recognize that, and we are preparing by setting aside resources for the 2020 census now.”

Lightford’s measure, Senate Bill 2053, would appropriate \$25 million to the Illinois Secretary of State for grants to community providers and



Morrison package expands child abuse training, mandated reporter requirements

Published: Mon., April 15, 2019



After years of working with advocates and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), State Senator Julie Morrison (D-Deerfield) has passed a proposal reforming the confusing set of state rules governing reporting child abuse in Illinois.

“The first step in addressing potential child abuse is the reporting of that behavior,” Morrison said. “If abuse is not being reported – or if individuals don’t know the signs of abuse or who to even report to – the entire system is in jeopardy of not working, leaving abused children in dangerous situations.”

Morrison’s plan – contained in Senate Bill 1778 – reorganizes the list of individuals required to immediately report suspected

child abuse or neglect to DCFS. Current state law is difficult to navigate, causing confusion on who is required to report abuse and how to go about reporting the abuse.

Senate Bill 1778 also requires most mandated reporters to complete training within three months of a new position and at least every three years thereafter. DCFS is required under the proposal to provide a free web-based training system for reporters.

“High-profile events recently highlight the enormous task in front of us to bring change to DCFS from the ground up,” Morrison said. “This proposal represents a key part of bringing change to state law and an agency that has been failing for too long to protect Illinois children.”

Senate Bill 1778 passed the Senate on a 43-8 vote on Thursday. Rep. Bob Morgan (D-Deerfield) is sponsoring the measure in the Illinois House.

Morrison joined with her colleagues and advocates recently to discuss the importance of Child Advocacy Centers, which are a network that provides comprehensive care to child abuse cases in Illinois. Advocates were in Springfield to highlight the important work done by the centers during Child Abuse Prevention month, which has been held since 1983 to focus on ways to effectively respond to and prevent abuse and neglect of children.



Collins passes first parts of plan to fight rising maternal and infant mortality rates



Published: Fri., May 17, 2019

In response to the alarming trend of rising maternal mortality rates, Senator Jacqueline Collins took the lead on a wide-ranging legislative plan to improve pregnancy and postpartum care for Illinois mothers.

“As grim as the outlook for all mothers in our country looks today, it is even worse for women of color,” Collins said. “A woman is never second-guessed as often as during motherhood, and yet this concern seems chiefly to have resulted in an environment where women are not believed, their wishes not respected and their wellbeing not prioritized. This legislation’s aim is to give women power over their own care and to create a data-driven plan to provide women of color in particular the meaningful

support before, during, and after pregnancy that they are being denied.”

In response to an infant mortality rate among women of color that is twice that of white women, House Bill 1 creates a Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality among African Americans. Studies have found that, even accounting for socioeconomic class and level of education, a black woman is more likely to lose her child than a white woman. Collins said the task force’s aim will be to seek concrete legislative solutions on how hospital and medical procedures can be changed to combat this lethal trend.

“Ignorance of a mother’s concerns and structural racism have bred a culture that is killing

women and children, and it is falling hardest on families of color,” Collins said.

House Bill 2 adds a host of maternal rights under the Medical Patients Rights Act, commonly called the Patient’s Bill of Rights. Among them, the legislation calls for the right to care before, during and after childbirth; the right to choose a midwife or physician in a setting of her choosing; the right to full and clear information on the benefits, risks and costs of treatment and medication; the right to accept or refuse

treatment or procedures and to have her wishes honored; the right to hold her child after birth if there is no immediate medical emergency; and the right to respect and sensitivity from her medical professionals, among others.

House Bill 5 ensures access to substance use and mental health services statewide for pregnant and postpartum women and that programs are gender-responsive, are trauma-informed, serve women and young children, and prioritize justice-involved pregnant and postpartum women. Taken together, the measures represent a comprehensive push against this growing health crisis for mothers and newborns.



Lawmakers travel state to hear infrastructure needs

State lawmakers traveled across the state this spring to hear from local officials, transportation experts and other interested parties about what projects need to be addressed in a comprehensive capital bill to improve Illinois' infrastructure and discuss potential revenue sources to fund them.

The Senate Joint Subcommittees on Capital, co-chaired by State Senator Andy Manar and State Senator Martin A. Sandoval, held a total of eight hearings spanning the course of three months. Along with two hearings at the Capitol in Springfield, senators traveled to Edwardsville, Decatur, Peoria, Elgin, Chicago and Grayslake to hear about needs in local communities.

"We're trying to hear from a wide range of interested groups about capital needs they see in our state, and I think we learned a lot during this process," Sandoval said. "Millions of Illinoisans rely on our public infrastructure system on a daily basis and it's long past time we make improvements to ensure it remains safe and efficient for the people of Illinois."

Illinois has not had a capital bill to fund infrastructure improvements in a decade. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave Illinois' transportation system a D grade. A recent report from TRIP, a national transportation research group, estimated that the poor condition

of roads in the state is costing motorists \$18.3 billion each year in extra costs to operate and maintain their vehicles.

Illinois' transportation network is not the only part of the state's public infrastructure that is in need of repairs. Institutions of higher education, hospitals and other facilities that provide important services to Illinoisans are also in need of attention.

"Illinois needs cranes on campuses and bulldozers at building sites. Construction projects signal that Illinois is open for business," Manar said. "Highway and bridge repairs are vitally important, but any statewide infrastructure plan has to balance those priorities with our need for new schools, modern hospitals and 21st century college facilities. There has to be a healthy mix."

The Capital Development Board

estimates the cost of repairs to state facilities at \$7.8 billion, just under \$6.7 billion for public universities and \$9.4 billion for public schools.

During the hearing process, the joint subcommittees heard over 23 hours of testimony, during which they heard testimony from 140 different individuals on 46 panels.

"These hearings allowed us to learn more about the challenges facing communities around the state and hear creative perspectives about how to pay for construction projects," Sandoval said.

"We had a hefty agenda and I think that plainly reflects the needs in the state," Manar said. "We have a lot of important individuals and organizations involved in this process, and I want to encourage everyone to help us advocate for a capital bill to bring infrastructure investment to Illinois."



Published: Wed., May 22, 2019



At the end of each calendar year, the communications department compiles and publishes a top 10 list of new state laws that will go into effect Jan. 1.

Our list of timely, unusual or otherwise noteworthy new laws has become one of the most popular annual features at illinoisenedemocrats.com and on social media. Citizens from Illinois and beyond review the compilation to learn about new laws they hadn't heard about or that they may need to be aware of.

News reporters also have come to rely on our list for end-of-the-year story ideas and as a tip sheet for their own top 10 lists.

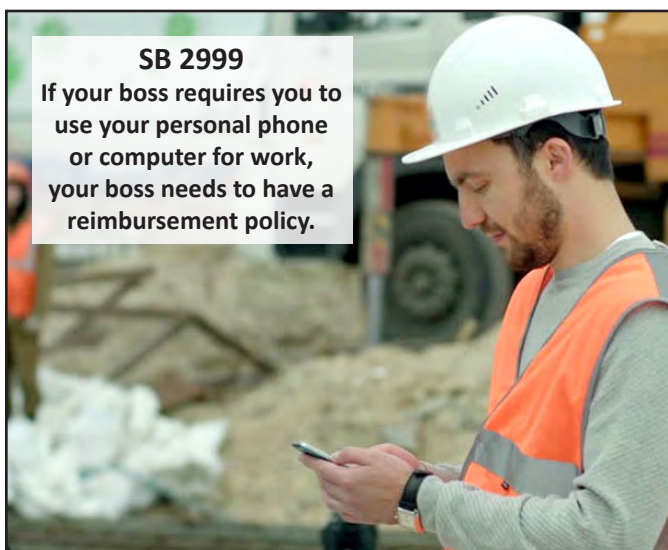
This year, Senate Democrats' top 10 list was viewed by nearly 35,000 readers online.



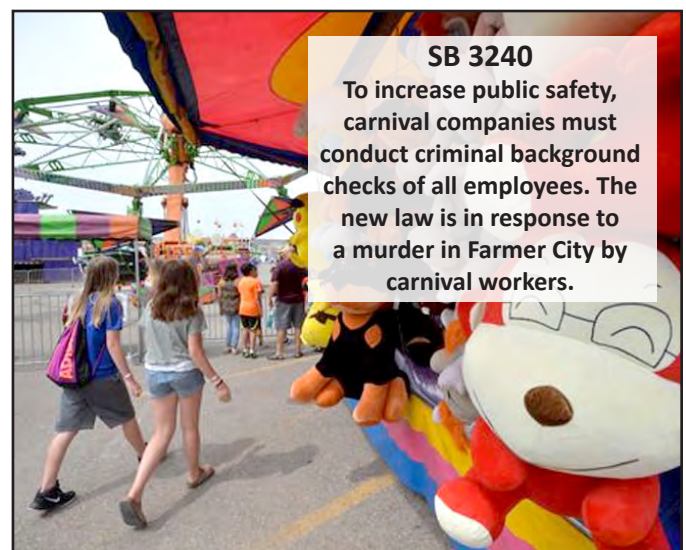
HB 4377
It's a fact: Rear-facing child seats offer greater protection. Beginning Jan. 1, toddlers age 2 and younger must be in one.



SB 2350
Every Illinois school must conduct at least one law enforcement-led active shooter safety drill a year.



SB 2999
If your boss requires you to use your personal phone or computer for work, your boss needs to have a reimbursement policy.



SB 3240
To increase public safety, carnival companies must conduct criminal background checks of all employees. The new law is in response to a murder in Farmer City by carnival workers.



SB 2270

Police can take temporary custody of dogs and cats exposed to weather conditions likely to result in injury or death.



SB 405

Companies that wish to do business with state government must have policies on how they address sexual harassment complaints. Same goes for companies in the EDGE tax credit program.



SB 3411

Stalking laws expand to include unwanted messages sent and received through social media apps. The new law also allows businesses, places of worship and schools to seek restraining orders against stalkers.



HB 4231

Blaze pink joins blaze orange as an official hunting color in Illinois.



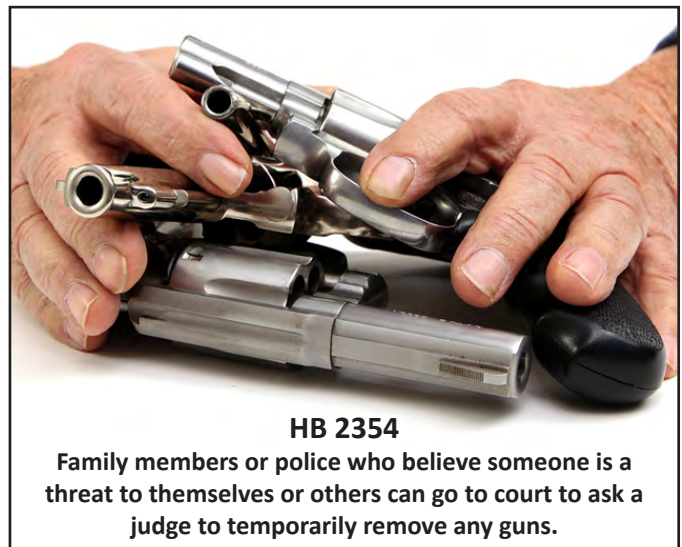
HB 5745

Now, nursing mothers will be excluded from jury duty at their request.



HB 2354

Family members or police who believe someone is a threat to themselves or others can go to court to ask a judge to temporarily remove any guns.





SENATE IN REVIEW

YOUR
ACCOMPLISHMENTS





John J. Cullerton

Illinois Senate President | 6th Senate District

Entrusted to lead one of the largest and most diverse Democratic caucuses in the history of the Illinois Senate, John Cullerton began 2019 with a vow to use his position as Senate President to empower colleagues to get things done and make Illinois better.

The results were immediate.

Within just a few, short weeks, a long-discussed but much-delayed minimum wage increase sponsored by Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford was delivered to the governor's desk and promptly signed into law. The Senate's push spilled over to the corporate world where major retailers like Target rushed to speed up their own increases in workers' wages.

The same held true for raising to 21 the legal age for buying cigarettes and vaping materials. Under Cullerton's watch, the proposal quickly went to the governor's desk. Soon after, Walgreens and CVS announced they would stop selling tobacco products to minors even before the state law kicks in on July 1.

For Cullerton, a new year and the start of a new legislative session welcomed in a refreshing change. A new governor brought new energy to an already strong Senate Democratic Caucus eager to make a difference. Together, they combined to again show the influence Illinois can have when its leaders think big and aren't afraid to act.

With bipartisan support, the Senate led efforts to legalize and regulate adult-use cannabis with a comprehensive proposal designed

to not only increase state revenue, but to also right past wrongs through a series of aggressive social and economic justice initiatives intended to restore opportunities and rebuild communities.

Casting aside decades of inaction, Illinois Senate Democrats charged ahead with plans to change the Illinois Constitution and give voters the chance to dump a nearly 50-year-old restrictive tax provision and replace it with a fair tax plan. In doing so, the Senate delivered a major victory for Gov. JB Pritzker, who was swept into office on a promise to overhaul the tax system.

In addition to a long-standing commitment to improving public education, the Senate also advanced plans to re-invest in and refocus on community college and technical education to meet the needs of employers and potential employees.

Throughout his legislative career, Cullerton has worked to improve public

health and safety. He continued those efforts in 2019 with a plan to prevent and reduce smoking by increasing the state tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products. Higher prices stop people from ever taking up smoking in the first place and thereby spare people a lifetime of addiction while collectively saving state taxpayers billions in associated health care costs.

"That's about the most rewarding thing anybody can do in the legislature," Cullerton told reporters at a Capitol news conference.

Cullerton also continued to advocate for bipartisanship, showcased by his symbolic vote for Republican Leader Bill Brady to be Senate President. He constantly worked across the aisle to try to build support and address concerns on major initiatives.

For Senate President John Cullerton, the 2019 session once again illustrated his commitment to solving problems, improving Illinois and empowering his colleagues to achieve their goals.





Kimberly A. Lightford

Majority Leader | Assignments chair | 4th Senate District

Senate Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford began this legislative session by becoming the first black woman to ever hold that title in Illinois.

She used her new leadership role to continue advocating for working families. For the third time in her legislative career, she put into action a plan that raises the minimum wage in Illinois. This time, minimum wage earners will see an increase to \$15 dollars per hour by 2025.

Illinois' current minimum wage is \$8.25 per hour. A single parent working a full-time minimum-wage job qualifies for food stamps, Medicaid and often housing assistance. A \$15 per hour minimum wage would lessen single parents' and families' reliance on assistance.

The first increase under the new law, set to take place on January 1, would be the first pay increase for minimum wage earners since 2010.

Knowing that for too long laws have been enacted across the country that

disproportionately affect minority communities, Lightford led a proposal allowing members of the General Assembly to file a Racial Impact Note to any piece of legislation, requiring state agencies to respond with an estimate of the possible effect on minority communities.

The proposal also prohibits the racial discrimination or harassment of state employees and lobbyists and requires all General Assembly employees and lobbyists to complete a racial bias, discrimination and harassment training program annually.

As conversations on legalizing recreational cannabis ramped up in the General Assembly, Lightford wanted to ensure that those with nonviolent, cannabis-related convictions were not forgotten when she sponsored a measure that retroactively implements decriminalization of marijuana.

Understanding that a commitment to education at an early age creates a lifelong habit, Lightford pushed

legislation that lowers the compulsory school age from 6 to 5. The proposal also has the potential to help lower chronic absenteeism.

As the fight for women's empowerment against sexual assault and harassment continues, the importance of teaching young people how to establish, recognize and respect boundaries is all too clear. That is why Lightford sponsored a proposal that requires and provides guidance for students in grades 6-12 to learn the meaning of consent and how to respect personal boundaries.

Lightford also worked with the State Treasurer's office to allow them to allocate up to 5 percent of the State Investment Portfolio to the Illinois Student Investment Account to assist qualified residents in paying for college through various investment programs, an effort to provide more financial assistance for college students.

Investment programs may include income-sharing agreements, in which a student pledges a percentage of their income for a number of years after graduation regardless of the actual cost of college; linked deposits, which allow the state to offer low-cost loans; and refinancing of student loans.

Senator Lightford also supported pieces of legislation that would appropriate funds to reach hard-to-count areas for the 2020 Census, create a license plate to help veterans with PTSD and allow for the establishment of a fair tax.





Don Harmon

Assistant Majority Leader | 39th Senate District

Years of hard work on major issues ranging from tax reform to gun safety culminated in successful votes and bills signed into law this year as Assistant Majority Leader Don Harmon led efforts to make needed changes to improve Illinois.

For more than 15 years, Harmon fought for better gun dealer regulation in Illinois to crack down on illegal purchases and lax security at dealer locations. His proposal, Senate Bill 337, became one of the first signed into law this year by new Gov. JB Pritzker.

Soon after, on Jan. 31, the state's new Opioid Alternative Pilot Program began accepting patients. That too was the result of Harmon's efforts to find alternative treatments for those prescribed dangerously addictive opioids. The program he helped create is a test run of giving those with opioid prescriptions temporary access to the state's medical cannabis program. Since the pilot program began in January, more than 1,700 patients have signed up for it.

These were but two examples of Harmon's leadership in Springfield, as he worked to bring people together to find avenues to solve problems and take progressive steps forward for the state.

Such was the case with his ongoing work to win approval of a fair tax system for Illinois. Nearly 50 years ago, the Illinois Constitution put in place a flat tax system that imposes the same rate on the

wealthiest in Illinois as it does those working paycheck to paycheck.

Harmon helped build support for a constitutional amendment to eliminate the flat tax requirement and replace it with a fair tax that imposes higher rates on higher incomes. Harmon has maintained for years that implementing a fair tax is necessary in order to provide long-term financial stability to Illinois and correct the state's regressive tax structure.

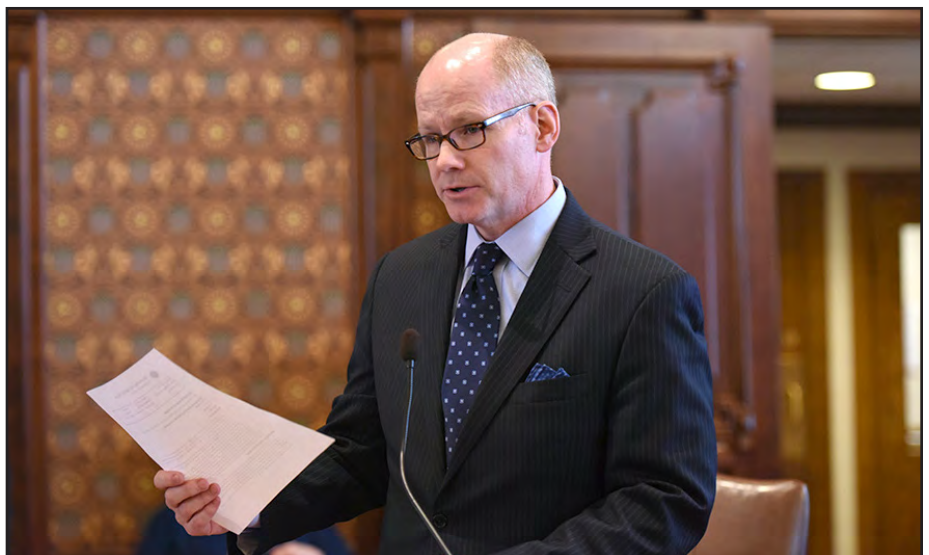
Under Harmon's sponsorship, the Illinois Senate led the way in passing an amendment to the state constitution. After passing the House, a question will now be placed on the ballot in November 2020 allowing voters to decide whether to amend the Constitution and remove language mandating a flat tax.

Harmon also endorsed a plan by his Senate colleague, State Senator Toi Hutchinson, that sets rates

for a fair tax if the Constitution is amended. Under this plan, 97 percent of Illinoisans would see either no change or a reduction in their taxes, while only the top 3 percent of earners would pay more.

After years of effort on criminal justice reform, Harmon won approval of a new law that will reinstate parole in Illinois for youthful offenders.

"The policy of locking youthful offenders away for decades without meaningful opportunity for release has disproportionately impacted minority communities," Harmon said. "The facts show that young offenders are extremely unlikely to commit violent crimes again after release. This law will give them a chance to reenter society once they have served the time for their offense."





Dave Koehler

Assistant Majority Leader | 46th Senate District

This session marked two milestones for State Senator Dave Koehler. First, he joined Senate leadership as Assistant Majority Leader. He also replaced his good friend, retired State Senator Bill Haine, as chair of the Downstate Caucus, a group of lawmakers who represent the interests of downstate Illinois in the Capitol.

In his new roles, Koehler continued his advocacy for the people of the 46th Senate District.

When a Peoria veteran asked the local airport to fly the POW/MIA flag under the American flag, he was told their hands were tied. Unsatisfied with the answer, the veteran teamed up with Assistant Majority Leader Dave Koehler and State Senator Tom Cullerton to pass Senate Bill 1127, which requires every public airport in the state to fly the flag.

While it seemed to be a small victory, Koehler knew that the gesture was important not only to the veteran who brought the idea to Springfield,

but to every man and woman who has put on the uniform to defend the nation.

Koehler worked diligently to help pass legislation putting in place policies designed to address coal ash, the toxic byproduct left over by coal-fired power plants. A report issued by environmental groups in late 2018 found that the groundwater around the Edwards Coal Plant south of Peoria was 18 times higher than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard. Ensuring the 46th Senate District has safe drinking water is imperative.

Additionally, Koehler passed legislation intended to protect the credit card and bank account numbers of government entities.

"This is one of those pieces of legislation that is hard to believe needed to happen," Koehler said. "We must take every precaution to protect these credit cards from getting misused or worse, stolen."

The legislation, Senate Bill 1712, would exempt credit card numbers, debit card numbers, bank account numbers, Federal Employer Identification Numbers, security code numbers, passwords and similar account information from Freedom of Information Act Requests if it is believed the disclosure could result in identity theft or the defrauding of a government entity.

Assistant Majority leader Koehler also co-sponsored legislation that could revolutionize how government interacts with people by allowing Blockchain to be used by state agencies and local governments.

Blockchain is an emerging technology that uses sequences of blocks or groups of transactions that are chained together. The chains serve as a record of the transactions that validates the authenticity and integrity of the data.

Under Koehler's measure, state and local governments would be permitted to use Blockchain for smart contracts, storing vital records, evidence in court proceedings, and satisfaction of legal written requirements and signature requirements.

Potential uses for the technology at the government level include land title registration, supply chain auditing, file storage, data management, anti-money laundering, identity managements and neighborhood micro-grids.

Koehler plans to continue to be a voice for downstate Illinois, ensuring its residents have a voice in Springfield.





Terry Link

Assistant Majority Leader | 30th Senate District

Assistant Majority Leader Terry Link used this legislative session to build on his past efforts to make life easier for all Illinoisans.

Link added to existing protections for individuals who reside in facilities that care for dementia patients by passing a proposal allowing families the ability to install video and audio monitoring devices in their loved one's room. In 2015, Link passed a law that allowed for video and audio monitoring equipment in facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities or in long-term care facilities.

Link's expanded proposal acknowledges that most medical staff treat their patients with care and respect, however, allowing video monitoring equipment serves as a deterrent to misconduct and offers peace of mind to family members of those in care facilities.

Acknowledging the demanding nature of their professions and the often stressful situations they find themselves in, Link passed a proposal expanding access to mental health services for firefighters and law enforcement officers. The plan would expand training to recognize the signs of work-related cumulative stress and ensure counseling services are available to those who need the help.

A 2017 study by the Ruderman Family Foundation found more police officers and firefighters

died by suicide than all line-of-duty deaths combined.

Increasing the ethical standards of elected officials continued to be one of Link's missions this spring. He passed a proposal ensuring county board members and elected local governmental officials can no longer take a salary and draw from their pension while still in office. The legislation was filed after it was discovered that several Lake County board members took advantage of the law to draw their Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund pensions while still serving on the county board.

Link, a member of the Illinois Legislative Ethics Commission, led the Senate in approving Carol M. Pope as the new Legislative Inspector General, a post responsible for investigating complaints made against lawmakers and legislative employees.

Link believes Pope, who served

as a member of the Illinois Judicial Ethics Committee and who was a state's attorney for seven years, will investigate misconduct and ensure allegations are investigated and properly handled.

A longtime champion of stricter tobacco laws, Link joined his colleagues in March in passing Tobacco 21, making Illinois the first state in the Midwest to raise the age to legally purchase tobacco products to 21. Link passed the Smoke Free Illinois Act in 2007, which banned smoking in most public places in Illinois. Since the implementation of Smoke Free Illinois, there has been a marked decrease in hospitalization due to various smoking-related diseases.

Link was instrumental in passing an increase to Illinois' tobacco tax and implementing a state tax on e-cigarettes, both passed in hopes of further reducing tobacco use in teens and adults across Illinois.





Iris Y. Martinez

Assistant Majority Leader | 20th Senate District

Assistant Majority Leader Iris Y. Martinez continued her advocacy for immigrants and children during this spring legislative session.

Responding to shocking reports of children being harassed or abused during their time as students at Chicago Public Schools, Martinez passed a bipartisan piece of legislation to overhaul the manner in which sexual assault investigations involving students are conducted.

The measure addresses a multitude of issues such as: changing how a student is interviewed after making a complaint, increasing the frequency with which school districts must check statewide databases, lessening the re-traumatization of a student victim and creating a taskforce to continue to review these policy changes.

To address the statewide teacher shortage, particularly in hard-to-staff schools, Martinez passed legislation expanding eligibility for the Grow Your Own Teacher program.

Martinez's legislation would expand the definition of "eligible school" and "hard-to-staff" schools for the initiative to include early childhood programs in which no less than 40 percent of the children it serves are receiving subsidized care under the Department of Human Services' Child Care Assistance Program. It would also extend eligibility for participation in the initiative to high school students enrolled in a dual credit course at a participating institution of higher education.

To address the scarcity of legal home birth providers, Martinez passed a resolution creating a committee tasked with finding evidence-based solutions to the home birth maternity care crisis in Illinois.

While the number of home births is expanding, the number of licensed providers to attend them is shrinking. Illinois currently only has fewer than 10 recognized home-birth practices in Illinois, located in only six of the

state's 102 counties.

Martinez continued her work to ensure all qualified applicants are eligible for professional licenses, regardless of their citizenship status.

Martinez passed a law last year ensuring that citizenship is not required for licenses issued by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or the State Board of Education. It also requires the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to allow an applicant to use a taxpayer identification number as an alternative to a Social Security number.

Her new measure expands that requirement by stating that, unless otherwise provided by law, no department shall deny an occupational or professional license based solely on the applicant's citizenship status or immigration status.

With the 2020 Census fast approaching, Martinez introduced legislation to appropriate funds to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide grants to community providers and local governments to encourage full participation.

An undercount in 2020 could put Illinois at risk of losing billions of federal dollars and a Congressional seat.

Martinez looks forward to continuing her work for the people of the 20th Senate District by holding a variety of community events this summer, including her popular back to school health fair.





Antonio Munoz

Assistant Majority Leader | Executive Appointments chair | 1st Senate District

When McKinley Park residents were blindsided by the construction of an asphalt plant in their neighborhood, Assistant Majority Leader Tony Munoz filed legislation to ensure the public is notified whenever a permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) is required for new construction.

When a permit is required to construct a new facility, the IEPA would be mandated to provide notice to the state senator and state representative of the district where the construction is to occur and post the information on its website, searchable by zip code.

Hearing the growing support from members of the community for an elected school board in Chicago, Munoz proposed legislation that helped continue the conversation on the best way to implement an elected school board.

The proposal would allow for the election of the Chicago Board of Education starting with the 2023 primary election, and would give underserved communities a much-needed voice in a school board that has been appointed since 1995.

To put even more control of city government in the hands of voters, Senator Munoz presented a measure that would put the City Colleges of Chicago board of trustees on a nonpartisan ballot for the 2020 election.

Given the controversy surrounding the Trump

Administration, Munoz led an effort to require presidential and vice-presidential candidates to make public the last five years of their tax returns, a measure that would increase transparency in the election process.

Munoz continued his support of veterans with legislation that would help veteran-owned businesses to secure state contracts. The plan allows the state's chief procurement officer to set aside a fair proportion of construction, supply or service contracts for veteran-owned businesses.

In response to the tragic roadside deaths of troopers Christopher Lambert, Brooke Jones-Story and Gerald Ellis, Munoz spearheaded a movement to strengthen Scott's Law to prevent roadway fatalities. The measure increases penalties and fines and adds the "Move Over" law to the driver's license test.

The plan includes another piece creating the Move Over Task Force to study the issue of violations of Scott's Law, disabled vehicle law and stationary authorized emergency vehicle law, with attention to the causes of the violations and ways to protect law enforcement and emergency responders.

Celebrating the Chinese community in Illinois, Munoz recognized the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. The resolution supports continued diplomatic, economic and people-to-people cooperation between Illinois and China.

Munoz also supported efforts that grant access to financial aid for undocumented students, require gun dealers to be certified with the Illinois State Police and allow for the implementation of a fair tax.





Mattie Hunter

Majority Caucus Chair | 3rd Senate District

Continuing her fight to increase wages for home care aides who provide health services for more than 100,000 seniors, Majority Caucus Chair Mattie Hunter spent this session sounding the alarm about Illinois senior home care.

Hunter supported the Illinois Department on Aging's Community Care Program, which provides vital home care services to Illinois senior residents and supports dignified aging while maintaining safe and healthy independence.

Years of attacks on this successful program under the former administration, coupled with years of stagnant rates for agencies providing services, left Illinois woefully unprepared to deal with the current workforce shortages.

As the population of Illinoisans over the age of 65 continues to grow, the state needs more workers to meet the demand. But right now home care agencies are struggling

to recruit and retain caregivers in every corner of the state because the average home care worker's hourly wage is only \$11.08.

Hunter championed Senate Bill 2019 to solve this issue head-on by providing a rate increase to agencies that will ensure every home care aide working through the Community Care Program earns at least \$13 per hour by July 1, 2019.

"Home care workers continue to perform miracles by providing quality care on poverty wages," Hunter said. "Investing in and stabilizing this vital, successful program that saves the state hundreds of millions of dollars per year by supporting one of our most vulnerable populations is the right thing to do for seniors, caregivers and Illinois taxpayers."

This session, Hunter also focused on addressing the lack of affordable housing and rising rent prices in Illinois. Hunter embarked on a statewide tour to meet with

housing experts, real estate agents, landlords, renters and various community stakeholders to find new and innovative solutions to help preserve affordable housing options.

"During our tour we've learned that access to and availability of affordable housing is a challenge in cities like East St. Louis, Urbana and Rockford and in neighborhoods throughout Chicago," Hunter said. "But with rising housing and rental prices, it is crucial that work be done to meet the need for more affordable housing now."

Hunter's next step is to craft a legislative solution that creates strong communities and expands access to safe, decent and affordable housing.

In addition to these efforts, Hunter also supported legislation this spring to uplift middle class families throughout the Third Senate District and in Illinois. She was a chief cosponsor of legislation to increase the state's minimum wage to \$15 per hour, which was signed into law in February.

"This was an important victory to provide dignity and stability to the working class families in our state," Hunter said. "No one who works full-time should be forced to live in poverty. Not only does it mean fathers and mothers will be able to provide more for themselves and their children, but it also provides a boost to our local economies."





Jacqueline Y. Collins

Majority Caucus Whip | Financial Institutions chair | 16th Senate District

Majority Caucus Whip Jacqueline Collins worked tirelessly again in 2019 to address the concerns of the state's most vulnerable citizens.

Since Collins' legislation requiring minimum staffing for nursing homes passed in 2010, federal inspections data show 94 percent of nursing homes were cited for some practice that increases the risk of infection, and 88 percent of Illinois nursing homes don't have an infection control plan in place to respond to such incidents. About 1 in 5 of the 6,000 nursing home residents who come down with sepsis in Illinois each year die from it.

Collins introduced new legislation this session, Senate Bill 1510, which mandates that nursing homes abide by the established staffing levels and calls for higher transparency of nursing home violations. It also sets stricter guidelines around the voluntary, informed consent of a resident when nursing home personnel administer psychotropic medication.

Collins also stood up for mothers and children as maternal and infant mortality rates remain on an alarming upward trajectory, with even worse outcomes for families of color. In response, Collins sponsored a comprehensive legislative effort to expand mothers' rights under the Medical Patient Rights Act, form the Task Force on Maternal and Infant Mortality Among African Americans, and create a hospital report card system to rate hospitals' pregnancy

and postpartum outcomes.

"A woman is never second-guessed as often as during motherhood, and yet this concern seems chiefly to have resulted in an environment where women are not believed, their wishes not respected and their wellbeing not prioritized," Collins said.

Another measure ensures pregnancy and postpartum care for mothers, along with training for medical personnel and new, clear classifications of different levels of pregnancy and postpartum care.

Those efforts were contained within House Bill 1, House Bill 2, House Bill 3 and House Bill 5.

Collins continued her work in education as well, this time taking aim at college acceptance for students who excel. Under her measure, House Bill 26, a new pilot program at Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Illinois Universities would accept students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class, provided

they meet ACT or SAT requirements.

In order to ensure that Illinois' democracy remains strong and rooted in an understanding of each citizen's rights and duties, Collins sponsored House Bill 2265, which ensures that public schools must include at least one semester of civics education during the 6th, 7th or 8th grade year.

Responding to repeated incidents in which police breached the wrong homes during arrest warrants, terrorizing innocent residents, Collins presented House Bill 51, which calls for increased training for police officers when responding to incidents where children are present during raids.

Collins remained a vocal presence at rallies at the Capitol, speaking out alongside opponents of gun violence and nursing home staff demanding more support and safer conditions.





Linda Holmes

Majority Caucus Whip | Local Government chair | 42nd Senate District

Majority Caucus Whip Linda Holmes worked for transparency and taxpayer freedom again in 2019, seeking to return control to citizens instead of state or local government units. Holmes passed legislation to put charter school decisions in the hands of local school boards rather than a state commission. In the past, that commission overturned local boards; Holmes believes that authority belongs in the community, just as it does for public schools.

Holmes passed a similar plan to let voters choose the makeup of the Fox Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Board. Currently, trustees are appointed by members of the General Assembly instead of being selected by local voters.

In that same vein, Holmes passed legislation to let the Aurora Public Library change its board of trustees from an appointed body to an elected one. The bill would

require a referendum that would provide the number of trustees and manner of their election.

Holmes continued her work as a long-time advocate for public health issues this spring. She passed a measure to expand insurance coverage for diagnostic mammograms for women who have dense breast tissue and whose doctors call for that testing rather than routine screening mammograms.

After media reports revealed allegations of abuse and neglect of children at the Aurora Chicago Lakeshore Hospital, concerns were heightened about coordination between the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and other relevant state agencies. Holmes sponsored a measure to reinforce and expedite reporting of those cases by requiring DCFS to notify the Director of Public Health and the Director of Healthcare and

Family Services when they occur.

Holmes continued her role as a defender of animal rights this year, including a measure to stop the practice of testing cosmetics products on animals. Modern testing alternatives are less expensive, faster and more predictive of human reactions than past practices of painful tests on animals to assess the safety of chemicals used in cosmetics. Consumers are steadily choosing more products that are cruelty-free.

She also sponsored legislation to prohibit someone from owning an animal if they reside in a household with a person who has been convicted of two or more offenses of animal cruelty, animals in entertainment or dog fighting. Currently, only the convicted person is required to forfeit their animals to animal control or an animal shelter.

Holmes also worked this year to expand the number of species prohibited from exploitation in traveling circuses or roadside attractions. With elephants already protected, a plan this session to include animals such as bears, big cats, giraffes, kangaroos, hippopotamuses, primates, rhinoceroses, tapirs and zebras was met with some resistance from proprietors of these shows. Negotiations by proponents will continue to seek protection for more animals from confinement and abuse.





Martin Sandoval

Majority Caucus Whip | Transportation chair | 11th Senate District

This legislative session, Majority Caucus Whip Martin A. Sandoval continued his focus on advocating for and investing in Illinois' transportation network and providing economic opportunities for people of color.

In his role as chair of the Transportation Committee, Sandoval was a leader in discussions to introduce a comprehensive capital bill to fund infrastructure projects throughout Illinois. He co-chaired the Joint Subcommittees on Capital, which held eight hearings around the state to learn about needed infrastructure projects and hear input from local officials.

"Our transportation system has been underfunded for far too long and it's time for Illinois to transition to a more sustainable funding method to fix our crumbling roads and the more than 2,300 bridges in our state that are rated as structurally deficient," Sandoval said. "We've been kicking this can down the road for decades, and it's time for us to finally step up and find a solution."

Illinois has not passed a capital bill in a decade. In 2018, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave Illinois a C- grade, claiming the state's transportation infrastructure shows signs of deterioration and faces increasing vulnerability.

"The condition of our roads and bridges is unacceptable, and it's time to reinvest in our public infrastructure," Sandoval said. "This

is a public safety issue, and it needs to be addressed immediately."

Sandoval also introduced several pieces of legislation to increase the number of state contracts awarded to businesses owned by minorities. This includes a package of bills requiring public agencies and other entities to submit reports to the General Assembly about minority contracting goals and actual spending on minority contracting.

Additionally, Sandoval sponsored legislation that would expand benefits to businesses owned by minorities, women and persons with disabilities by eliminating a cap on annual gross that rendered some businesses ineligible for benefits.

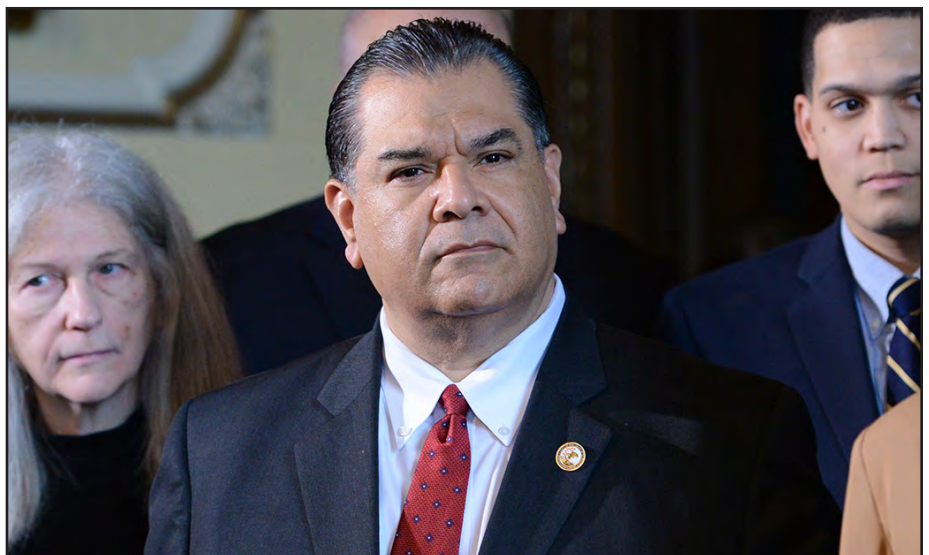
"Under current law, we're punishing these businesses for being successful by taking away their benefits," Sandoval said. "If we're truly committed to fostering the growth of businesses owned by

minorities, women and individuals with disabilities, we should provide these benefits regardless of how much they make."

Public safety was also a priority for Sandoval this spring.

He worked on legislation that would make school buses more secure for children by adding criminal offenses such as permitting the sexual abuse of a child and aggravated battery to the list of crimes that disqualify an individual from applying for a bus driver's license.

"We need to make sure that schools are safe and nurturing environments for our students and that includes ensuring that they have a safe commute to and from school every day," Sandoval said. "It's just common sense that people who have been convicted of these crimes are not fit to take care of our children."





Omar Aquino

Government Accountability and Pensions chair | 2nd Senate District

State Senator Omar Aquino continued his mission to uphold the rights and dignity of our society's most vulnerable people during the spring legislative session. Aquino introduced and advanced legislation that would increase the scope of human services, improve our education system and bring power back to working people.

As the new chair of the Senate Government Accountability and Pensions Committee, Aquino oversaw legislation to bring stability back to retired pensioners and passed various reforms to our public pension system.

Aquino also advanced legislation that would significantly reduce the tax burden on health items. The measure would end the current taxation of condoms, diapers, wipes and incontinence products as luxury goods.

Because meal assistance is a vital service our state provides, Aquino sponsored legislation that would expand SNAP benefits to

include hot food in grocery stores and participating restaurants for the elderly, homeless and people living with disabilities.

Aquino is an advocate for education for all from pre-K to higher education. This session, he was the chief sponsor in the Senate of the RISE Act, which would make undocumented and transgender students eligible for state financial aid.

"Every student, regardless of their immigration status or gender identity, deserves full access to higher education," said Aquino. "Our state has an obligation to these students to make sure that we can provide them with the economic means to be successful and enter the work force."

In order to mitigate the teacher shortage crisis in Illinois, Aquino introduced a bill that would allow retired teachers to be re-hired as long-term substitutes without forfeiting their pension benefits. This helps students by making sure

that experts in education are always present in their classrooms.

"We have a devastating teacher shortage in our state, and this measure will allow retired teachers to alleviate the burden placed on our educators," said Aquino. "These are experts in their field, so it makes sense to allow them to fill the gap without forfeiting their pension benefits."

In an effort to make Chicago Public Schools more accountable to the parents and students they serve, Aquino led the effort to make the Chicago Board of Education an elected board.

As a justice-oriented legislator, Senator Aquino championed the License to Work Act, which would prohibit driver's licenses from being revoked for small, non-moving violations. This measure will make sure that working people's ability to commute to work is not removed for small infractions.

Because he believes that voting rights are the single most important foundation of our democracy, Aquino worked alongside Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton to advance legislation that would provide proactive voting opportunities to people in jail awaiting trial. The measure would also provide released convicts with voting materials and information about their restored voting rights.

Aquino had a productive session championing human services, education and justice initiatives on behalf of working people across Illinois.





Christopher Belt

57th Senate District

During his first year in the General Assembly, State Senator Christopher Belt was a strong voice for underfunded school districts, veterans, and working families. He helped move legislation that would increase the minimum wage from \$8.25 to \$15 by 2025 and introduced measures that would create a smoother process for military personnel to obtain licenses, help veterans' families obtain more money for memorials and bring awareness to Parkinson's disease.

Before becoming a state senator, Christopher Belt worked on the board of Cahokia Unit School District 187 for four years, including two years as board president. During his tenure on the board, he noticed how underfunded the schools were. Therefore, one of his first initiatives as a senator was to introduce Senate Bill 1746, which would help lower-income schools access more state aid.

Belt was a chief cosponsor of the Organ Donation Tax Credit, a measure that would allow private companies to take a 25 percent credit against their withholding taxes if they grant their employees at least 30 days of paid leave to serve as an organ donor. Belt understood firsthand the health challenges faced by the thousands of Illinoisans who are currently waiting for a transplant since he was a recipient of a donated organ in 2009.

Belt saw an opportunity to honor organ donors because he saw that

most of the attention on organ donation is focused on the recipient of the organ – not the donor.

"Donors must go through their own set of tests and invasive surgery and must live with post-surgery effects that can often be painful. As a state, we should be making it easier for living donors to transition back into daily life," Belt said.

In addition to helping organ donors get paid sick time, Belt sponsored a measure that would help inmates transition out of prison. The action required the Department of Corrections to screen inmates for Medicaid eligibility before release.

"Increasing health coverage for this population helps them access health facilities as well as giving them greater stability in their lives, which will reduce recidivism rates," Belt said.

He also sponsored a measure, House Bill 2656, that would help homeless women access feminine

hygiene products.

"Homeless women and girls face many challenges, but access to basic hygiene products shouldn't be one of them," said Belt. "It's impossible to work toward self-sufficiency when you have to worry about basic hygiene. Many of us take that for granted."

In addition to these legislative measures, Belt supported women with postpartum depression.

He sponsored legislation requiring the Department of Human Services to develop educational materials about maternal mental health conditions, post-hospital treatment options and community resources to be provided in hospitals.

"It's common for women to have postpartum depression after giving birth. This measure brings awareness and acceptance to this health issue and supports women in getting the help they need," Belt said.





Scott Bennett

Agriculture chair | 52nd Senate District

State Senator Scott Bennett took on a monumental problem this legislative session: Illinois' plethora of coal ash.

Illinois holds the unfortunate record for the most coal ash pits of any state in the country. More than 80 pits can be found from Waukegan to the state's southern tip.

In 2018, several environmental groups found that 22 of 24 coal ash sites tested in Illinois had unsafe concentrations of pollutants, which can pose risks to wildlife and human health if they're not disposed of.

State Senator Scott Bennett championed the Coal Ash Pollution Prevention Act to address this issue. The measure would direct the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to begin a rule-making process to require power plant operators to safely dispose of coal ash or ensure that pits are properly enclosed. It would impose

fees on coal ash pits to pay the costs of hiring IEPA staff to oversee enforcement, and it would require power plant operators to set aside money to pay for cleaning up pits in the event a plant is shut down or a company goes bankrupt.

"Coal ash pollution is not a partisan issue," Bennett said. "There are coal ash pits in essentially every legislative district, so it's important to recognize that it's not a problem for one part of the state or one political party. It's a problem for the state of Illinois."

This session, Bennett also continued his efforts to secure protections for the Mahomet Aquifer, the primary water source for more than 50,000 Central Illinois residents. He passed legislation to require the IEPA to prioritize landfills overlying the aquifer for inspection. The bill also seeks to establish a pilot program at the Pekin Metro Landfill to identify

potential and current threats the landfill poses to the water quality of the aquifer.

"All the issues that we try to solve in Springfield are moot if our communities do not have clean water," Bennett said. "The most basic things that all of us need are food, water, air and shelter, which all come from natural resources. That's the foundation on which everything is built, so I feel very passionately about protecting our state's resources for future generations."

Additionally, Bennett continued his advocacy for the importance of agricultural education. This spring, he sponsored a measure to create a hands-on agriculture teacher training program in Illinois high schools. The program is intended to help students develop problem-solving skills and the agricultural literacy they need to teach the next generation of Illinois farmers how to produce the food we eat, the fuel we consume and the fiber we use in our clothes.

This year, Bennett also directed his efforts to easing the financial burden on veterans and military families. He passed legislation to expand a military discount program to spouses and children of veterans and active duty service members. He also advanced a measure to protect property tax benefits for the spouses of veterans.





Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant

Education chair | 49th Senate District

As chair of the Senate Education Committee, State Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant has spent the legislative session working to end the statewide teacher shortage.

As a professional educator, Bertino-Tarrant recognizes that teachers are responsible for developing the minds of Illinois' future leaders. She has made it her mission to cut red tape and streamline the process to ensure qualified individuals are teaching in the state's classrooms.

In response to alarming findings about sexual assault by faculty and staff in schools, Bertino-Tarrant advanced measures to keep school children safe.

She championed a measure that requires state's attorneys across Illinois to immediately notify school officials when a school employee is accused of harassment or assault.

This measure ensures school administrators have all the facts in order to make decisions in the best interest of students.

Bertino-Tarrant is also requiring state government to study the necessity of new red tape for businesses.

She passed Senate Bill 1756, which requires the state to assess whether newly proposed regulations on an industry or occupation are necessary for protecting the public.

Her background in business affirms her belief that unnecessary red tape makes it harder for

companies and job seekers to do business in Illinois. It also reinforces her belief in the importance of streamlining the licensure process in order to promote entrepreneurship.

To save valuable taxpayer dollars, Bertino-Tarrant passed Senate Bill 112, which prohibits short-term appointed lawmakers from receiving taxpayer-funded stipends.

Bertino-Tarrant was astounded to hear that an appointment made to fill a short-term gap for an outgoing senator not only received full pay, but also an extra stipend to serve on a committee that had no meetings scheduled during that member's term.

She knows it is imperative that the legislature work in a bipartisan manner to end financial waste and abuse.

To protect the privacy and personal information of the

residents of the 49th State Senate District, Bertino-Tarrant passed House Bill 2189, which prohibits companies that provide direct-to-consumer commercial genetic testing such as Ancestry and 23andMe, from sharing any test results with health or life insurance companies without the consumer's consent.

Because government works best when it is a true representation of the people, she has continued to provide excellent service to Will and Kendall County residents by hosting multiple speaker series, family events and town halls throughout the year. Her office places constituent service above all duties.





Melinda Bush

Environment and Conservation chair | 31st Senate District

State Senator Melinda Bush began this session by continuing her work on measures to prevent sexual harassment and discrimination, strengthen environmental protections and protect access to women's reproductive rights.

As co-chair of the Senate Task Force on Sexual Discrimination and Harassment Awareness and Prevention, Bush led monthly Senate hearings and heard from experts, victims and advocates about sexual harassment and discrimination.

"Right now, Illinois workers who are harassed or discriminated against don't have the protections they need to seek justice and hold perpetrators accountable," Bush said.

Bush sponsored Senate Bill 75, which provides greater protections for private-sector workers who experience sexual harassment and

discrimination.

"The stories from victims of sexual harassment and discrimination that were shared with the task force over the past year were eye-opening experiences that needed to be heard," Bush said. "As a result of the victims' bravery, we've worked hard to pass meaningful legislation to protect victims and prevent harassment and discrimination, but there's still work to be done. I promise to continue fighting to change our laws and our culture."

After a report exposed that Ethylene Oxide was being emitted from Lake County facilities at dangerous levels, Bush immediately began working to solve the problem and make sure Illinois residents are safe from harmful emissions.

"Residents need to know if the air they're breathing is safe," Bush said. "They deserve to know if

they're at a higher risk for cancer, but right now they're being left in the dark."

Bush also fought to allow counties to petition the court for immediate relief from hazardous materials that threaten health and safety, and she sponsored the Energy Transition Zone Act, which allows municipalities that have decommissioned nuclear plants or old coal mines to qualify for tax credits for green energy enterprises.

As states across the country passed extreme measures restricting access to abortion and reproductive health care, Bush passed a measure to ensure that if Roe v. Wade is overturned, Illinois women will still be able to access care.

"The Reproductive Health Act protects Illinois women's access to health care and sends a clear message that we believe reproductive health care should be treated like all other health care," Bush said. "There's a very real possibility that Roe v. Wade will be overturned in the next few years. We need to take action now in Illinois to make sure that, regardless of what happens at the federal level, Illinois women maintain the right to a safe, legal abortion."





Cristina Castro

Veterans Affairs chair | 22nd Senate District

This session, State Senator Cristina Castro was a strong voice for children. She sponsored legislation that created the Keep Internet Devices Safe Act (KIDS Act) which requires consent from a registered account holder before an entity has the ability to enable a device's microphone.

As the spouse of a military veteran, Castro used her position as not only a senator, but chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee to advocate for policies that help current and former servicemen and women and their spouses.

Upon learning about the deadly Legionnaires' disease outbreak at the Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy, Castro became a strong and outspoken critic of policies and missteps that contributed to 13 deaths at the facility since 2015 and caused numerous others to become ill. She has worked tirelessly to eliminate the flaws that made this dire situation worse and knows that there is still a long road ahead to ensure that our servicemen and women live out their golden years in a healthy environment.

Castro is a champion for women's health and equality. She introduced legislation that created the Improving Healthcare for Pregnant and Postpartum Individuals Act, which works to combat the state's maternal morbidity and mortality rate.

Besides fighting for the protection of mothers, Castro also fought to put more women on executive boards in Illinois. She knows that having a diverse board is good for business and, when women are at the table, amazing things can happen.

Being a strong advocate for clean energy, Castro chose to lead the fight this session to move Illinois toward a greener future. She sponsored the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA) which was aimed at increasing renewable energy development throughout the state. Most importantly, this measure would promote jobs and economic opportunities in disadvantaged communities.

She also continued her support of immigrants this session by passing a plan to create the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act. The plan prohibits landlords from harassing

tenants about their immigration status.

Public safety has always been a priority for Castro, who has continued to work on cracking down on texting and driving.

These efforts took on a greater sense of urgency this session. In the first five months of 2019, 15 police cruisers were struck while on the side of the road. Two of those accidents resulted in fatalities, prompting Castro to pass several measures urging people to stay focused on the road.

Besides establishing an Illinois Distracted Driving Awareness Week and passing a measure that makes a driver's first offense a moving violation punishable with a fine, she also helped kick off a campaign in Kane County to educate drivers of the different distractions.





Rachelle Crowe

56th Senate District

State Senator Rachelle Crowe began her legislative journey in the 101st General Assembly with some big shoes to fill. As a new voice for the 56th State Senate District, Crowe maintained the same priorities as her predecessor.

She has been actively working this session to improve public safety, K-12 and higher education and increase economic development in the Metro East, which she believes to be the backbone for her district and the rest of Illinois.

Following the devastation in her district when Granite City Works steel mill laid off thousands of workers, Crowe used her influence in the legislature to pass a measure urging the state to use Illinois and American-made steel before outsourcing steel from other countries.

Using her experience as a former prosecutor, Crowe fought to update current laws to hold criminals more accountable for their actions. She

passed legislation to enhance penalties for distracted drivers who cause fatal accidents and flee the scene before reporting the crash.

To encourage more adult students to use the state's trade schools, she championed a bipartisan effort to create an Adult Vocational Community College Scholarship Program, which would provide enough money to cover the cost of tuition and fees per academic year. This would allow more people to gain valuable skills and enter the work force.

In an effort to fight Illinois' teacher shortage, Crowe also fought to increase the mandated minimum for teacher salaries to \$40,000 a year.

She also supported legislation designed to attract more teachers to Illinois' classrooms. The measure reinstates the 6 percent cap for teacher salary increases to be covered by the state, removes the requirement that teachers must

pass a basic skills test to be licensed, permits student teachers to be paid and creates a refund program for teachers in underfunded, hard-to-staff school districts to recoup the cost of the teacher performance assessment.

As a mother of two young children, Crowe supported raising the age to purchase tobacco to 21 years old, a measure that was signed into law in April. She believes this measure is necessary to prevent more young people from starting to smoke.

To protect senior citizens from the many scams that target them, Crowe passed an initiative to create the Elder Abuse Task Force to investigate the effectiveness of current elder protective services and laws while increasing public awareness of elder abuse and encouraging people to report it.

Crowe and her colleagues in both chambers continued Illinois' progress toward financial stability by passing a budget this May with a solution that is fiscally responsible for taxpayers. All school districts will see an increase from the state, even more than required by the new school funding formula.

Throughout the months of her first session, Crowe met with hundreds of constituents from the 56th District to hear and discuss their needs and come up with viable solutions. She will continue the fight for our state's trade sources, education and overall public safety in her next years as an elected official.





Tom Cullerton

Labor chair | 23rd Senate District

State Senator Tom Cullerton this session continued his quest to advocate for the needs of his district at the state level.

He persisted in fighting wasteful spending, high property taxes and government abuse to increase government efficiency.

Cullerton passed House Joint Resolution 7, which directs the Illinois State Police to conduct a performance audit.

The state's forensic evidence backlog has become unacceptable. Cullerton recognizes its importance since it can make or break the outcome of a case. These scientific procedures are increasingly important in solving crimes. It is imperative that we speed up this process to ensure that justice is delivered swiftly.

The resolution directs ISP to examine crime labs' equipment, procedures and staffing levels with the goal of identifying and reporting to the General Assembly factors preventing them from compliance with federal rules to swiftly process evidence.

To help eliminate redundant bureaucracy, Cullerton passed a measure to prohibit the State of Illinois from creating new units of local government.

As a state with nearly 7,000 units of government, he believes Illinois needs to take proactive steps to reduce and eliminate unnecessary layers of bureaucracy. His new measure will put a stop to the overzealous creation of government entities

while municipalities evaluate and consolidate services to promote the efficient use of taxpayer dollars.

Cullerton championed a measure to provide Illinois residents a clearer picture of the state's finances.

He passed House Bill 313, which requires the Illinois Comptroller to include the expenditure amounts and dates of expenditures by state agencies to vendors, the salaries of each state employee and graphical data whenever possible to the comptroller's online website.

Cullerton believes that Illinois taxpayers have a right to know how their money is spent.

He also passed a measure that requires units of local government to disclose municipal pension deals since he believes an open and transparent process will help put a stop to pension boosts that end up costing Illinois taxpayers thousands of dollars.

Cullerton advanced House Bill 303, which will require local government

bodies to disclose more information about how certain lump-sum payouts at the end of an employee's career are used to increase that person's retirement benefits.

A former U.S. infantryman, Cullerton continues to stand up for his fellow veterans. He advanced commonsense measures that streamline access to military benefits.

One such measure will allow the Secretary of State to accept a Department of Defense honorable discharge certification as applicable documentation to receive a driver's license or identification card with a veteran designation.

Cullerton believes government works best when it is a true representation of the people. He has continued to provide excellent service to DuPage County residents by hosting multiple senior fairs, property tax relief workshops, fraud seminars and job fairs throughout his Senate district.





Bill Cunningham

Energy and Public Utilities chair | 18th Senate District

Since he joined the Illinois Senate in 2013, State Senator Bill Cunningham has made direct service to his constituents and assistance for first responders a hallmark of his tenure. These principles remained a focus of his service this spring as he continued to advocate for issues of importance to his district and legislation that makes a positive impact on the lives of police officers and firefighters.

After hearing from Cook County residents about persistent noise and air quality issues with a trucking yard in Merrionette Park, Cunningham introduced legislation that banned excessive idling for trucks near residential areas.

He also worked on legislation to prevent suicide and promote mental well-being among police officers. The Senate unanimously passed his bill to include training for officers about peer counseling resources and recognizing signs

of work-related cumulative stress that can lead to depression and suicide. Additionally, Cunningham worked closely as a chief cosponsor on a comprehensive package of measures aimed at addressing mental health issues in the police and firefighter communities.

“Officer suicide has become an epidemic in recent years, and it’s time to take serious action to help our law enforcement community,” Cunningham said. “I’m committed to doing all I can to make sure officers have all the resources they need to stop these tragedies from continuing.”

Cunningham also passed legislation aimed at deterring threats against schools from being made on social media. The measure expanded the offense of disorderly misconduct to include threats against schools made on social media and threats that do not make specific mention of a

bomb.

“According to law enforcement in my district, threats of violence against schools are increasingly coming through social media rather than the phone and make no mention of a bomb,” Cunningham said. “We’re in the social media age right now, and this trend is only going to continue. We need to update our laws to reflect modern concerns.”

In response to the opioid epidemic, Cunningham passed legislation that would help improve medical response time for overdoses. The measure authorizes the use of the Overdose Detection Mapping Application, which uses real-time data to create a map of overdose diagnoses that allow local officials to identify trends and develop strategies to effectively respond.

The Senate also passed a bill Cunningham introduced to protect the integrity of Illinois elections. The legislation set security standards to codify the State Board of Elections’ decision to leave the controversial Crosscheck program, which has been criticized for its lax security and its tendency to unfairly remove minority voters from the rolls.

“If our elections aren’t secure, we can’t have a fair and open democratic process,” Cunningham said. “Voters need to be sure that their information is protected and that their will is reflected in electoral outcomes.”





Laura Ellman

21st Senate District

After being elected to her first term, State Senator Laura Ellman began working on important legislation to protect our environment and expand access to education.

One of Ellman's first priorities was increasing access to community college apprenticeships and developing apprenticeship programs in new, non-traditional sectors.

"Education is economic development," Ellman said. "When workers have the training they need for good jobs and businesses are able to find qualified talent to fill positions, everyone benefits."

Ellman passed Senate Bill 2122, which creates a grant program to allow for the funding of apprenticeships at each of the state's 48 community colleges. It also allows for the recruitment of new partnerships across traditional apprenticeship fields and emerging fields and provides community colleges the resources needed to engage in curriculum development, oversight and evaluation.

"Expanding access to apprenticeship programs and creating apprenticeships in new sectors will help ensure Illinois workers are trained for jobs of the future and ensure businesses aren't struggling to find qualified employees," Ellman said. "Funding these programs is an investment in our future."

Ellman also passed a measure that creates a new scholarship program for non-traditional students pursuing vocational training.

"Let's encourage more students, especially later in life, to take advantage of our trade schools by taking the financial burden off of their shoulders," Ellman said. "This scholarship gives opportunity to those who are seeking new jobs, thus fueling our markets and economy."

Concerned about the increasing effects of climate change, Ellman made combating it one of her top priorities during her first months in Springfield.

After learning about an outdated law that prevented Illinois from taking action to curb climate change and reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, Ellman sponsored a bill to repeal the Kyoto Protocol Act of 1998.

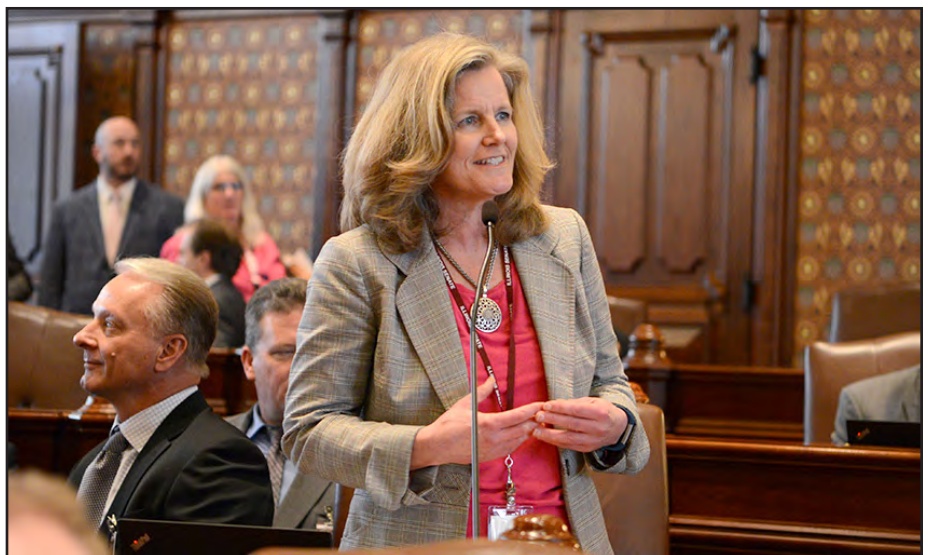
"The Kyoto Protocol Act should never have been signed into Illinois law," Ellman said. "It only served to limit our state's ability to make decisions and prepare for the future. By repealing this legislation, the

General Assembly is signaling that Illinois is ready to get serious about tackling emissions that cause climate change."

Ellman also worked to address solid waste pollution in Illinois. She passed a measure creating the Statewide Materials Management Advisory Committee to investigate and provide recommendations for expanding waste reduction, recycling, reuse and composting in Illinois.

"We can't wait any longer to address climate change and pollution," Ellman said. "This committee will provide recommendations for Illinois counties to become better environmental stewards and will help counties make informed decisions about waste management."

Additionally, Ellman cosponsored legislation that would work to reduce coal ash pollution in Illinois by requiring proper disposal and storage at power plants.





Laura Fine

9th Senate District

State Senator Laura Fine joined the Senate in January after serving in the Illinois House of Representatives for six years.

As a member of the Insurance Committee, Fine pushed for legislation intended to help deal with the rising costs of health care.

She introduced a measure aimed at making prescription drugs more affordable by requiring insurance companies to offer plans with more manageable copays.

Recognizing the importance of preventative care, she also passed House Bill 3113, which requires insurers to cover one annual screening for skin cancer.

One of Fine's most substantial bills was legislation providing graduate assistants the same protections as other educational employees.

"Everyone deserves respect in their workplace," Fine said. "Graduate and research assistants provide a vital service to their universities and should

therefore have the same rights as their colleagues."

House Bill 253 amends state statutes so that graduate and research assistants can be defined as employees, rather than their current classification as students. This would entitle them to collective bargaining rights, putting them in the same position as other educational employees throughout the state.

"The right to collectively bargain for better wages and working conditions is a fundamental right that should be guaranteed to all workers," Fine said. "I'm proud to have championed this bill to ensure that graduate and research assistants have the means to acquire the workplace dignity they deserve."

Fine has also worked on legislation providing aid and services to Illinois' population of individuals with disabilities. Senate Bill 2087 creates a pilot program to find employment and negotiate fair wages for individuals with disabilities. House Bill 3483 requires

the Department of Human Services to provide easier methods for those on certain disability care wait lists to receive updates on their status.

"At the end of the day, one of the major responsibilities of this body is to make sure that everyone in the state is cared for, especially our most vulnerable population," Fine said. "These much needed commonsense measures help protect the dignity of individuals with disabilities in the workplace and ensure that these individuals maintain access to the supportive services their quality of life depends on."

Fine's Senate Bill 1639 generated some buzz when it was passed through the Senate. It would require all state employees to have residency within the state of Illinois, with some exceptions made for certain employees who intentionally live out of state due to the policies of their agency.

"This bill adds more accountability to state employees," Fine said. "Requiring state employees to live in the state that pays their salary, will help ensure that they will act in the best interests of the state in their decision making as they will also be impacted by those decisions."

Fine served as a member of the Senate Appropriations II, Environment and Conservation, Insurance, Local Government, and Public Health committees and as Vice Chair of the Human Services committee.

Fine has also remained active in her district, hosting several town halls and meeting with constituents in one of her two district offices.





Ann Gillespie

27th Senate District

State Senator Ann Gillespie entered her first term ready to bring change for working families in Illinois. Drawing from her experiences as a lawyer, health care consultant and the vice president and general manager of a large mail pharmacy service, Gillespie came to Springfield looking to be a proactive problem solver. She introduced and advanced legislation that would expand apprenticeship programs, protect workers and consumers, and provide inclusion to all Illinoisans.

Understanding the importance of on-the-job training, Gillespie introduced legislation that would establish a grant for students enrolled in a manufacturing training program. This grant would provide students with the economic means to enter such a program while gaining the skills and hands-on experience necessary to be successful.

Additionally, Gillespie passed a bill that would require the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to research where the state could expand apprenticeship programs. After completing that study, the department will make recommendations to the governor and General Assembly for further legislation.

Gillespie championed vocational and technical education in the Senate because too many students have graduated with insurmountable student debt. She knows that apprenticeship programs are affordable, offer the training needed

to be a productive member of the work force and leave students with little to no debt upon completion.

Gillespie protected both workers and consumers by advancing legislation that would ban a harmful chemical from being used in receipt papers. Countless retail employees and consumers alike come into contact with receipt papers that contain BPA, which has caused developmental and reproductive complications in animals. Because she is a proactive legislator and advocate for working people, Gillespie moved to ban that chemical before we see the long-term effects it has on humans take root.

Tolerance and acceptance are two values that Gillespie leans on when considering legislation. These motivated her to introduce measures in the Senate to acknowledge the contributions made by various religious and ethnic groups.

Gillespie passed a resolution that

made the month of April 2019 Sikh Appreciation and Awareness Month. The roughly 25,000 Sikhs in Illinois contribute both economically and culturally to Illinois, and Gillespie showed appreciation to them by passing her resolution and inviting the Sikh Religious Society to the Senate floor.

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of women's suffrage, Gillespie passed a resolution that declared June 10, 2019 as the 19th Amendment Ratification Day in Illinois. To compliment this resolution, Gillespie also teamed up with State Treasurer Michael Frerichs to certify the production of commemorative medallions to celebrate this victory for women's rights.

In her first legislative session, State Senator Ann Gillespie proved that she is a champion for working-class people who came to Springfield to get things done.





Suzy Glowiak

24th Senate District

Newly elected State Senator Suzy Glowiak began her first term with a strong dedication to serving the people of the 24th State Senate District.

Utilizing her skills as an engineer, she provided a new and fresh perspective to the General Assembly and sought to work in a bipartisan manner to promote compromise and collaboration and to find meaningful solutions to lower property tax bills, to ensure our schools and universities have the resources to be successful, and to keep our children safe.

Since she is committed to passing a balanced budget every year and properly funding Illinois' pension system, Glowiak has declined to accept a pension as a state senator.

Glowiak tackled one of the fastest-growing criminal activities in the world, which remains largely invisible, by providing hospitality workers with the tools to spot and

report human trafficking.

She championed House Bill 3101, which would require hotels and motels to train employees to recognize the signs of human trafficking and know what to do when reporting it to authorities.

To advocate for Illinois Alzheimer's patients, she passed a measure to create a specialized position within the Illinois Department of Public Health to oversee the state's Alzheimer's efforts.

As someone who cared for a husband and mother with Alzheimer's disease, Glowiak knows it can be stressful. She passed Senate Bill 1726, which creates the position of Dementia Coordinator in the Department of Public Health to oversee the implementation of the Illinois Alzheimer's Disease State Plan. Having a dedicated coordinator would help to address the complications and cost of

a disease that has only gotten deadlier.

To keep survivors of sexual assault safe, Glowiak passed a measure that will allow them to apply for the Address Confidentiality Program with the Attorney General's Office so that they may list the Attorney General's Office as their contact address instead of revealing their actual address, eliminating the risk of their abuser locating them.

In an effort to stamp out youth homelessness, she passed a measure that creates the Youth Homelessness Prevention Subcommittee. The subcommittee will review and make recommendations about the discharge policies and procedures for each agency that handles youth leaving the state's custody or guardianship to guarantee housing stability.

Glowiak is dedicated to providing excellent constituent service to the people of DuPage and Cook counties. During her first summer as a state senator, she is hosting multiple senior fairs, fraud seminars and reading programs in her Senate district. She looks forward to meeting and engaging the residents of the 24th State Senate District.





Napoleon Harris III

Insurance chair | 15th Senate District

State Senator Napoleon Harris III continued to advocate for the residents of his district – especially those who live in high-need areas. His background as a student athlete, professional athlete and a business owner gives him a unique perspective on many of the challenges facing Illinois.

According to a 2018 study conducted by the Chicago Tribune, residents in Cook County’s lowest-income communities pay more for their water, sometimes as much as 20 percent, than those in the wealthiest towns in Cook County. The disparity exists even though 80 percent of the county receives water from Lake Michigan.

To change that, Harris steered the Cook County Water Infrastructure Fund to be used by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to help municipalities fund infrastructure improvements to facilitate water supplies from Lake Michigan.

Unfortunately, the number of minority businesses that contract with the state continues to be much lower than the population of minorities in Illinois. Harris has dedicated his career in the Senate to finally seeing a significant change in those numbers by increasing access and support for those businesses.

Continuing to promote state partnerships with minority-owned businesses, Harris proposed setting inclusion goals for larger municipalities in an effort to

include more minority, veteran and women-owned businesses in local government contracting.

The legislation would set goals for cities that receive more than \$1 million in state motor fuel taxes to hire more minority-owned and operated businesses when awarding contracts.

Forty-six municipalities and 21 counties received more than \$1 million in fiscal year 2017, which could be significant for the development of minority-owned businesses across the state.

Harris also backed a proposal that would provide for more timely payments to subcontractors working on state-funded projects. Currently, it is up to the contractor to properly pay each subcontractor for their portion of the work and materials used, a process that has left small business owners to take unmanageable financial risks.

Illinois’ current minimum wage

is \$8.25 per hour, meaning a single parent working a full-time minimum-wage job qualifies for food stamps, Medicaid and often housing assistance.

Harris supported a measure that will raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2025 after a decade of stagnant minimum wage rates, giving struggling families the relief they deserve.

The Village of Phoenix would see an extension on the sunset of their tax increment financing (TIF) district from 2019 to 2031 under legislation Harris sponsored. TIF districts are important for cities and towns going through economic trouble. They help attract private investment and bring new businesses to help with economic expansion.





Michael E. Hastings

Executive chair | 19th Senate District

During this spring legislative session State Senator Michael E. Hastings continued his work as a champion for working families and veterans in the 19th Senate District while advocating for mental health care reform and a solution to the state's teacher shortage.

Hastings was also tapped to lead the Senate Executive Committee, which considers some of the most contentious issues that come before the Illinois Senate.

In one of his most consequential actions of the spring session, Hastings voted to increase the minimum wage from \$8.25 to \$15 by 2025. This legislation was long overdue, finally giving working families a sense of relief as wages have stagnated while cost of living in the southland has risen.

Hastings also continued his work in making mental health treatments more accessible for those who require them. His

"March to Mental Health" initiative contained sweeping legislation, including a measure that would allow pharmacists to administer injectable mental health treatments. Hastings knows it can be tough to secure a prompt appointment with a primary care physician and there are sometimes cases are a bit more urgent, so he worked to ensure a smoother process for those in need of timely treatment.

In another key vote of this session, Hastings voted in favor of legislation that would raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco to 21. This will double down on the state's efforts to reduce the number of teen smokers, moving one step closer to a healthier, smoke-free Illinois.

Hastings took it upon himself this session to ensure that Illinois veterans were being taken care of properly by health care providers. He introduced a measure that would require health care providers to ask

their patients if they or their spouse have ever served in the military as part of the regular screening process during checkups. Contrary to popular belief, not all veterans receive their health care from VA clinics. In fact, 84 percent of veterans receive their health care from providers who are not necessarily aware of their veteran status. This new law aims to fix this and ensure veterans are seeing providers who understand their unique needs.

Striving to create more job opportunities for veterans, Hastings also expanded the Law Enforcement Officer Intern Program to give veterans preference, ensuring that applicants come from a qualified background.

Recognizing the growing teacher shortage crisis in Illinois, Hastings worked to guarantee those who have dedicated themselves to students a living wage. He voted in favor of a bill that would raise the minimum wage for teachers to \$40,000 per year by the 2023-2024 school year, hoping Illinois will be able to attract some of the top talent the teaching profession has to offer.

Senator Hastings' work this session illustrates his life's work as a champion of working families, educators, and veterans. He looks forward to spending the summer meeting with constituents and hearing feedback as to how he can best represent the southland in Springfield.





Toi Hutchinson

Revenue chair | 40th Senate District

Since its implementation nearly 50 years ago, Illinois' income tax has remained flat, placing a greater burden on working and middle-class families than on those earning the most. After years of work by legislators and advocates, State Senator Toi Hutchinson led the Senate in passing an income tax rate structure that would provide tax relief to 97 percent of Illinois taxpayers.

Hutchinson – who is also the chair of the Senate Revenue Committee – passed the proposal which mirrors the policies of many of Illinois' neighbors and states across the nation that implement an income tax. Her plan would provide additional revenues at a time when the state is still recovering from the nearly three-year-long budget impasse that left social service providers crippled, colleges and universities without state funding and public schools waiting on delayed payments.

Hutchinson worked with newly elected Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi on a property tax reform package that would improve data collection in the assessor's office. The plan collects operating income and expense data to more accurately deliver property assessment and would bring Cook County in line with professional practices in other states and cities, including Washington D.C., Boston and Seattle.

"Property taxes are something that every politician from both sides of the aisle talks about, but little is done to actually reform the system,"

Hutchinson said after passing the proposal out of the Senate.

After years of negotiations with colleagues and advocates, Hutchinson helped spearhead a plan legalizing adult-use cannabis in Illinois with a heavy focus on social equity.

The bill establishes a regulated system allowing Illinois residents to possess personal amounts of cannabis while reinvesting profits back into communities hurt the most by the war on drugs.

Hutchinson also teamed with Treasurer Mike Frerichs to allow legal cannabis businesses to use the banking system. Due to federal law, most businesses are operating on a cash-only basis.

In response to rising maternal mortality rates in many communities, Hutchinson teamed with Senator Castro on a comprehensive package of proposals to address the growing public health concern. Hutchinson passed a plan requiring the state to add

training on implicit bias into continuing education requirements for doctors and nurses.

With rates of maternal mortality much higher among African-American women, Hutchinson worked to pass legislation in the Senate identifying instances of bias that are leading to increased negative health outcomes for women of color.

A study released by the Illinois Department of Public Health late last year found that non-Hispanic black women are six times as likely to die of a pregnancy related condition as non-Hispanic white women. The study also found that black women have the highest rate of severe maternal morbidity, three times higher than the rate for white women.

"We spend a lot of political capital and time in our reproductive discussion talking about babies. We spend precious little time on the unique needs of mothers, both before, during and after childbirth," Hutchinson said.





Emil Jones III

Licensed Activities chair | 14th Senate District

As Senate Chair of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, Senator Emil Jones III made it his priority to fight for solutions to the issues facing African Americans, both in his Senate district and throughout the State of Illinois.

Three Chicago police officers who covered up evidence related to Laquan McDonald's death were found not guilty by Associate Judge Domenica Stephenson in January. In response to that verdict, Jones sponsored legislation that would require associate judgeships in the Circuit of Cook County to be converted into elected judges.

"Public officials and judges are making life or death decisions. If appointed judges are going to continue making controversial decisions that impact the African-American community negatively, they need to be elected rather than appointed," Jones said.

"Laquan McDonald's death will

not be swept under the rug by the police department or judges. It's time for a change, and people need to be able to vote on these judges."

Understanding the importance of the 2020 Census next year, Jones introduced a measure that requires the state's census outreach strategy to focus on addressing hard-to-count and underserved communities that are historically overlooked, like those with large numbers of minorities and immigrants. An undercount could result in Illinois missing out on billions of dollars in federal funding and even losing a seat in Congress. Jones said the census should reflect a fundamental truth: we all count.

Continuing his commitment to working families, Jones was a cosponsor of legislation to increase the state minimum hourly wage from \$8.25 to \$15.00 by January 1, 2025.

"Workers shouldn't have had to wait a decade to see a change in the minimum wage. This is historic for our state, and I commend Majority Leader Lightford for continuing to push this measure until there was a change," Jones said.

He also pushed for parents to be more engaged in school board affairs by sponsoring a measure that would require a parent or guardian to be on the board of directors at charter schools. Because parents have a personal interest in the school their children attend doing well, Jones feels they would advocate for policies that will benefit from the school rather than using their position on the board for political purposes.

Additionally, Jones introduced a resolution commending Division 96 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen on the occasion of their 150th anniversary and declared January 16, 2019 as "Division 96 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Day."

"Public service organizations that have an enduring history in Illinois deserve to be acknowledged for their work, and this organization is no exception. I appreciate the lengths this union goes to ensure safety on our rails and to protect Chicago workers and the city's rail-traveling public," Jones said.





Steven Landek

State Government chair | 12th Senate District

State Senator Steven M. Landek’s top priority this spring was to address the pension funding crisis many cities, towns and villages face all over Illinois.

Each year, more local tax dollars are directed toward the more than 650 public safety pension funds across the state. This often leads to property tax increases or cuts to government services to fund pensions.

Bringing all interested stakeholders together, he helped craft a plan that would allow municipalities across Illinois to adequately fund their police and firefighter pensions, but in a more manageable and sustainable way than is currently allowed.

“This would be an important first step to help give municipalities and their taxpayers the flexibility to properly fund their public safety pensions while easing the burden on property taxes and protecting government services,” said Landek.

“More work remains, but we can use this framework as a foundation to ensure we keep our promises to our police and firefighters without it crowding out local government budgets.”

In his seventh year as chair of the Senate State Government Committee, he remained committed to bringing colleagues together from both sides of the aisle to form consensus on

legislation whenever possible.

“I find listening to the opponent’s point of view very helpful when considering certain legislation,” said Landek. “It often leads to minor tweaks that not only remove opposition but make the bill better.”

Drawing upon his experience as the mayor of Bridgeview, he continued to watch for legislation that would place costly unfunded mandates on local governments.

“We pass a lot of legislation around here,” Landek said. “I try to use my experiences to highlight where some ideas, while well intended, will cause unintended consequences when implemented.”

Landek met with local leaders and constituents from the 12th Senate District who visited Springfield. Parent mentors from Enlace Chicago in Little Village, League of Women Voters

members in La Grange and residents of Berwyn all visited to advocate for a variety of causes.

He also took the time to visit with students from Berwyn South School District 100 for Our American Voice Day, discussing the importance of public service and how the state legislature affects their everyday lives.

“These students impress me every year they visit,” Landek said. “Their interest and knowledge of current events and how those impact their daily lives in school and at home is great to see.”





Andy Manar

Appropriations II chair | 48th Senate District

State Senator Andy Manar spent the 2019 spring session continuing to push for access to quality education and increasing the availability of pharmacies to provide necessary medications to underserved communities at an affordable rate.

In response to the shortage of teachers in Illinois, Manar passed legislation that would help recruit qualified teachers to the state by eliminating the requirement that teachers pass a basic skills test, allowing student teachers to receive a paycheck.

“These are three things I hear in almost complete unison from teachers across the state – in both rural and large school districts – that in various ways impact the profession and the ability to recruit and retain qualified teachers,” Manar said. “We have to tear down barriers to putting teachers in classrooms, not create new ones.”

Manar also addressed the teacher shortage by passing a plan to increase the state’s minimum teacher salary to \$40,000.

“We have a critical shortage of teachers in Illinois, and the minimum salary we offer them is a key factor in being able to attract more young teachers into the profession,” Manar said. “Professional educators should not be living below the poverty level, but that’s exactly what’s happening in communities all over the state.

“We expect teachers to solve all the problems of the world, and we hold them accountable for that. It’s time we pay them appropriately for it.”

Manar was heavily involved in negotiations to bring a comprehensive capital bill to Illinois to fund needed infrastructure projects. As a co-chair of the Joint Subcommittees on Capital, he held eight hearings around the state to

learn about the need for a capital plan and issues that need to be addressed statewide.

“We had a hefty agenda and I think that plainly reflects the needs in the state,” Manar said. “We have a lot of important individuals and organizations involved in this process, and I want to encourage everyone to help us advocate for a capital bill to bring infrastructure investment to Illinois.”

Manar also worked extensively to make prescription medications more available and affordable in rural communities in downstate Illinois. He passed a measure that would provide the state with greater oversight over pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs, that act as middle men to drive up the costs of needed drugs. PBMs use their position to increase profit margins for pharmaceutical companies and drive out competition, which Manar said could leave entire counties in downstate Illinois without a single pharmacist in operation.

After the devastating tornado outbreak that devastated the community of Taylorville in late 2018, Manar knew he had to act to help the residents of his district rebuild. He passed a bipartisan proposal to offer a \$750 natural disaster tax credit to people affected by the storm.





Pat McGuire

Higher Education chair | 43rd Senate District

In the wake of a devastating time for higher education institutions and students, State Senator Pat McGuire continued his work toward rectifying the finances of our state colleges and universities and fostering a dynamic of reliability and stability.

McGuire championed legislation creating the Illinois Higher Education Savings Program and the Illinois Savings Program Fund. College education is the most important predictor of career success, yet college affordability is more out of reach than it has ever been for so many families. McGuire believes starting a savings fund for each child born in Illinois will help lay the foundation for brighter futures for students.

The health and safety of students was also a concern for McGuire this year. He was the Senate sponsor of House Bill 2152, which focused on increasing access and awareness of mental health care on campuses. For many people, mental illness first manifests in their early adulthood, exacerbated by the changes in setting and lifestyle associated with moving to college or newly living on one's own.

To foster an environment of support and remove the stigma around mental health care, McGuire's legislation establishes expert panels to address mental

health issues at public universities and colleges. The legislation also requires each school to form a partnership with local mental health providers.

McGuire also worked to increase options for community colleges as they seek to enter into contracts. Community college boards would be able to enter into competitively bid group purchase contracts in excess of \$25,000 regardless of whether the entity is the lowest bidder under Senate Bill 2119, sponsored by McGuire.

And to better the education of grade school and high school students as they seek to become informed and active citizens as technology rapidly changes, McGuire was the Senate sponsor of House Bill 1559, which allows public high schools to include a unit of instruction on media literacy in its curriculum. In today's

media, so much information of dubious origin is readily available on controversial topics. Teaching young people the value in how to assess the integrity of a news media organization and verify its claims is more important than ever to ensuring a government directed by the will of informed voters.

McGuire served as a member of the Senate Appropriations II, Environment and Conservation, Revenue, State Government and Transportation committees in addition to his position as chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee. He remains active in his district, holding town halls and information events on services and programs available to its residents.





Julie Morrison

Human Services chair | 29th Senate District

After years of working with advocates and the setback of a veto by former Gov. Bruce Rauner, Morrison passed a law making Illinois the first state in the Midwest and the seventh nationwide to institute Tobacco 21, a law that raises the minimum age to legally purchase tobacco products to 21.

The new law – already existing in Chicago and many suburban communities – has been proven to cut teen smoking rates. It will also create long-term savings for the state in medical costs through the Medicaid program.

With continued high-profile failures at the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Morrison spent much of her time this spring working with her colleagues on bringing lasting change to the troubled agency.

As chair of the Senate Human Services Committee, Morrison passed a package reforming the set of rules

outlining who a mandated reporter is in Illinois. Mandated reporters are vitally important in detecting and responding to child abuse claims. Morrison's reforms clarify confusing state law that is not explicit in who is required to be a mandated reporter and what trainings are necessary to effectively respond to child abuse.

After the death of AJ Freund from Crystal Lake, Morrison called for an independent, comprehensive audit of the DCFS hotline, which handles claims of child abuse or neglect.

Morrison has vowed to continue working on solutions to reforming the agency in the months ahead.

A founder of the Special Needs Caucus, Morrison has continued working on the unique set of issues facing Illinoisans with disabilities. Morrison passed a proposal expanding the availability of anesthesia at dental offices for patients with autism spectrum disorder or developmental disabilities. Unfamiliar environments

can be especially taxing for individuals with autism, however if left untreated, needed dental work can manifest into serious health consequences.

Morrison also passed multiple measures aimed at increasing state employment of individuals with disabilities.

Last year, more than 3,400 Illinois residents were candidates for a kidney transplant, but by the end of the year, only 798 people had actually received a transplant. Morrison passed a proposal out of the Senate creating a tax credit for employers who offer employees paid leave of absences of at least 30 days to donate an organ or bone marrow.

With financial obstacles being a top reason most individuals fail to donate an organ, Morrison hopes the new proposal will allow more donations and ultimately save lives in the process.

Morrison also worked on a number of measures aimed at protecting minors with epilepsy and severe allergic conditions. She passed a plan requiring schools to be better prepared to treat students with epilepsy and passed a proposal requiring insurers to cover medically necessary epinephrine injectors.

Morrison is currently the chair of the Senate Human Services Committee, vice-chair of the Senate Public Health Committee and sits on the Agriculture, Environment and Conservation, Medicaid Managed Care and Transportation Committees.





John G. Mulroe

Judiciary chair | 10th Senate District

Years after he first introduced a similar measure, State Senator John G. Mulroe joined his colleagues in the General Assembly in raising the purchasing age of all tobacco products in Illinois to 21.

Mulroe has argued for years that raising the smoking age is one major step toward discouraging young people from starting the habit and thus sparing themselves the cumulative ill health effects caused by smoking.

“The harmful effects of tobacco are well-documented enough that we know a reduction in smoking translates pretty directly to a reduction in health problems over a long period of time,” Mulroe said. “We also know that addiction tends to set in at an early age. By raising the smoking age, we’re heading off these chronic health problems before they start.”

Mulroe also spent 2019 fighting for taxpayers and the men and women who sacrifice to ensure their safety. To that end, he sponsored legislation creating a homestead exemption of \$5,000 off a home’s assessed value for police officers and firefighters with duty-related disabilities, acknowledging the added economic hardships faced by those who find themselves unable to continue in their chosen line of work due to mishap.

He also acted on behalf of families who rely on Medicaid, working to eliminate gaps in coverage by sponsoring Senate

Bill 79, which would ensure that if the Department of Human Services fails to notify a nursing home or supportive living facility that a resident’s application for medical assistance or long-term care benefits is rejected or denied that it be reinstated. Mulroe believes families should not be subject to sudden interruptions in coverage when the proper steps were not taken to inform them in enough time to care for their loved ones.

Mulroe also acted to help property owners during an ongoing foreclosure crisis. Mulroe’s Senate Bill 169 prohibits courts from dismissing without prejudice a complaint of foreclosure for the failure of a party to provide notice of a foreclosure to the alderman of the ward in which the property resides, fighting against a draconian fine with questionable value that disregards the desire of a homeowner for privacy.

Mulroe also sponsored Senate Bill 1302 to ensure juveniles don’t languish in detention over a weekend or holiday. The bill provides that juveniles must appear in front of a court within 48 hours of being taken into custody, including weekends and court holidays, and that the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court may create a rule permitting the minor to make their first appearance in court remotely by audio-visual communication. It also requires the Division of Probation Services to take into account the minor’s likelihood to reappear and the safety of their home as it screens individual cases.

Mulroe voted for numerous other pieces of impactful legislation this year, including raising the minimum wage from \$8.25 per hour to \$15 per hour by 2025.





Laura M. Murphy

Commerce and Economic Development chair | 28th Senate District

During her fourth legislative session in Springfield, State Senator Laura Murphy worked on issues affecting domestic violence victims, human trafficking victims, students and drivers. Protecting the middle class is a priority for the senator.

Moved by the heightened occurrences of sexual harassment and sexual assault, Senator Murphy took it upon herself to crack down on sexual harassment at the local government level. She sponsored a measure that would close a loophole, allow local elected officials to bring forward such claims and give the Executive Inspector General the authority to investigate these charges.

She didn't stop there; Murphy knows that young people are the future and shouldn't have to fear going to school because there is a chance they might be sexually assaulted. She championed legislation that will require sexual assault between

students at school to be reported in an annual report to the Illinois State Board of Education in the hopes that this will help lessen sexual assault in schools between students.

She also sponsored legislation that will combat human trafficking by requiring hotels and motels to train employees on how to recognize human trafficking and alert authorities. Murphy knows that the more people are educated and aware of human trafficking, the more likely we are to put an end to this heinous crime.

Murphy also sponsored legislation that would ease the mind of parents by requiring schools to allow students with an action plan to self-administer prescribed medication at school with permission from their parent or guardian. She knows that students have a number of things to worry about, and accessing their medication shouldn't be one of them.

She also added an extra layer of

protection for domestic violence victims by sponsoring a measure that would allow an address to be omitted from documents filed in court if disclosing the address would risk abuse or harm. Murphy introduced this measure in response to an incident in her district where a judge included the address of a domestic violence safe house in a court order between the alleged abuser and the victim regarding the custody of their child.

After seeing a spike in pedestrian accidents in her district, Murphy chose to act to combat the issue. She supported a measure that would require the Illinois Department of Transportation to conduct a traffic study following any fatal accident involving a pedestrian. It would be the first step in making changes to improve the safety of all people, pedestrians and drivers.

Beyond her work in Springfield, Murphy maintained an active presence in her Senate district by attending community events. She also hosted several property tax seminars to help guide residents through the property tax appeals process.

Additionally, she hosted a clean energy town hall this spring to discuss the Future Energy Jobs Act and Clean Energy Jobs Act. She plans to host several town hall meetings over the summer to discuss the state budget and update residents about developments in Springfield this year.





Robert Peters

13th Senate District

State Senator Robert Peters became a member of the Senate in early January, replacing Kwame Raoul who had resigned from his position in the Senate to become the Attorney General of Illinois.

A former community organizer born and raised on the South Side of Chicago, Peters hit the ground running upon being sworn in, filing many pieces of landmark progressive legislation atypical of the traditional freshman senator.

Recognizing the need to address the systemic injustices that exist in the criminal justice system, Peters filed legislation that tackles these issues head on. He passed House Bill 2040, which establishes a ban on private detention centers in Illinois.

“Whenever money gets involved in incarceration, it encourages bad actors to become worse actors,” Peters said. “This results in practices including intentional over population which reduces the living conditions for the incarcerated folks, just to save a few bucks. A ban on private detention centers was, frankly, long overdue, and I’m glad that’s finally in place.”

Another bill Peters sponsored, House Bill 900, ends the Department of Corrections’ (DOC) practice of suing formerly incarcerated people to recoup the cost of their incarceration.

“There’s been a few cases where someone is in prison but not getting the care they require, so they sue

for damages and win financial compensation, only for the DOC to turn around and sue them,” Peters said. “Since they only have that money because of the mistakes of the DOC in the first place, the DOC is essentially profiting off of their own incompetence under this practice. It has to stop.”

Peters has also been an advocate for youth in care, passing a series of measures meant to address issues existing within the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) that negatively impact the lives of the children in the system.

“I’m a child of adoption myself, so I know firsthand how important these services are for the kids who are under DCFS care,” Peters said. “I want to make sure every child has reliable access to the services they need so that stories like mine can be the norm, not the exception.”

An additional priority Peters has taken up is improving the health and

safety of all Illinoisans, particularly youth of color. Legislation he passed, House Bill 2665, allows minors 12 years of age or older to seek preventative treatment against HIV from a doctor without parental consent.

“Gay youth account for nearly 85 percent of new HIV diagnoses among people aged 12 to 24, and the rates are even higher in communities of color,” Peters said. “Kids should be able to access medications that will keep them safe and healthy without having to worry about possible repercussions from their parents.”

Peters is very active in his community. He tours the district on a regular basis and has open office hours for constituent inquiries nearly every day that he is not in Springfield for session.





Elgie R. Sims Jr.

Criminal Law chair | 17th Senate District

State Senator Elgie R. Sims Jr. started a new role as chairman of the Criminal Law Committee this session and continued work to fix a broken justice system so it works for all Illinoisans.

One way he aimed to do this is protecting Illinoisans' right to a public defender by introducing legislation that creates the Public Defender Bail Reform Grant Program. The goal is to assist counties in following the current law, which requires counsel to be present at bail hearings.

Many counties throughout the state have not been providing a public defender for bail hearings. Some small counties do not even hire a full-time public defender. This legislation would ensure that defendants have the legal representation necessary to make sure the bail fits the crime.

Civic engagement among Illinois youth is also highly important to

Sims. This legislative session he spearheaded a bill to give students time off from school to vote. He introduced this measure after he cosponsored a "March to the Polls" event, and discovered students were not allowed to participate during school hours. Sims believes instilling the importance of voting among teenagers will make for an engaged and informed public.

With this legislation he hopes to instill the importance of voting in young people early on, and just as state workers have time off to vote, he believes students of voting age should as well.

Another top priority for the senator is attracting more businesses to Illinois. He worked to do this through two plans focusing on film and television companies and data centers.

The first would expand the state's film and tax credit with the aim of raising Illinois' national standing in

the media production industry.

There has been exponential growth in this industry over recent years, and this tax credit would position Illinois to take advantage of it.

Another measure Sims sponsored was designed to make Illinois more competitive in the data centers industry.

Under the bill, companies operating data centers in Illinois would not have to pay sales or use tax for materials used in the construction or operation of a data center.

Sims is working to prevent states like Indiana from monopolizing this industry. The tax exemption would make Illinois very attractive for those looking to start or relocate in this growing business.

Additionally, Sims cosponsored and supported a measure that would allow for a fair income tax to get Illinois back on track fiscally.

The constitutional amendment would allow Illinois to implement a fairer income tax if voters approve it on the ballot in 2020.

The Senate's plan lowers taxes for 97 percent of Illinoisans and only raises rates for those making more than \$250,000.

Fair tax efforts, plans to make Illinois more business-friendly and his work as a budgeteer to pass a balanced, bipartisan budget have demonstrated Sims' commitment to reviving financial growth and stability in Illinois.





Steve Stadelman

Telecommunications and InfoTechnology chair | 34th Senate District

Faced with a rash of Illinois State Police troopers being injured or killed by distracted drivers, State Senator Steve Stadelman sponsored legislation to raise awareness of the problem and crack down on violators.

In the first five months of 2019, tragedy struck Illinois State Troopers. In total, 15 state police cruisers were struck while on the side of the road. Two of those accidents resulted in fatalities in what was described as an unprecedented spike in collisions.

“A person driving 70 miles per hour who looks down at their phone for five seconds has traveled over 150 yards,” said Stadelman. “The amount of damage and danger you can cause in that distance is far too great for us to not do anything.”

Stadelman advanced legislation to update state laws to send the message that it is illegal and dangerous to stream videos while driving.

The legislation he sponsored, Senate Bill 86, clarifies that drivers may not use electronic devices to stream videos while they are driving. While the current hands-free law is often looked at mostly as a ban on the use of cell phones, it also includes tablets, laptops, video games and pagers.

According to the Center for Disease Control, nine people are killed every day in the United States from distracted driving. Additionally, 37 percent of unsafe

driving behavior monitored by the EverQuote’s EverDrive app was caused by phone use.

It was one of several instances in which Stadelman sought pragmatic, practical solutions to real world problems.

For instance, Stadelman led efforts to lower the cost of prescription drugs by passing Senate Bill 1557, which removes the so-called “gag rule” on pharmacists prohibiting them from telling patients they could save money on prescriptions.

The target of Stadelman’s legislation is a clause often inserted into contracts by pharmacy benefit managers to prohibit druggists from telling patients they could save money on prescriptions by paying cash rather than using their health insurance or using generic drugs.

“Unfortunately, your local neighborhood pharmacist can’t

even tell you if there are cheaper alternatives available to you,” Stadelman said. “By freeing them up, we can hopefully save people some of their hard earned money.”

Additionally, Senator Stadelman partnered with Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara and the Illinois Housing Development Authority to address the issue of blighted properties that plague Rockford and many other communities across the state.

The end result was two key pieces of legislation. One proposal, Senate Bill 2052, makes it easier for local governments to transfer properties. The other, Senate Bill 2097, gives counties the authority to buy blighted properties, renovate them and then use the profits to renovate more homes.





Heather Steans

Appropriations I chair | 7th Senate District

After two years work, hundreds of stakeholder meetings, 19 town halls and multiple Senate hearings, State Senator Heather Steans passed legislation this session to legalize adult-use cannabis in Illinois.

Steans' sweeping piece of legislation acknowledges that prohibition is not working and puts a priority on restorative justice, addressing the disproportionate impact the War on Drugs had on minority communities.

Under the proposal, adults over the age of 21 will be able to possess up to 30 grams of cannabis, with sales set to begin on Jan. 1, 2020.

The legislation creates a program that will invest in communities that have suffered the most because of discriminatory drug policies. One-fourth of all revenue from cannabis sales will go to this program.

The legal cannabis market will be based on Illinois' medical

cannabis market, one of the most well-regulated in the country. Cannabis products will be tested extensively to ensure their safety, and businesses will be required to label products with test results and product warnings to inform individuals of potency and serving size. The legislation also puts in place an automatic expungement process for minor cannabis-related offenses.

Legalizing cannabis for adult-use brings existing illicit sales into the light where they can be taxed and regulated, ensuring that adults are using a safe, reliable product.

Steans continued her work to promote an inclusive curriculum in schools that honors the contributions members of the LGBTQ+ community have made to our country. Currently, Illinois schools are required to teach students about the role and contributions of African Americans

and other ethnic groups, as well as about women's history, the history of the labor movement and disability history, but not LGBTQ+ history.

Recognizing that suicide is a growing health concern in Illinois, Steans passed legislation to update the state's suicide prevention strategy.

Her measure requires the Illinois Department of Public Health, working with the Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance, to develop recommendations to prevent suicide using evidence based practices and promote any coordinating activity needed to implement them.

Suicide caused nearly 1,500 deaths in Illinois in 2017, the most recent year for which data is available. In 2016, suicide caused more deaths than homicide, motor vehicle accidents and prevalent diseases like liver disease, hypertension and HIV.

In addition to these legislative measures, Steans continued to serve as chair of one of the Senate's two appropriations committees and to act as one of the Senate Democratic Caucus' budget negotiators. She worked with the new governor and across party lines to craft a responsible budget that continues Illinois on its path to fiscal stability after years of turmoil.





Patricia Van Pelt

Public Health chair | 5th Senate District

Upon her return to Springfield, State Senator Patricia Van Pelt continued working on criminal justice reform.

After learning that the state crime lab had a backlog of DNA from more than 750 murder cases, Van Pelt began asking questions. She met with family members of victims who have been affected by the backlog and listened to their frustrations about not getting answers from the police. Van Pelt held two public hearings where she demanded answers from the Illinois State Police and, as a result, was able to get them to commit to key steps that will help end the backlog.

These include a plan to start using rapid DNA testing technology that can test DNA samples in under two hours, a staffing plan that includes hiring additional forensic scientists, and a commitment to provide the public with concise, transparent reporting on the backlog.

"I'm pleased that we were able to get these commitments from the Illinois State Police (ISP), but this is just the beginning," Van Pelt said. "I will continue holding regular meetings with the ISP to ensure they are sticking to their commitments."

Last year, Van Pelt also learned that the Chicago Police Department (CPD), as well as other law enforcement agencies across the state, were using controversial gang databases to track suspected gang members. An investigation uncovered that 128,000 people are in CPD's gang database, 95 percent of whom are people of

color. The investigation also revealed that law enforcement has operated flawed databases with little oversight and questionable reasoning for adding names to the lists, and that gang database entries can come up in a person's background check, making it harder for people to find jobs and housing.

Van Pelt continues to work on reforming the use of gang databases to ensure that innocent people aren't being harmed because their name was added to a gang database without reasonable cause.

Van Pelt sponsored legislation to reform the use of gang databases by limiting who can access databases, making database information inadmissible in court, and prohibiting gang database information from being used for employment, education, licensing and housing purposes. The bill would also create a process for reviewing and purging information from the databases. These important

provisions are needed to provide more oversight and help protect the rights of innocent individuals who shouldn't be on the list.

After hearing from a constituent about a problem with the Illinois Veterans Grant program, Van Pelt took action and passed a bill that allows a person to qualify for the Illinois Veterans Grant or the POW/MIA Scholarship if they've lived in Illinois for 15 years.

The Illinois Veterans' Grant Program pays tuition and certain fees at all Illinois state-supported colleges, universities and community colleges for eligible Illinois veterans. The POW/MIA Scholarship is an education scholarship for the dependents of veterans who are either missing in action, a prisoner of war, died while on active duty, 100 percent disabled due to service connected disabilities or died as a result of a service connected disabilities.





Ram Villivalam

8th Senate District

State Senator Ram Villivalam is incredibly proud and honored to be the first Asian American elected to the Illinois State Senate and the first Indian American elected to the Illinois General Assembly. During his first session, he passed legislation creating a commission whose purpose is to improve and expand existing policies, services, programs and opportunities for Asian-American families, giving them a seat at the table in the decision making process.

Villivalam worked tirelessly during his first legislative session to ensure that Illinois will be on the path to a living wage for working families, a fair tax system and further protections for those who face discrimination in our society.

Villivalam immediately began advocating on behalf of working people when he got to Springfield. The first piece of legislation that he filed is designed to protect hotel

and casino workers in the face of the massive amounts of sexual harassment these employees face. Villivalam ensured that all workers in the hospitality industry have access to safety buttons that would alert security to the presence of an assailant in case of an emergency. In addition, hotels and casinos would be required to have sexual harassment policies in place.

In perhaps the most substantial action of his young legislative career, Villivalam voted in favor of the minimum wage increase to aid working families. He is proud to have been a champion of this progressive legislation that working families have sorely needed as the cost of living has risen while wages have stagnated.

But his work didn't stop there. Villivalam led the charge on a measure that would ensure the LGBTQ+ community is being cared for properly as they grow older.

The LGBTQ+ population faces many unique challenges as they age, including fears about neglect, abuse and harassment because of their identities. Villivalam's legislation would ensure that aging programming by service providers and the environments in assisted living facilities are welcoming and inclusive.

In an effort to ensure that right-to-work laws have no place in Illinois, Villivalam sponsored the Collective Bargaining Freedom Act. This law would allow workers to keep the right to collectively bargain for living wages, better working conditions in every part of Illinois and a stronger middle class.

In spite of what Donald Trump says and does at the national level as it relates to immigrants, Villivalam saw a need to cement the fact that the state of Illinois is a welcoming state to all immigrants. He championed a measure that would make immigration status inadmissible in court, as no immigrant should be fearful of coming forward to report an injustice, whether it be a workers' compensation issue or an instance of sexual assault.

Senator Villivalam's first legislative session was incredibly productive, and he will continue his work this summer holding events and meeting with constituents.





SENATE IN REVIEW

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES





2nd Amendment

- HB 3462 - Allows a school district to offer its students a course on hunting safety as part of its curriculum during the school day or as part of an after-school program.

HB 3462	Allows a school district to offer its students a course on hunting safety as part of its curriculum during the school day or as part of an after-school program.
HB 3623	Makes the Apprentice Hunter License a non-renewable license that expires on the March 31 following the date of issuance. It also specifies that the fully licensed adult, supervising an apprentice hunter, must have a hunter education certificate and creates a three-year youth deer hunting pilot program.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- HB 2505 - Defines local farm and food products as “grown in Illinois or processed and packaged in Illinois, using at least 1 ingredient grown in Illinois.”
- SB 0061 - Makes various regulatory changes to the Animal Welfare Act and Animal Control Act. Addresses a number of issues regarding animal shelters and foster groups, licensing fees and feral cat programs.
- SB 1498 - Requires the Illinois State Board of Education to partner with the Illinois Board of Higher Education to develop an Agricultural Education Pre-Service Internship Program to prepare high school students for a college career aimed at becoming farm sciences teachers.

HB 2264	Requires the state to make an annual appropriation for matching funds for the University of Illinois' Cooperative Extension Services programs.
HB 2505	Defines local farm and food products as "grown in Illinois or processed and packaged in Illinois, using at least 1 ingredient grown in Illinois."
HB 2669	Removes the registration requirements for specific farm wagons.
HB 2737	Allows a Soil Water and Conservation District to provide best management practices regarding soil health and soil health improvement.
HB 2777	Requires the Department of Natural Resources to submit annual reports to the General Assembly regarding deer management programs.
HB 3092	Requires state agencies, where appropriate, to give preference to using native prairie and forage plants to benefit pollinators, including, but not limited to, honey bees and monarch butterflies.
HB 3667	Makes an exception to the Illinois Department of Agriculture's five days of horse racing requirement at the Illinois State Fair if the Illinois Standardbred Breeders Fund Advisory Board requests an alternate racing program.
SB 0061	Makes various regulatory changes to the Animal Welfare Act and Animal Control Act. Addresses a number of issues regarding animal shelters and foster groups, licensing fees and feral cat programs.
SB 0131	Requires cats to receive a rabies vaccination with a tag and certification. The requirement does not apply to feral cats unless the feral cat is taken to the vet for sterilization.
SB 1498	Requires the Illinois State Board of Education to partner with the Illinois Board of Higher Education to develop an Agricultural Education Pre-Service Internship Program to prepare high school students for a college career aimed at becoming farm sciences teachers.



Budget

HB 0062	Allocates \$45 billion for the Rebuild Illinois capital plan to fund construction projects to improve the state's infrastructure.
HB 2937	Cleans up budgeting inconsistencies and repeals statutory authority for funds that were never appropriated.
HB 2940	Makes statutory cleanup changes and removes unfunded mandates from various state agencies.
HB 2943	Requires costs associated with the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005 to be paid from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund beginning July 1, 2019.
SB 0262	Appropriates funds for the FY 20 budget.
SB 1814	The budget implementation bill for the fiscal year 2020 budget.

Business

- HB 1438 - Legalizes, regulates and taxes adult-use cannabis in Illinois.
- HB 3394 - Requires all publicly held corporations whose principal executive offices are located in Illinois to submit information with their annual report regarding the gender and racial/ethnic make up of their board of directors.

HB 1438	Legalizes, regulates and taxes adult-use cannabis in Illinois.
HB 1915	Adds comprehensive hemophilia diagnostic treatment centers to the existing laws on the purpose of not-for-profit corporations.
HB 2472	Clarifies a provision of the the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act that protects actions or transactions specifically authorized by a state or federal agency or office from lawsuits unless the action causes injury, death or property damage.
HB 2528	Provides that a person operating a home-based business under an assumed name may list the county clerk and its address as the default agent for service of process, to include either a court order or police report.
HB 2577	Exempts liquor manufacturers and importing distributors that had less than \$50,000 of tax liability in the prior year from filing a bond (currently \$1,000 - \$100,000) with the Department of Revenue.
HB 2670	Reduces the restrictions on opening a business for those with past criminal offenses and defines the terms and provides flexibility to various state departments to review the circumstances around past offenses.
HB 2675	Creates craft distillery licenses that allow 5,000 gallons of product to be self distributed.
HB 2860	Makes changes to the Entity Omnibus Act.
HB 2961	Amends the template disclosure that must be contained in a broker price opinion or comparative market analysis under the Real Estate License Act of 2000.
HB 3061	Allows a workforce intermediary or organization providing pro bono legal services to initiate a fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
HB 3269	Makes changes to how car dealers' agents may transport vehicles and permits background checks on remittance agents.
HB 3394	Requires all publicly held corporations whose principal executive offices are located in Illinois to submit information with their annual report regarding the gender and racial/ethnic make up of their board of directors.



HB 3604	Allows the University of Chicago to sell liquor at its new hotel and conference center, preempting a 1950's referendum for a dry campus.
HB 3610	Allows a brew pub licensee of multiple brew pubs to combine the total production limit of each location and allocate it among each location.
SB 0062	Corrects inconsistent language concerning the effect of an automatic stay under the bankruptcy code on a mechanics lien, in respects to a demand and referral program to resolve expired mechanics liens.
SB 0104	Sets requirements to ensure prompt payment of a subcontractor.
SB 0181	Renames the Supplementary Proceedings Act the Citations to Discover Assets Act to allow judgment creditors to prosecute citations to discover assets.
SB 0195	Provides that for purposes of escrows, settlements or closings, "good funds" may be in the form of a check drawn on the fiduciary trust account of a title insurance company, a title insurance agent or an independent escrowee.
SB 1133	Changes the Acupuncture Practice Act to provide title protection for Chinese Herbology.
SB 1514	Clarifies that third-party religious or cultural lenders are allowed to offer Islamic Financing, which provides financing to interested parties whose religious tenets do not allow the impositions of interest in a financing agreement.
SB 1596	Carves out exceptions in provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act and the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act where civil actions are not permissible.
SB 1636	Provides that a construction contract is prohibited from withholding more than 10% of any payment made until the contractor completes 50% of the project and 5% during the remaining 50%.
SB 1831	Allows manufacturers, distributors or importing distributors to provide beer dispensing equipment (free of charge) to not-for-profit organizations hosting an event.
SB 1839	Allows third-party logistics providers to be licensed under the Wholesale Drug Distribution Act.

Civil Law

- SB 0075 - Is the sexual harassment, discrimination and ethics omnibus, which makes numerous changes to employment and civil rights laws to ensure that workers who experience sexual harassment and discrimination have a meaningful remedy under Illinois law.
- SB 1191 - Provides that a person who wishes to change his or her name after a divorce does not have to provide notice by publication of the changed name or file a petition to change their name.

HB 0088	Lowers the annual interest rate on consumer debt judgments, valued at or below \$25,000, from 9% to 5%.
HB 1455	Requires disputes over the disposition of a decedant's remains to be resolved within 30 days.
HB 1471	Creates the Illinois Trust Code to consolidate existing statutes and common law practices on trusts into one single act.
HB 1553	Changes various acts to allow for civil courts to make findings when determining the custody determination of a minor.
HB 2134	Amends the Freedom From Location Surveillance Act to protect historical phone location data.
HB 2176	Cracks down on notary fraud, often targeted at Spanish speaking communities, by increasing fines and strengthening posting requirements.



HB 2309	Provides that when various protective orders are filed against a person, they will not be made publicly available until the person they are regarding is served notice.
HB 2470	Requires the Policeman’s Annuity and Benefit Fund (PABF) of Chicago to pay court costs, litigation expenses and reasonable attorney fees for PABF participants who were previously denied by the PABF board for duty and occupational disability benefits.
HB 2601	Provides that a conservation right may be amended by the grantor or grantee, be granted by a municipality for property they own, and be enforced by any party entitled to the right against a non-owner who violates that right.
HB 2699	Increases the coverage of the Mortgage Act to include persons authorized by the mortgagor, grantor, heir, legal representative or assign.
HB 2841	Adds mayors or presidents of a city, village or incorporated town who are in office on the date of the solemnization to the list of officials who may solemnize a marriage.
HB 2934	Provides that service under the Juvenile Court Act may be satisfied by leaving a copy of a summons and petition at the individual's usual place of abode with a family member or a person that is residing there.
HB 2935	Allows for the court to vacate an appointment of counsel in a proceeding under the Juvenile Court Act.
HB 2992	Makes changes to each of the five Business Organizations Acts for the Secretary of State.
HB 3222	Makes changes to the ownership and responsibility for various parcels of land.
HB 3677	Provides that when a property is to be partitioned, the courts will determine if the property belongs to the heir. If the property is found to be heir's, it must be partitioned according to the rules of this bill, unless all the co-tenants otherwise agree in a record.
SB 0075	Is the sexual harassment, discrimination and ethics omnibus, which makes numerous changes to employment and civil rights laws to ensure that workers who experience sexual harassment and discrimination have a meaningful remedy under Illinois law.
SB 0397	Makes technical changes to the Court Reporters Act and removes outdated industry practices.
SB 1191	Provides that a person who wishes to change his or her name after a divorce does not have to provide notice by publication of the changed name or file a petition to change their name.
SB 1464	Outlines the timeline for when a funeral pre-need trust fund is considered abandoned and authorizes the transfer of presumably abandoned pre-need trust amounts to care funds held by the cemetery.
SB 1495	Provides that if a company fails to provide information as demanded under law, then the person entitled to the request may file an action to compel a company to provide the information. The company may be liable for court costs.
SB 1504	Removes language requiring an attorney filling an appearance on behalf of a person whose fees and costs were waived to pay all fees, costs and charges relating to the action, including any of the previously waived fees.
SB 1507	Creates the Civil Remedies for Nonconsensual Dissemination of Private Sexual Images Act, which allows victims of revenge porn to recover economic, non-economic and punitive damages.
SB 1526	Provides that every count in every complaint must request specific remedies the party believes it should receive from the court.
SB 1571	Abolishes the election for periodic payment provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure. Currently, any party to a medical malpractice claim where future damages are contemplated may make an election for periodic payments, rather than a lump sum.



SB 1614	Permits an heir or agent to claim property of a decedent valued at no more than \$100 by submitting an affidavit attesting to the capacity of the heir rather than a certified affidavit. The Treasurer may increase the value cap by administrative rule.
SB 1868	Allows minors who were victims of sexual abuse to bring a civil claim if there is evidence the accuser fraudulently concealed a cause of action.

Civil Rights

- HB 1637 - Creates the Keep Illinois Families Together Act, which states that no law enforcement agency or official charged with the enforcement of state or local laws may enter into or remain in an agreement with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
- HB 3498 - Ends the statute of limitations for the prosecution for female genital mutilation if the victim is under 18 years of age at the time of the offense.
- SB 0556 - Requires single-occupancy restrooms in a public location to be identified as all-gender and designated for use by no more than one person at a time or for family or assisted use and requires exterior signage that marks the restroom as a restroom and does not indicate any specific gender.

HB 1637	Creates the Keep Illinois Families Together Act, which states that no law enforcement agency or official charged with the enforcement of state or local laws may enter into or remain in an agreement with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
HB 2118	Extends the sunset date to provide government assistance to foreign-born victims of trafficking, torture or other serious crimes from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2022.
HB 2832	Dedicates the month of April of each year as Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month.
HB 3498	Ends the statute of limitations for the prosecution for female genital mutilation if the victim is under 18 years of age at the time of the offense.
HB 3534	Requires the secretary of state to allow applicants to choose between "male," "female" or "non-binary" when designating the applicant's sex on their driver's license or ID card.
SB 0556	Requires single-occupancy restrooms in a public location to be identified as all-gender and designated for use by no more than one person at a time or for family or assisted use and requires exterior signage that marks the restroom as a restroom and does not indicate any specific gender.
SB 1166	Prohibits state agencies from denying occupational or professional licenses based solely on an applicant's citizenship or immigration status.
SB 1290	Creates the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act, protecting tenants from retaliation by their landlords due to their immigration status.
SB 1378	Prohibits anyone to be excluded from jury service on the basis of sexual orientation.
SB 1429	States that evidence of a person's immigration status is inadmissible in a civil proceeding unless it is essential to prove an element of case or is voluntarily given by the person.
SB 1780	Creates a civil rights violation for any person engaged in a real estate transaction that, because of unlawful discrimination, familial status or an arrest record, does not act in good faith.



Consumers

- HB 2156 - Makes it unlawful for any business to offer consumers at retail a rebate card that charges dormancy fees and other fees after issuance of the card.
- HB 2189 - Prohibits companies that provide direct-to-consumer commercial genetic testing from sharing any test results or other personally identifiable information with any health or life insurance company without the written consent of the consumer.
- SB 0651 - Prevents alternative electric and gas suppliers from converting participants in both LIHEAP and PIPP from their current public utility provider to the alternative supplier, unless done so by an approved program.

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HB 2189	Prohibits companies that provide direct-to-consumer commercial genetic testing from sharing any test results or other personally identifiable information with any health or life insurance company without the written consent of the consumer.
HB 2491	Creates a pilot project in either Will or Grundy County that allows for uncontaminated plastics that have been processed and meet feedstock specifications to be returned to the mainstream in the form of raw materials or products.
SB 0651	Prevents alternative electric and gas suppliers from converting participants in both LIHEAP and PIPP from their current public utility provider to the alternative supplier, unless done so by an approved program.
SB 1758	Clarifies that “substantially equal installments” includes that a scheduled last payment on an installment loan cannot be greater than 5% the previous scheduled payments.
SB 1813	Provides clarification for unclaimed property for which a credit union may deduct a dormancy charge or an escheat fee from property required to be paid or delivered to the administrator under the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act.
SB 1932	Creates a Property Tax Relief Task Force that will make recommendations to assist in the development of changes needed to develop short and long-term property tax relief for homeowners.

Criminal Law

- HB 0038 - Enhances penalties for crimes committed in places of worship. States that a person commits aggravated assault or aggravated battery when he or she commits an assault or battery in a church, synagogue, mosque, or other building, structure, or place used for religious worship.
- HB 0900 - Removes the provision requiring incarcerated people to reimburse the Department of Corrections for the cost of their incarceration.
- HB 2135 - Removes the statute of limitations for criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault and aggravated criminal sexual abuse for all ages, not just those 18 and under.
- SB 1609 - Increases the daily fine credit awarded to those incarcerated for a bailable offense and against whom a fine is levied on conviction, but who are unable to post bail, from \$5 to \$30.

HB 0038	Enhances penalties for crimes committed in places of worship. States that a person commits aggravated assault or aggravated battery when he or she commits an assault or battery in a church, synagogue, mosque, or other building, structure, or place used for religious worship.
HB 0051	Creates the Peter Mendez Act to require more police training for raids when children are present.



HB 0092	Provides that an officer cannot arrest a person who has an active warrant if they are seeking medical assistance for sexual assault. The officer must inform a prosecuting authority to request a waiver before executing the warrant.
HB 0094	Makes individuals serving a sentence for an offense committed before June 19, 1998 eligible for good time sentence credits for successful completion of a degree, substance abuse or other rehabilitation programming.
HB 0160	Removes enhanced penalties for cannabis possession at schools that are permanently closed.
HB 0386	Requires correctional entities to publish a report on their use of evidence-based practices to set conditions of local supervision and mandatory supervised release, to be published annually on the Department of Corrections website.
HB 0900	Removes the provision requiring incarcerated people to reimburse the Department of Corrections for the cost of their incarceration.
HB 1579	Expands the offense of disorderly misconduct to cover threats against schools that are made online or do not specifically mention a bomb.
HB 1583	Changes the Code of Criminal Procedure provide that if an arrest warrant is requested via an electronic means that has a simultaneous video and audio transmission between the requesting party and a judge, the judge may issue an arrest warrant based upon a sworn complaint or testimony communicated in the transmission.
HB 2045	Prohibits the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice from requiring a committed person to pay any co-pay for receiving medical or dental services.
HB 2121	Changes the eligibility standards for individuals with a criminal conviction applying for a bus driver license.
HB 2135	Removes the statute of limitations for criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault and aggravated criminal sexual abuse for all ages, not just those 18 and under.
HB 2233	Grants court discretion in deciding whether to submit a special interrogatory to the jury. When any finding is inconsistent with the general verdict, the court shall direct the jury to further consider its answers and verdict and, if still inconsistent, the court may order a new trial.
HB 2244	Adds a "knowingly" knowledge requirement for persons on parole or mandatory supervised release in order for the person to be considered in violation of parole for frequenting a place where illegal drugs are being used or sold.
HB 2308	Provides that in the event a defendant is unable to post bond, the court may impose a no contact provision with the victim or other interested party that shall be enforced while the defendant remains in custody.
HB 2444	Requires the court to consider circumstances involving unnecessary harm to children by separation from parents during pre-trial detention or incarceration as factors of release.
HB 2541	Requires the Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice to provide a civics education program to incarcerated citizens who will be released in 12 months.
HB 2649	Creates the Task Force on Children of Incarcerated Parents whose purpose is to develop and propose policies and procedures that encourage the fair and compassionate treatment of children of incarcerated parents.
HB 2936	Amends the Public Corruption Profit Forfeiture Act with technical language clean-up to all references to the Attorney General Whistleblower Reward and Protection Fund.
HB 3151	Removes the sunset date for the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council and adds that a member will include a sheriff outside of Cook County and the Cook County Sheriff (or his or her designee). The Council shall determine the qualifications for and hire the Executive Director.



HB 3168	Requires that a pre-sentence report must include information concerning a defendant's eligibility for a sentence to an impact incarceration program administered by the Department of Corrections.
HB 3580	Amends the Unified Code of Corrections to provide that Certificates of Good Conduct may relieve eligible offenders of any bar to occupational licensing or housing.
HB 3584	Provides a crime victim the right to register with the Prisoner Review Board's victim registry and to submit a victim impact statement to the board for consideration at hearings or executive clemency hearings.
HB 3701	Provides that Central Management Services is not required to verify State Board of Education licenses to jobs seekers within the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ); removes aftercare release from the time period in which a person could have received an education diploma, degree, or certificate in order to be eligible for record sealing; and provides that commitments to DJJ that are automatically suspended, terminated or reinstated, include charges from Illinois as well as other states and federal law.
HB 3704	Provides that the Department of Juvenile Justice shall establish and provide transitional and post-release policies and procedures that promote family engagement, visitation and programming.
SB 0156	Allows the Department of Corrections to give inmates access to career building and job search websites.
SB 0416	Provides that it is an aggravated factor in sentencing if a defendant has been found guilty of an administrative infraction related to public indecency or sexual misconduct while in jail.
SB 1116	Allows for the disposition of cases regarding abused, neglected or dependent children that were properly filed before a minor's 18th birthday, even if the minor reaches that age before the dispositional hearing.
SB 1139	Extends a law enforcement exemption allowing eavesdropping, with prior State's Attorney approval, for up to 24 hours in the investigation of certain offenses to January 1, 2025.
SB 1294	Changes the Criminal Code of 2012 concerning identity theft to use the term "personal identifying information," rather than "personal identification information."
SB 1411	Begins the implementation of a sexual assault evidence tracking system by the Department of State Police as recommended by the Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking and Reporting Commission
SB 1418	Amends the Bi-State Development Agency Act and limits the number of Bi-State board members from counties without light-rail service to one member.
SB 1583	Provides that warrants expire after 10 years in cases where an offender is in violation of probation, conditional discharge, or supervision for theft, retail theft, or possession of a controlled substance.
SB 1599	Requires a business that publishes criminal record information publicly to change any error within 5 business days of being notified of the error. Failure to do so is a violation of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act.
SB 1609	Increases the daily fine credit awarded to those incarcerated for a bailable offense and against whom a fine is levied on conviction, but who are unable to post bail, from \$5 to \$30.
SB 1610	Amends the Criminal Code to allow a defendant to withdraw their guilty plea within two years of a conviction if a judge failed to advise the defendant that a guilty plea could affect their immigration status. These provisions apply to defendants arraigned after the effective date of this Act.
SB 1627	Makes technical changes in the law creating the criminal defense of postpartum depression passed in the 100th GA.
SB 1699	Prohibits police departments from posting mugshots on their social media accounts.
SB 1744	Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to screen inmates prior to release for Medicaid eligibility.



SB 1750	Creates an aggravated factor in cases where the guilty party left the scene of an accident where a death occurred if they were under the influence of drugs or alcohol or using an electronic device.
SB 1882	Allows a defendant's counsel to seek the discovery of the identity of a secret informant by filing a motion alleging that prior representation by the counsel of the informant creates a serious potential for an actual conflict of interest.
SB 1890	Creates the Lodging Establishment Human Trafficking Recognition Training Act which requires hotels and motels to train employees on human trafficking recognition and how to alert authorities. It also extends the statute of limitations for all offenses related to human trafficking to 25 years.
SB 1965	Allows an individual otherwise qualified for and intending to apply to a direct care position to initiate a fingerprint-based criminal history record check where a conditional employment offer has not been made and a background check has not been previously conducted.

Cybersecurity

- HB 2408 - Creates the Removal of Private Compromising Images Act, which creates a private right of action against individuals for intentionally posting a compromising image of another online or the owners or operators of a website hosting the images.
- SB 1624 - Requires companies that collect personal information concerning Illinois residents to report data breaches affecting more than 500 Illinois residents to the Attorney General.

HB 2133	Expands the definition of computer to include cloud-based networks.
HB 2408	Creates the Removal of Private Compromising Images Act, which creates a private right of action against individuals for intentionally posting a compromising image of another online or the owners or operators of a website hosting the images.
HB 2540	Creates the Blockchain Business Development Act.
HB 3575	Creates the Blockchain Technology Act, which provides for permitted uses and limitations of blockchain technology in transactions and proceedings and prohibits local governments from imposing taxes or fees and certain restrictions on the use of blockchain technology.
SB 1624	Requires companies that collect personal information concerning Illinois residents to report data breaches affecting more than 500 Illinois residents to the Attorney General.

Economic Development

- HB 3084 - Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to work with the General Assembly to complete an assessment of its current practices related to its marketing programs administered and the extent to which it assists Illinois residents in the use of programs offered.
- SB 2146 - Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to create a Clean Water Workforce Pipeline Program to prepare people for a career in water infrastructure.
- SB 1939 - Generates \$13 billion in revenue to fund the Rebuild Illinois capital plan, raises the motor fuel tax by 19 cents and indexes it to inflation, and increases other transportation-related taxes and fees.

HB 1554	Creates the Quad Cities Outsourcing Prevention Task Force, which will report to the General Assembly.
HB 3084	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to work with the General Assembly to complete an assessment of its current practices related to its marketing programs administered and the extent to which it assists Illinois residents in the use of programs offered.



SB 1939	Generates \$13 billion in revenue to fund the Rebuild Illinois capital plan, raises the motor fuel tax by 19 cents and indexes it to inflation, and increases other transportation-related taxes and fees.
SB 2146	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to create a Clean Water Workforce Pipeline Program to prepare people for a career in water infrastructure.

Education

- HB 2078 - Increases the required minimum salary for teachers to \$40,000 over a four-year period.
- HB 3606 - Provides protections around the collection of student data and gives parents the right to know what's being collected and some control in how it's being used.
- SB 0456 - Addresses issues regarding child harassment and abuse by educators at Chicago Public Schools.

HB 0035	Transfers the Grow Your Own Teacher Initiative and preparation programs from the State Board of Higher Education to Grow Your Own Illinois.
HB 0037	Allows nonpublic school students to be awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy, which is currently only granted to public high schools students.
HB 0246	Requires public schools to include the roles and contributions of LGBT individuals in the teaching of Illinois and U.S. history courses.
HB 0247	Provides that a school district that contracts with a third party to teach a driver education course must ensure the driver education teacher meets the educator licensure and endorsement requirements and must follow the same evaluation and observation requirements that apply to non-tenured teachers.
HB 0254	Requires all school districts to report to the State Board of Education teacher employment data including, but not limited to, the number of teachers employed by individual schools.
HB 0355	Establishes that providers of professional development trainings may include inclusive practices in the classroom that examine instructional and behavioral strategies that improve academic and social-emotional outcomes for all, with or without disabilities, as an option to satisfy the required 120 hours of professional development.
HB 0423	Eliminates the basic skills exam until July 1, 2025, for any applicant who is seeking their Professional Educator License (PEL) or their Educator License with Stipulations.
HB 0424	Requires the State Board of Education to establish criteria for interpreters who attend an individualized education program meeting with parents.
HB 0822	Allows a school to maintain a supply of undesignated glucagon for students with diabetes.
HB 0921	Allows educational support personnel who are removed or dismissed but accept a tender of vacancy within one calendar year from the beginning of the following school term to maintain any rights accrued during their previous service to the school district.
HB 1472	Extends the sunset to allow retired teachers to return to teaching in subject shortage areas without impairing their retirement status.
HB 1475	Creates the Seizure Smart School Act, which requires the development of a plan for students with epilepsy, as well as training for employees and delegated care aides who will assist students with epilepsy.
HB 1561	Changes the School Safety Drill Act to require all school boards of school districts to develop threat assessment protocols and to create threat assessment teams made up of certain school officials.
HB 2078	Increases the required minimum salary for teachers to \$40,000 over a four-year period.



HB 2087	Provides that school districts may allow students on a case-by-case basis to complete a portion of their driver education course through a distance learning program, with permission of the driver education teacher and a guardian and approved by school administration.
HB 2165	Requires students to take three years of math to graduate high school but provides local school districts with flexibility over required classes to remove barriers to graduation for some students.
HB 2205	Requires the chief executive officer of Chicago Public Schools to publish on the school district's website, eight months after notice is given, a full financial report on a proposed school closure that includes an analysis of the closure's costs and benefits to the district.
HB 2265	Requires 6th, 7th, or 8th grade curriculums, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, to include at least one semester of civics education.
HB 2272	Provides that contract schools with Chicago Public Schools are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Open Meetings Act.
HB 2605	Provides that if a speech language pathologist holds a regular state license, he or she does not need to meet other requirements to be issued a professional educator license with a school support personnel endorsement for non-teaching.
HB 2802	Provides if a vacancy occurs and members of a local school board fail to fill the vacancy within 60 (rather than 45) days, the regional superintendent of schools shall fill the vacancy within 30 days. This only applies to those school boards that form a district with a population of less than 500,000.
HB 2822	Requires the State Board of Education to collect data for its annual school report card on workplace learning experiences.
HB 2868	Requires the State Board of Education to develop a work-based learning database to foster relationships between school districts and businesses.
HB 2982	Allows Regional Superintendents to disclose to the Illinois State Board of Education whether an applicant seeking employment as a substitute teacher has been issued a certificate based on the required fingerprint-based check and check of the Murder and Violent Offender Database or the Sex Offender Registry.
HB 3086	Requires the Emotional Intelligence and Social and Emotion Learning Task Force to include strategies and instructions on how to address the needs of students with anger management issues.
HB 3237	Makes changes to how the State Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to qualified high school students.
HB 3302	Allows people who made complaints during the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years for delays and denials of special education two more years to file complaints.
HB 3550	Requires sex education course material and instruction in grades 6 through 12 to include an age-appropriate discussion on the meaning of consent.
HB 3586	Requires Chicago Public Schools to publish on the district's website any proposed changes to its special education policies and includes parents in the development of their child's Individualized education program.
HB 3606	Provides protections around the collection of student data and gives parents the right to know what's being collected and some control in how it's being used.
HB 3652	Requires that if a school provides school counseling services that include assisting all students with a post-secondary education plan, they must include info on all post-secondary education options including four-year colleges or universities, community colleges and vocational schools.
HB 3659	Requires charter schools' boards of directors to have a parent or guardian member. Also, all voting board members must receive training to ensure members understand their roles and responsibilities.



HB 3687	Requires the State’s Attorney, upon commencement of a prosecution for a sex offense against a person known to be a school employee, to immediately provide the superintendent or school administrator that employs the employee with a copy of the complaint, information or indictment.
SB 0028	Reinstates a minimum of five hours of instruction per day in schools, allowing exemptions for students enrolled in dual career, supervised career development experiences and youth apprenticeships.
SB 0117	Requires a student to be notified before any school student record is destroyed or information is deleted.
SB 0209	Requires a district wishing to withdraw from a special education joint agreement to provide a detailed plan of the continuum of service and notice of the intent no less than 12 months from the date of the proposed withdrawal.
SB 0455	Allows a school nurse or school administrator to administer or supervise self-administration of medical cannabis infused products to a student who is a registered qualifying patient of the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.
SB 0456	Addresses issues regarding child harassment and abuse by educators at Chicago Public Schools.
SB 1213	Creates a local appeal process for unsatisfactory ratings of teachers and allows school districts to adopt a policy for the appeal of teacher evaluations.
SB 1226	Abolishes the State Charter School Commission by July 1, 2020 and transfers all of its duties to the Illinois State Board of Education.
SB 1250	Requires schools to allow a student diagnosed with a pancreatic insufficiency to self-administer/ self-manage his or her pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy if the parent/guardian provides the school with written authorization.
SB 1371	Allows school districts to install door security locking means that meet a set of guidelines including school employee training on the engagement and release of the device.
SB 1460	Prioritizes teachers in underfunded school districts when distributing funds for the Teaching Excellence Program.
SB 1601	Requires that, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, current courses in U.S. history for K-12 students must also include instruction on the history of Illinois.
SB 1658	Requires the Illinois State Board of Education to award grants, subject to appropriation, to school districts to support school safety and security.
SB 1669	Creates two new scratch-off lottery tickets to benefit STEAM education grants and Alzheimer's support and care programs.
SB 1694	Provides that a high school may include in its curriculum a unit of instruction on workplace preparation studies that covers legal protections in the workplace, including protections against sexual harassment and racial discrimination.
SB 1731	Allows school districts to use the Illinois Mental Health First Aid training program to satisfy the requirement for teachers to receive mental health training.
SB 1746	Requires a school board to include 85% of the most recent amount of Evidence Based Funding received by the district in the aggregate calculation when issuing bonds. Additionally, the bill allows a district to use money in the working cash fund for general purposes in anticipation of state funds.
SB 1798	Requires each school district to create, maintain and implement an age-appropriate policy on sexual harassment that must be included in the district's student code of conduct handbook.



SB 1901	Allows an individual who is seeking to get their alternative educators license to pass the State Board's teacher performance assessment no later than the end of the first semester of their second year of residency.
SB 1941	Creates the Safe Schools and Healthy Learning Environments Grant Program to promote school safety and healthy learning with resources to implement restorative interventions and resolution strategies.
SB 1952	Enacts an omnibus package of measures to solve Illinois' teacher shortage, such as removing the requirement for teachers to pass a basic skills test and allowing for student teachers to be paid.
SB 2096	Is a clean-up bill for evidence-based funding of public schools.
SB 2124	Adds pneumatic guns, spring guns, paint ball guns and B-B guns that have specified features and that are brought to school or any school-sponsored activity or event to the list of objects for which a student can be expelled for a period of not less than one year.

Elections

- SB 2090 - Establishes polling locations for those incarcerated but not yet convicted in Cook County jails and requires all local election authorities in other counties to coordinate vote by mail opportunities for those in the county jail.

HB 2081	Amends the Park District Code to ensure that park district board commissioner elections for seven-member park boards are staggered in the event the length of the board's term is reduced from six-year terms to four-year terms by referendum or by resolution of the board.
HB 2625	Requires the General Assembly to redraw the Cook County judicial subcircuits in 2021 using the 2020 federal decennial census.
SB 0072	Establishes rules for special elections in the case of a vacancy of the Cook County Board President.
SB 0100	Provides that the trustees of the Fox Metro Water Reclamation District shall be elected rather than appointed by the General Assembly beginning with the 2021 election.
SB 1536	Requires that if municipal term limits are passed by referendum, ordinance, etc., they must be prospective and apply to the same categories of office.
SB 2090	Establishes polling locations for those incarcerated but not yet convicted in Cook County jails and requires all local election authorities in other counties to coordinate vote by mail opportunities for those in the county jail.

Environment and Energy

- HB 0840 - Requires each nuclear power plant in Illinois to submit a copy of their decommissioning funding report to the Illinois Commerce Commission indicating the status of their federally mandated trusts, which are to be put aside to cover the cost of decommissioning each of their nuclear plants.
- HB 2076 - Prohibits the use of bisphenol-A (BPA) in paper used to make business or banking records.
- SB 0009 - Creates the Coal Ash Pollution Prevention Act to require the state to adopt federally enforceable safeguards on the storage, care and closure of "surface impoundments," which are large ponds where waste from coal power plants is disposed.
- SB 1852 - Requires any facility where there is an ethylene oxide leak to issue a notice to all affected property owners and units of local government.



HB 0137	Removes the requirement that the Illinois Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency rules on corrosion prevention apply only to 100% state funded bridge and community water supply projects.
HB 0456	Provides that industrial incineration facilities are exempt from the municipal waste incineration permitting/emissions standards if the material being incinerated is not a solid waste.
HB 0840	Requires each nuclear power plant in Illinois to submit a copy of their decommissioning funding report to the Illinois Commerce Commission indicating the status of their federally mandated trusts, which are to be put aside to cover the cost of decommissioning each of their nuclear plants.
HB 2076	Prohibits the use of bisphenol-A (BPA) in paper used to make business or banking records.
HB 2086	Makes April Healthy Pet Month, to be observed by reviewing pets' health needs and making arrangements with veterinarians to enhance and extend pets' quality of life.
HB 2296	Requires that lead-acid batteries or rechargeable batteries with other materials be disposed of at facilities or through recycling programs that specifically accept such batteries.
HB 2583	Allows a river conservancy district to petition for referendum for an expansion of the district and may include a new name for the expanded district.
HB 2650	Requires the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, for a period of five years after the effective date of the bill, to prioritize a portion of capitalization (water) grant for supporting disadvantaged communities.
HB 2652	Allows the Capitol Development Board to require new state buildings and any renovations or additions to existing state buildings to be able to support solar panels, even if they are not installed at the time of construction.
HB 2764	Provides that non-hazardous shipment manifests shall be prescribed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and available from a third party.
HB 3068	Creates the Statewide Materials Management Advisory Committee to investigate and provide recommendations for expanding waste reduction, recycling, reuse and composting in Illinois and investigate and provide recommendations for county waste management plans.
HB 3105	Allows landowners to recover costs from damage caused by unauthorized logging on conservation or preservation land.
HB 3390	Changes the Animal Welfare Act and requires dog or cat kennel operator buildings to be equipped with a fire sprinkler or fire alarm system if the establishment is not staffed at all times.
HB 3481	Repeals the Kyoto Protocol Act of 1998.
HB 3482	Calls on the the governor to convene an Offshore Wind Energy Economic Development Policy Task Force to facilitate the development of offshore wind energy.
SB 0009	Creates the Coal Ash Pollution Prevention Act to require the state to adopt federally enforceable safeguards on the storage, care and closure of "surface impoundments," which are large ponds where waste from coal power plants is disposed.
SB 0171	Transfers the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund program to the Environmental Protection Agency, capping administrative costs at \$600,000, and dissolves the Trust Fund Council.
SB 0211	Allows public universities and state agencies to enter into cost effective renewable energy resource contracts for up to 25 years.
SB 0241	Amends the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and prohibits the importation or sale of new cosmetic products that use animal testing.



SB 1090	Requires the Office of the Attorney General to provide data on its website about enforcement efforts performed under the Environmental Barriers Act by July 31, 2020 and by July 31 every year thereafter.
SB 1392	Requires the Prairie Research Institute to conduct a study concerning microplastics and any threat microplastics may pose to human health and the environment.
SB 1529	Provides that delivery of renewable energy credits can be delayed until June 1, 2022, if the delay in establishing an operating connection with the applicable transmission is due to the distribution providers or unforeseen circumstances.
SB 1724	Requires the Government Finance Research Center at the University of Illinois Chicago to issue a "Water Rates Report" that evaluates the setting of water rates throughout the Lake Michigan service area of northeastern Illinois by December 1, 2020.
SB 1847	Requires the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to provide notice when a permit is required under the Environmental Protection Act to construct a new facility to the state senator and state representative of the district where the construction is to occur.
SB 1852	Requires any facility where there is an ethylene oxide leak to issue a notice to all affected property owners and units of local government.
SB 1854	Prohibits Vantage Specialty Chemicals in Lake County from operating unless the facility (1) has an agency-approved emission monitoring plan, (2) has performed agency-approved dispersion modeling, and (3) has obtained a site-specific permit for ethylene oxide emissions.
SB 1934	Addresses issues auto recyclers are experiencing with Secretary of State required inspections and with unlicensed out-of-state mobile vehicle crushing.
SB 2027	Codifies the legislative recommendations of the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force and directs the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to prioritize landfills overlying the Mahomet Aquifer for inspection.

Ethics

- HB 0303 - Changes the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act to require the governing body to discuss in an open meeting an Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund employee's accumulated sick leave prior to that sick leave being payable for those who began participating before January 1, 2011.

HB 0303	Changes the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act to require the governing body to discuss in an open meeting an Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund employee's accumulated sick leave prior to that sick leave being payable for those who began participating before January 1, 2011.
HB 0313	Requires the comptroller to include the expenditure amounts and dates of expenditures by state agencies to vendors and the salaries of each state employee on their website.

Family

- HB 3711 - Requires all public restrooms in a public building to have a baby changing facility.

HB 0836	Provides that a court has jurisdiction to proceed on a petition for the appointment of a guardian of a minor if the parents are unable to give consent to the appointment.
HB 0909	Allows forensic interviewers to, without parental consent, electronically record interviews with children in protective custody who are under suspicion of being abused.
HB 2256	Allows an order of partial or complete emancipation to be entered, even if a guardian objects, if a court determines that the order is in the best interest of a minor.



HB 2983	Creates the Youth Homelessness Prevention Subcommittee under the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth.
HB 3587	Amends the Adoption Act to make various changes to post-placement and post-adoption support services.
HB 3711	Requires all public restrooms in a public building to have a baby changing facility.
SB 0147	Prohibits a certificate of employment from being issued to a child performer under the age of 16 without determining that a trust account has been established for the minor.
SB 0191	Adds the requirement that a minor will continue to be considered eligible for Family Support Program services or an Individual Care Grant if all other eligibility criteria is met. Increases the age at which cases automatically expire from 19 to 21.
SB 0218	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services, when involving children under its care, to request that the State's Attorney file a petition or motion to terminate parental rights of a parent who has been criminally convicted of sexual crimes against children.
SB 0399	Allows addresses to be omitted when documents are submitted to the courts during a child custody hearing if disclosure would risk abuse of the party or a family member.

Gaming

- SB 0690 - Is a comprehensive package to provide revenue for the vertical capital bill, including the expansion of gaming and legalization of sports betting, a \$1 increase in the cigarette tax and a new tax on e-cigarettes.

HB 1552	Requires racetracks to send payments for off track betting taxes and admission taxes to local governments by the 20th of each month.
HB 3334	Reduces the distance an off-track betting facility must be from a church from 500 feet to 100 feet and allows raffle and poker locations to sell raffle tickets statewide.
HB 3661	Expands the Internet Lottery to allow the Department of Lottery to offer other draw games offered at retail locations.
SB 0690	Is a comprehensive package to provide revenue for the vertical capital bill, including the expansion of gaming and legalization of sports betting, a \$1 increase in the cigarette tax and a new tax on e-cigarettes.
SB 1246	Exempts trucks stops from being required to locate video gaming terminals in an area restricted to persons over 21 with the entrance within the view of at least one employee over 21, and subjects them to rules established by the Illinois Gaming Board.
SB 1558	Allows Rockford to impose a \$250 per year fee on video gaming terminals.

Health

- HB 0001 - Creates the Task force on Infant and Maternal Mortality Among African Americans.
- HB 0345 - Raises the legal smoking age from 18 to 21.
- HB 0465 - Establishes regulations for Pharmacy Benefits Managers that operate in Illinois.
- HB 2665 - Allows a minor of 12 years of age or older to give consent for health care services or counseling related to the prevention, rather than only for diagnosis and treatment, of sexually transmitted diseases.
- SB 2023 - Makes permanent the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, increases number of medical professionals who can certify a patient's eligibility for the program and adds 12 diagnoses that can be used to determine eligibility.



HB 0001	Creates the Task force on Infant and Maternal Mortality Among African Americans.
HB 0002	Amends the Medical Patient Rights Act to delineate 21 rights of women during pregnancy and childbirth.
HB 0003	Requires instances of preterm infants, and infant and maternal mortality be included in hospital quarterly reports. Requires reporting of racial and ethnic information of the mothers in these instances and the disparity across racial and ethnic groups.
HB 0005	Expands services to pregnant and postpartum mothers to include substance use disorder and mental health services.
HB 0345	Raises the legal smoking age from 18 to 21.
HB 0465	Establishes regulations for Pharmacy Benefits Managers that operate in Illinois.
HB 0889	Requires health insurers to cover long-term antibiotic therapy for people with a tick-borne disease.
HB 0907	Requires the Department of Human Services to maintain a resources page on its website with mental health resources geared toward parents, school counselors and teachers.
HB 2123	Provides that a food is misbranded under the Illinois Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act if it contains sesame, is offered for sale in package form but not for immediate consumption, and the label does not include sesame.
HB 2146	Requires UIC School of Public Health and the Illinois Department of Public Health to convene a working group to come up with policy recommendations relating to the health of Illinois residents.
HB 2154	Creates the Children and Youth Adult Mental Health Crisis Act, which will restructure the Individual Care Grant/Family Support Program for children and young adults with high mental health needs, regardless of their type of insurance coverage.
HB 2247	Creates a community-based pilot program for persons with mental illness or persons at risk for mental health diagnosis in communities with high need or underutilization of mental health services.
HB 2259	Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to develop a standardized format of a preferred drug list for all Medicaid managed care organizations by January 1, 2020 and establishes the Illinois Drug and Therapeutics Advisory Board to make recommendations for these preferred drugs.
HB 2276	Prohibits a person from smoking in a motor vehicle with a minor present.
HB 2433	Requires every hospital to ensure it has the proper instruments available for taking a pregnant woman's blood pressure and requires the Department of Public Health to adopt rules to implement the requirement.
HB 2438	Includes in the definition of a "mental, emotional, nervous, or substance use disorder or condition" any mental health condition that occurs during pregnancy or during the postpartum period and includes, but is not limited to, postpartum depression.
HB 2665	Allows a minor of 12 years of age or older to give consent for health care services or counseling related to the prevention, rather than only for diagnosis and treatment, of sexually transmitted diseases.
HB 2766	Enacts a comprehensive package of measures aimed at improving mental health and preventing suicide in the first responder community.
HB 2894	Extends the sunset and changes the audit schedule of the Covering ALL KIDS Health Insurance Act.
HB 2895	Requires hospitals caring for pregnant and postpartum women to train for related medical issues and implicit bias training. Requires the Department of Public Health to support a statewide perinatal quality improvement initiative to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.
HB 2896	Creates the Diversity in Health Care Professions Task Force, provides objectives and priorities, and requires it to prepare a report for the governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2020 and annually thereafter.



HB 2897	Requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to investigate and apply for federal funding opportunities to support maternal mental health and requires DPH to file a report with the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2021 about its efforts.
HB 3018	Requires signs telling customers that they need to inform staff of any food allergies to be posted in restaurants.
HB 3038	Allows adult sexual assault survivors to be transferred to any treatment hospital with approved pediatric transfer if that treatment hospital is closer than other hospitals and does not pose an undue burden to the survivor.
HB 3039	Amends the Public Aid Code and requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to send notice of terminated Medicaid assistance to the long-term care facility where the resident resides, in addition to notifying the resident.
HB 3040	Amends the Public Aid Code to require that if an individual has transferred from one long-term care (LTC) facility to another LTC facility, the individual's Medicaid eligibility must be sent to the LTC facility where the individual resides and to that individual.
HB 3041	Allows the Department of Human Services to issue decals for universal special license plates to raise money for cancer research.
HB 3097	Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to develop a pharmaceutical education program for prescribing physicians under Medicaid.
HB 3247	Creates the Parkinson's Disease Public Awareness and Education Program to promote public awareness of Parkinson's disease and the value of early detection and possible treatments and sets forth requirements for the program.
HB 3440	Allows consumers to use personal containers to fill or refill bulk food, provided that the dispensers used prevent the direct handling of the food and the containers are clean and sanitary.
HB 3468	Requires all health care facilities to make reasonable efforts to have the closed captioning feature on a television activated at all times in a common area provided for use by the general public or in a patient's room.
HB 3509	Requires certain health insurance companies to cover donated human breast milk for infants up to 12 months or older if deemed medically necessary.
HB 3511	Directs the Department of Human Services to develop educational materials for health care professionals and patients about maternal mental health conditions.
HB 3531	Prohibits a hospital from denying an intended parent entry into the delivery room where the gestational surrogate is being induced or is in labor if a hospital has a surrogacy contract on file or has received the surrogacy contract.
HB 3668	Requires that nest run eggs be held and transported at or below 45 degrees Fahrenheit ambient temperature beginning 36 hours after the time of lay.
SB 0025	Creates the Reproductive Health Act. Moves regulation of abortion from the criminal code to the civil code, brings abortion care in line with all other health care and requires all insurance plans to cover abortion care.
SB 0109	Expands the list of facilities that must allow electronic monitoring in patient rooms to include those rooms located in a building that is entirely dedicated to dementia care or in a building wing that is solely dedicated to dementia care.
SB 0162	Mandates insurers to cover diagnostic mammograms and makes changes to the coverage mandate for comprehensive ultrasound screening.
SB 0167	Makes various regulatory and technical changes to the Illinois Dental Practice Act.



SB 0174	Creates the In-Office Membership Care Act to provide requirements for what needs to be included in an in-office membership care agreement between a primary care provider and patient and where services can be provided.
SB 0459	Requires the instruction on mental health and illness included within the State of Illinois' Comprehensive Health Education Program to evaluate the multiple dimensions of health by reviewing the relationship between physical and mental health so as to promote health, well-being and human dignity.
SB 0526	Extends the sunset requiring the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to reimburse free-standing psychiatric hospitals when the child is beyond medical necessity due to a lockout from January 27, 2019 to July 1, 2019.
SB 0664	Requires any person or business that manufactures tobacco products or imports tobacco products for sale to provide documentation of its compliance with labeling provisions of the federal Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act of 2009.
SB 1165	Requires the Behavioral Health Workforce Education Center Task Force to engage in extensive planning and data collection in order to address the behavioral health workforce shortage.
SB 1214	Requires the Department of Public Health to make training materials available to ensure those who draw blood from individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are trained in the most current method of drawing blood.
SB 1221	Extends the repeal of the Medical Practice Act of 1987 from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2029.
SB 1291	Allows a dentist to be privileged at an ambulatory surgical treatment center if it is determined that the patient under care of the dentist requires sedation beyond the training that the dentist possesses.
SB 1321	Enacts an omnibus package of provisions creating new standards and requirements for managed care organizations and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.
SB 1425	Requires the Department of Public Health to implement the Suicide Prevention, Education, and Treatment Act and submit an annual report to the governor and General Assembly about the effectiveness of suicide prevention programs and potential improvements.
SB 1449	Creates a task force to study the potential of disability income insurance covering behavioral health conditions at parity with physical conditions.
SB 1506	Requires providers of mammography services to notify patients of dense breast tissue and recommend follow-up testing in a mammography report if a patient's mammogram demonstrates dense breast tissue.
SB 1568	Changes when coroners are required to preform autopsies on children aged 2 years or younger who die suddenly to 1 year or younger.
SB 1665	Exempts veterinarians from being required to register with the Prescription Monitoring Program, unless the person seeking treatment for an animal is suspected of fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance.
SB 1696	Amends the Public Aid Code and requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to create a technical advisory group to discuss implementation of the federally required patient-driven payment model for nursing homes.
SB 1702	Allows advanced practice psychiatric nurses to complete certificates for commitment and authorize restraint and seclusion for patients.
SB 1715	Allows pharmacists to administer mental health drugs to patients via injection.
SB 1726	Creates the full-time position, Dementia Coordinator, within the Department of Public Health to oversee the implementation of the Illinois Alzheimer's Disease State Plan.



SB 1739	Prohibits an applicant who proposes the closure of a health care facility from applying for a certificate of exemption from the Certificate of Need process.
SB 1828	Creates the Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Act, which would allow organizations to establish and operate a needle and hypodermic syringe access program and sets forth objectives and specified service requirements under such a program.
SB 2023	Makes permanent the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, increases number of medical professionals who can certify a patient's eligibility for the program and adds 12 diagnoses that can be used to determine eligibility.
SB 2026	Prohibits the state or an agency from applying for a federal waiver that would reduce or eliminate any protection or coverage required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
SB 2068	Prohibits a public health district from regulating serving food in a private residential household.

Higher Education

- HB 1581 - Creates the College Student Credit Card Marketing and Debt Task Force to study how to reduce the amount of credit card debt Illinois students face after graduating.
- HB 2719 - Requires students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a requirement for high school graduation unless the student fills out a waiver acknowledging that they know what the FAFSA is and chose not to file it.
- HB 3404 - Requires public colleges and universities to provide information to students on all mental health and suicide prevention resources available at the university.
- SB 1167 - Provides that ISAC shall receive and consider applications for adult vocational community college scholarships (not to exceed \$2,000/student) for anyone over the age of 30 who is unemployed but actively searching for employment.

HB 0026	Requires all students in the top 10% of their school's GPA to be accepted to Northeastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, Western Illinois University and Eastern Illinois University, provided other criteria are met.
HB 0359	Authorizes the Board of Trustees of any institution of higher education to dispose of surplus real estate by selling, leasing or other transfers of all or any part of the real estate.
HB 1581	Creates the College Student Credit Card Marketing and Debt Task Force to study how to reduce the amount of credit card debt Illinois students face after graduating.
HB 2152	Creates programs to raise mental health awareness on college campuses. All public universities and colleges must establish expert panels to address mental health issues affecting students. Each public university or college must form a partnership with local mental health service providers.
HB 2237	Establishes the Illinois Higher Education Savings Program and creates the Illinois Higher Education Savings Program Fund, which will deposit \$50 into a college savings account for every child born or adopted in Illinois after December 31, 2020, for the purpose of expanding access to higher education.
HB 2239	Allows both student trustees, from Edwardsville and Carbondale campuses, to be voting members of the Southern Illinois University Board.
HB 2512	Requires each public university to submit an annual report to the Board of Higher Education on the amount of tuition that undergraduate, degree-seeking students attending the university paid in the previous academic year.
HB 2691	Permits transgender students and noncitizen students to be eligible for state financial aid at all institutions of higher education in the State of Illinois.



HB 2719	Requires students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a requirement for high school graduation unless the student fills out a waiver acknowledging that they know what the FAFSA is and chose not to file it.
HB 2720	Extends the deadline for universities to send their financial reports detailing the previous fiscal year's revenues and expenditures to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the governor, and the General Assembly from 120 days to 150 days following the end of the fiscal year.
HB 2852	Requires public universities that offer a competency-based learning program to notify a student if he or she becomes eligible for the program.
HB 3404	Requires public colleges and universities to provide information to students on all mental health and suicide prevention resources available at the university.
HB 3628	Provides a clearer understanding of the outdated references to agencies and programs of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
SB 0172	Allows candidates for student trustee at the University of Illinois to run if they prove their residence of Illinois for six months and provide a valid driver's license, I.D. card or voter registration card.
SB 0447	Expands the eligible specialties to fulfill the Medical Student Scholarship program obligation of practicing in a designated shortage area for a minimum of five years to include general surgery, emergency medicine and psychiatry.
SB 0450	Provides that credits that are transferred from a non-degree granting institution to a public community college will be applied as direct or elective credit toward an associate's degree of applied science or equivalent degree under the Career and Workforce Transition Act.
SB 0529	Changes the Government Severance Pay Act by exempting individuals employed in a college or university's department of intercollegiate athletics from the provisions of this act.
SB 1167	Provides that ISAC shall receive and consider applications for adult vocational community college scholarships (not to exceed \$2,000/student) for anyone over the age of 30 who is unemployed but actively searching for employment.
SB 1524	Authorizes the state treasurer to allocate up to 5% of the State Investment Portfolio to the Illinois Student Investment Account for the purpose of assisting qualified residents with attending and paying for higher education.
SB 1641	Requires the Department of Human Services and Illinois Workforce Innovation Board to identify and flag college students who are potentially eligible to receive SNAP benefits and provide information to potentially eligible students.
SB 1788	Reduces the number of members on the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty Program Board from 21 to 11.
SB 1888	Allows student applicants in a social work master's program to sit for the authorized examination in the final semester of the program, rather than after they receive their degree.
SB 1919	Creates the 21st Century Employment Grant Program to support manufacturing, health care and innovative technology training programs at community colleges and high schools.



Housing

- HB 3671 - Allows landlords to request documentation when allowing a service animal on the premises where pets are generally prohibited.

HB 3671	Allows landlords to request documentation when allowing a service animal on the premises where pets are generally prohibited.
SB 0138	Allows 501(c)(3) nonprofits to purchase a mortgage or residential property without an arms-length affidavit from the lender being enforceable.
SB 0169	Provides that a failure to provide notice of a foreclosure to the alderman in which the property resides may no longer result in the complaint being dismissed without prejudice.
SB 0220	Provides that the Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR) can determine on a case-by-case basis whether to hold a fact-finding conference in housing cases and requires training in housing discrimination.
SB 1134	Provides that, if a notice of foreclosure cannot personally be served so a notice of foreclosure is served by publication, it is the duty of the clerk to mail to each defendant listed on the filed Affidavit for Service by Publication a copy of the published notice by first-class mail within ten days.
SB 1623	Amends the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant Rights Act to require that a park owner, after having paid all outstanding rent, fees, costs and expenses to the community, must also pay in priority order all lienholders, including providers of any utility services.

Human Services

- HB 1551 - Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to accept a report as a child welfare services referral when a report is made by a mandated reporter and there is a prior indicated report of abuse or neglect and a prior open service case involving any member of the household.
- SB 1136 - Requires every state agency to designate one individual to attend an annual presentation hosted by CMS on Illinois’ programs for hiring disabled individuals.
- SB 1239 - Requires the DCFS to immediately refer reports it receives alleging the abuse or neglect of a child by a person who is not the child’s parent.

HB 0344	Creates the Authorized Electronic Monitoring in Community-Integrated Living Arrangements and Developmental Disability Facilities Act to authorize the use of video or audio surveillance in a resident's room at the resident's own expense.
HB 0831	Provides that, if the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) gets a report of suspected abuse or neglect of a child who was receiving care in a hospital, including psychiatric hospitals, DCFS shall notify the directors of the Department of Public Health and Healthcare and Family Services of the report.
HB 1551	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to accept a report as a child welfare services referral when a report is made by a mandated reporter and there is a prior indicated report of abuse or neglect and a prior open service case involving any member of the household.
HB 1652	Requires the Department of Financial and Professional Regulations to designate one staff member as its military liaison to ensure licensure requirements for service members and their spouses are managed properly and efficiently.
HB 2142	Increases the amount of counseling sessions allowed for any adult under guardianship to 12 sessions and the length of those sessions to lasting no longer than 60 minutes until their guardian provides consent for more.



HB 2459	Extends the repeal date for the Out-of-State Person Subject to Involuntary Admission on an Inpatient Basis Mental Health Treatment Act.
HB 2487	Amends the Task Force on Human Services Contracting Act by delaying all the dates outlined in current law by one year and adds two more members to the Task Force.
HB 2571	Amends the Child Care Act of 1969 to limit the number of children in a foster family home to no more than six children unrelated to the family (currently eight).
HB 2659	Clarifies which department is being referenced in a specific part of the Public Aid Code.
HB 2723	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to provide administrative support to the Strengthening the Child Welfare Workforce for Children and Families Task Force, delays all the dates outlined in current law by one year and adds two more members to the task force.
HB 3069	Requires any facility licensed under the Community-Integrated Living Arrangements Licensure and Certification Act to notify the Department of Human Services when emergency calls are made from the facility.
HB 3129	Requires that, beginning Oct. 1, 2019, the maximum benefit levels for the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program should be annually adjusted to remain equal to at least 3% of the Federal Poverty Level.
HB 3196	Creates the Immigration Task Force to examine specified issues related to immigrant communities in Illinois, as well as possible solutions.
HB 3299	Requires that individuals admitted to developmental disability facilities and receiving habilitation shall have access to sex education, related resources and treatment planning that supports their rights to sexual health and freedom from sexual exploitation and abuse.
HB 3331	Makes changes to the types of assistance offered to households to prevent homelessness by adding the payment of rent or mortgage to the types of assistance available.
HB 3483	Requires the Department of Human Services to maintain a database of Illinois residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
HB 3631	Allows the Department of Children and Family Services to deny or refuse to renew a license for persons who will be working with confidential information or submit billing documents if the applicant has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit certain felony offenses.
SB 0193	Requires DCFS to review a 5 percent random sample of unfounded cases of young children to review if the findings are consistent with department rules and procedures. If not, the reviewer must forward the case to the investigator to take corrective steps.
SB 0946	Allows the Illinois Department of Human Services to issue pediatric cancer awareness decals for universal special license plates.
SB 1136	Requires every state agency to designate one individual to attend an annual presentation hosted by CMS on Illinois' programs for hiring disabled individuals.
SB 1239	Requires the DCFS to immediately refer reports it receives alleging the abuse or neglect of a child by a person who is not the child's parent.
SB 1387	Simplifies the process for a representative to open an ABLE account for individuals with disabilities.
SB 1735	Exempts financial assistance from a program or research project intended to investigate policies around reducing poverty, promoting social mobility and increasing financial stability from determining one's eligibility for Medicaid, SNAP and TANF benefits.
SB 1743	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to develop and implement a feedback survey for foster children who have aged or are aging out of the program.



SB 1778	Reorganizes the list of individuals who are required to immediately report to the Department of Children and Family Services when they have reasonable cause to believe that a child may be abused or neglected. Also requires training for mandated reporters.
SB 1791	Requires that SNAP be voluntary in every county except those in which the Department of Human Services can show that there are sufficient program slots for at least the majority of the county's current non-exempt work registrants.
SB 1808	Requires numerous state agencies to provide preventive services to youth in care of the Department of Children and Family Services and young adults who are aging out of or have recently aged out of the department's care.
SB 1889	Extends the Child Protection Training Academy to provide training and front line all child welfare workers instead of just investigators.

Insurance

- HB 2846 - Requires certain pediatric disorders to be given a specific code until a new code is defined and then prevents insurers from denying coverage due to a diagnosis of a condition under that code.
- HB 2847 - Prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against living organ donors, makes it unlawful for an employer to retaliate against an employee for requesting or taking a leave to donate an organ, and requires the Secretary of State to create an organ and tissue donor registry.
- SB 0111 - Raises the age of eligibility for certain individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability to receive coverage for anesthetics provided in conjunction with dental treatment from 19 to 26.

HB 1639	Provides that health benefit coverage mandates under accident and health in the Insurance Code are not applicable to supplemental policies that provide "excepted benefits" under federal law. Exempts liability, workers' comp, auto medical, and limited scope dental or vision issued under the Insurance Code.
HB 2160	Directs the Department of Insurance and Department of Healthcare and Family Services to create a uniform, electronic prior authorization form for processing prescription drug benefits on or after July 1, 2021.
HB 2173	Grants a variety of powers to the Insurance Guaranty Fund board of directors, including discretion on advancing payment of workers' comp claims.
HB 2846	Requires certain pediatric disorders to be given a specific code until a new code is defined and then prevents insurers from denying coverage due to a diagnosis of a condition under that code.
HB 2847	Prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against living organ donors, makes it unlawful for an employer to retaliate against an employee for requesting or taking a leave to donate an organ, and requires the Secretary of State to create an organ and tissue donor registry.
HB 3113	Requires insurance providers to cover skin cancer screenings without any cost-sharing requirements.
HB 3320	Amends the Insurance Code to exempt from the definition of a third party administrator any dental service plan.
HB 3435	Requires insurers to cover medically necessary epinephrine injectors for persons under 18 years old.
HB 3471	Requires insurance companies to provide coverage for cardiopulmonary monitors for minors.
HB 3487	Requires hospitals to post information on how to enroll in health insurance through the Illinois health insurance marketplace.



SB 0111	Raises the age of eligibility for certain individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability to receive coverage for anesthetics provided in conjunction with dental treatment from 19 to 26.
SB 0653	Prohibits a health care plan from applying a time measurement standard for providers required to use a time-based CPT code if such practice would result in fewer units billed than allowed by the CPT code book, except as required by federal law or federally funded patients.
SB 1377	Adds an additional reason for the Director of Insurance to reject a plan of division of an Illinois Domestic Stock Company.
SB 2085	Mandates insurance coverage for benefits delivered through the psychiatric Collaborative Care Model.

Labor

- HB 0834 - Strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 2003 to attempt to further close the pay gap between genders by prohibiting employers from asking questions regarding an applicant's salary history.
- SB 0001 - Raises the minimum wage starting at \$9.25 on January 1, 2020 to \$15.00 on January 1, 2025.
- SB 1591 - Creates an Apprenticeship Education expense credit of up to \$3,500 per qualifying apprentice per year for employers who pay tuition costs at Illinois secondary and community colleges.
- SB 2087 - Creates a five-year pilot program for finding employment for individuals with disabilities, tasked with helping them find jobs and negotiate fair wages.

HB 0252	Extends the Human Rights Act to all private employers with at least one employee.
HB 0253	Removes Graduate Assistants (G.As) from the "student" classification, allowing them to be classified as employees, which grants them the same rights as other employees, including the right to collectively bargain
HB 0269	Amends the Workers' Compensation Act to require a commissioner to deem an employer's failure to provide the required insurance coverage an immediate and serious danger to public health, safety and welfare.
HB 0834	Strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 2003 to attempt to further close the pay gap between genders by prohibiting employers from asking questions regarding an applicant's salary history.
HB 2215	Requires the Office of the State Fire Marshal to include the history of the fire service labor movement in a full-time public firefighter's training curriculum.
HB 2301	Requires union representatives or attorneys who have represented unions in workers compensation cases to be appointed to boards, commissions and panels that deal with workers' compensation and related issues.
HB 2304	Creates the Youth Training and Education in the Building Trades Program with the Department of Human Services and the Illinois Housing Development Authority to train at-risk youth for careers in the building trades.
HB 2492	Authorizes the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and its Local Lodge 701 to issue decals for the universal special license plate.
HB 2557	Requires employers to obtain consent from potential employees being interviewed if the interview uses artificial intelligence analysis.
HB 2830	Prohibits an employer from terminating an employee for an absence from work if the absence is due to the employee's attendance at a school conference, behavioral meeting or academic meeting.



HB 2854	Encourages municipalities to implement hiring preference initiatives for applicants who have completed a fire suppression apprenticeship.
HB 2884	Allows paraprofessionals from the now-dissolved Mid-State Special Education Cooperative to keep earned sick days in spite of their employment transferring to school districts.
HB 3405	Provides that gratuities to employees are the property of the employees and may not be retained by an employer.
HB 3446	Eliminates a provision requiring an employee seeking temporary or total disability benefits to have worked for the same municipal employer where they are currently seeking disability benefits.
HB 3663	Provides a framework and clarity of what a worker co-operative is and the benefits and rights of those that operate one.
SB 0001	Raises the minimum wage starting at \$9.25 on January 1, 2020 to \$15.00 on January 1, 2025.
SB 0161	Creates a new Worker Protection Unit within the Attorney General's office, which would be empowered to enforce employment laws.
SB 0534	Creates the Bureau on Apprenticeship Programs within the Illinois Department of Labor and creates an advisory board of 12 legislators (three from each caucus, appointed by the caucus leader).
SB 1474	Permits organizations covered by the National Labor Relations Act to apply agreements requiring membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment.
SB 1525	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to provide eligible youth with an apprenticeship stipend to cover the costs associated with entering and sustaining through an apprenticeship.
SB 1573	Requires the Department of Public Health to establish a nursing home labor force program.
SB 1591	Creates an Apprenticeship Education expense credit of up to \$3,500 per qualifying apprentice per year for employers who pay tuition costs at Illinois secondary and community colleges.
SB 1899	Delays what is known as the "speed bump" until 2022, which would decrease unemployment benefits and increase unemployment taxes on employers.
SB 2024	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to conduct a study on the potential expansion of apprenticeship programs and publish it by June 1, 2020.
SB 2087	Creates a five-year pilot program for finding employment for individuals with disabilities, tasked with helping them find jobs and negotiate fair wages.
SB 2126	Aligns statute with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) by providing a clearer understanding of the provisions and revising outdated references to agencies and programs.

Local Government

- HB 2124 - Brings individuals who are independent contractors in a park, recreation or education setting and volunteers in line with employees in the Open Meetings Act to allow the public body to hold a closed meeting to discuss their appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal.
- HB 2473 - Allows Fire Protection Districts to purchase supplies jointly with one or more other governmental units.
- SB 1217 - Requires that 75% of the money received from the municipal hotel use tax be spent on promoting tourism in the community.

HB 0245	Allows mobile carrying devices to be operated on sidewalks and crosswalks as long as they are operated in accordance with local ordinances.
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HB 0271	Requires a Fire Protection District to post a competitive bid notice on its website if the website is maintained by a full-time staff member.
HB 0348	Allows for the dissolution of townships in McHenry County by a petition-initiated procedure; also requires road districts in Lake and McHenry counties that contain less than 15 miles of roadway to be abolished.
HB 0814	Provides that municipal officials may satisfy training requirements of the Open Meetings Act with in-person trainings sponsored or conducted by the Illinois Municipal League.
HB 0910	Allows the Aurora Public Library to change its board of trustees from an appointed board to an elected board.
HB 0938	Changes the Municipal Code to allow the proceeds of a sales tax imposed by a non-home rule municipality to be used for municipal operations through July 1, 2030, as opposed to December 31, 2020.
HB 1659	Raises the spending threshold at which river conservancy districts must utilize a competitive bidding process to issue a contract.
HB 2073	Allows all park districts outside of Chicago to lease real estate for 90 years or less as long as it is not required for park or recreational purposes.
HB 2103	Allows the North Shore Water Reclamation District and sanitary districts to lease property not required for district use to others for a period not exceeding 50 years.
HB 2124	Brings individuals who are independent contractors in a park, recreation or education setting and volunteers in line with employees in the Open Meetings Act to allow the public body to hold a closed meeting to discuss their appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal.
HB 2129	Provides that a park district board may enter into a lease for equipment and machinery for up to eight years, rather than the current five year period.
HB 2252	Updates the Counties Code to make all references to the county clerk be gender neutral.
HB 2473	Allows Fire Protection Districts to purchase supplies jointly with one or more other governmental units.
HB 2489	Requires the Secretary of State to provide the county collector in each county a quarterly report of transfer of title of mobile homes at no cost to the county collector.
HB 2499	Amends the Park District Code to clarify when a park board may declare a vacancy.
HB 2591	Amends the Illinois Police Training Act by making various changes to hiring requirements for police officers.
HB 2639	Reenacts and extends the sunset date of the design-build provisions in the Public Building Commission Act, which allows a commission to contract with an entity to both design and construct a project.
HB 2988	Clarifies that only counties have zoning authority over wind energy facilities in unincorporated territory outside the zoning authority of a municipality.
HB 2993	Makes several changes to statute governing the annexation of territory into a library district.
HB 3141	Makes various changes to the process for filling vacancies for township offices.
HB 3143	Allow counties with fewer than 3 million residents to change the way in which they select their county assessor or supervisor of assessments.
HB 3263	Requires municipalities that participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund to maintain a publicly available website.
HB 3369	Allows the Village of Lindenhurst board of trustees to terminate the terms of all members of the board of trustees of the Lindenhurst Sanitary District and transfer the duties of the Sanitary District to the board of trustees.



HB 3676	Enacts provisions that grant additional powers to township boards, allows township road districts to be abolished by referendum and creates new rules for revenue levied by township road districts.
SB 0090	Creates a new process for dissolving drainage districts via resolution or ordinance if the municipalities within the region of the drainage district and the county are in agreement; certain requirements need to be met.
SB 0246	Excludes fuel from the competitive bidding process for park districts.
SB 0482	Extends the sunset of the County Fee Waiver Pilot Program through January 1, 2021.
SB 0584	Makes changes to the Metro-East Sanitary District Act, including the residency requirements for commissioners and the removal process.
SB 0640	Adds clarifying language to the Public Aid Code authorizing townships to provide and administer food pantry programs as part of their general assistance programming.
SB 0765	Allows a township to appoint a non-resident highway commissioner.
SB 1114	Allows a county to bring an action for immediate injunctive relief, without bond, if the county finds an imminent hazard to public health or safety from an unfit condition, such as unhealthy accumulation or concentration of hazardous or unhealthy substance or materials.
SB 1217	Requires that 75% of the money received from the municipal hotel use tax be spent on promoting tourism in the community.
SB 1273	Allows for the transfer of land from a park district to another unit of local government or school district if the park district board approves the sale.
SB 1580	Allows counties to regulate businesses that involve nudity and sexual activities.
SB 1630	Removes school districts from the definition of the term "parties" in the Automatic Contract Renewal Act.
SB 1651	Expands a Forest Preserve District's ability to grant licenses and easements to also include licenses and easements for renewable energy resources.
SB 1712	Exempts credit card, bank account and other confidential account numbers from FOIA requests.
SB 2136	Makes several changes to the North Shore Water Reclamation District, including increasing the dollar amount of an emergency contract.

Pensions

- HB 3082 - Requires Central Management Services to automatically enroll new members of State Retirement Systems into the deferred compensation plan and deduct 3% of gross compensation each pay period.
- SB 1236 - Prohibits elected members of a county board from receiving IMRF pension benefits until after they retire, or - if they are receiving benefits - requires the forfeiture of the county board salary.

HB 1580	Makes administrative and technical changes to the state employees article of the Illinois Pension Code.
HB 2029	Allows various public sector pension plans to begin buyouts.
HB 2071	Amends the Cook County Article of the Pension Code to allow members to purchase service credit and earnings credit for periods of furlough or salary reduction.
HB 2502	Allows a firefighter to transfer service credit from the Chicago firefighter pension fund to a downstate firefighter pension fund.
HB 2617	Makes technical changes to the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund.



HB 2628	Clarifies that Chicago Public School teachers who are terminated are still eligible to receive pension benefits when they reach retirement age.
HB 2662	Extends the term length of the annuitant member of the Board of Trustees for the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago from two years to three years.
HB 2824	Requires a Chicago Municipal Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund member who leaves service and is eligible to apply for a retirement benefit to do so within one year of leaving service.
HB 3082	Requires Central Management Services to automatically enroll new members of State Retirement Systems into the deferred compensation plan and deduct 3% of gross compensation each pay period.
HB 3213	Makes technical changes to Teachers' Retirement system.
SB 0037	Requires a unit of local government with 5,000 or more inhabitants that is the secondary employer of a firefighter to contribute to the pension fund maintained by the firefighter's primary employer where the firefighter is earning service credits.
SB 1236	Prohibits elected members of a county board from receiving IMRF pension benefits until after they retire, or - if they are receiving benefits - requires the forfeiture of the county board salary.
SB 1264	Updates the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act so that it does not apply to any annuity, pension or benefit funds held in a fiduciary capacity by or on behalf of a retirement system.
SB 1265	Makes technical fixes to State Universities Retirement System.
SB 1582	Changes the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Article of the pension code to redefine salary.
SB 1584	Prohibits the cancellation of a service retirement pension if the pensioner is re-employed as a teacher on a temporary and non-annual basis or on an hourly basis.
SB 1765	Allows for additional contributions for those under the Chicago Teachers' Fund who have previously elected early retirement, while removing provisions that allow for early retirement for members who are not eligible to elect early retirement.
SB 1787	Amends the Secure Choice Savings Program Act by adding traditional individual retirement accounts (IRA's) as an option under the program.
SB 2030	Provides that the age stated in a fireman's application for appointment as a member shall be conclusive evidence of his or her age for the purposes of providing all benefits under amended law.



Public Safety

- HB 2028 - Increases the burial benefit for a fireman, state police or local law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- HB 2767 - Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board to create, develop or approve an in-service course addressing issues of officer wellness and suicide prevention.
- SB 1496 - Increases the maximum penalty for hitting a construction worker to \$25,000 (Currently \$10,000).
- SB 1862 - Clarifies that vehicles need to slow down, change lanes and proceed with caution when approaching disabled vehicles or emergency vehicles on the side of the highway. Increases fines and penalties associated with breaking Scott's Law.

HB 0124	Allows state trooper candidates to have 60 college credit hours in any discipline to qualify, as opposed to two years of law enforcement studies.
HB 0210	Creates the Tamms Minimum Security Unit Task Force to study using Tamms Minimum Security Unit as a vocational training facility for the Department of Corrections.
HB 0331	Requires Illinois State Police, the Illinois Department of Transportation and Toll Authority to increase cameras along Cook County expressways. Any law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over Cook County expressways may use images to investigate firearm offenses and detect expressway hazards, but not petty offenses.
HB 1613	Eliminates the sunset date for the traffic stop statistical study under the Illinois Vehicle Code (currently scheduled to repeal on July 1, 2019).
HB 1873	Raises the mandatory fines for illegally passing a school bus from \$150 to \$300 for an initial violation and \$500 to \$1,000 for a future violation.
HB 2028	Increases the burial benefit for a fireman, state police or local law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
HB 2386	Increases the penalty for a person who commits aggravated use of an electronic communication device to a 12-month driver's license suspension and a minimum fine of \$1,000.
HB 2627	Requires any law enforcement officer questioning a student to first notify the parent and make reasonable effort to ensure that the parent/guardian is present during questioning. If a parent cannot be present, then every attempt should be made to have a listed school personnel present.
HB 2708	Expands the laboratories that a law enforcement agency may coordinate with to include National Missing and Unidentified Persons Systems partner laboratories.
HB 2767	Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board to create, develop or approve an in-service course addressing issues of officer wellness and suicide prevention.
HB 2818	Allows victims of sexual assault or stalking to apply for the address confidentiality program with the Attorney General's Office in order to extend some of the same legal protections victims of domestic violence have available.
HB 3101	Creates the Lodging Establishment Human Trafficking Recognition Training Act, which requires hotels and motels to train employees in the recognition of human trafficking and the protocol to follow when reporting it to authorities.
HB 3396	Changes the Stalking No Contact Order Act to specify that when an emergency stalking no contact order is granted on a court holiday or evening, the court will immediately file a certified copy with law enforcement officials who maintain state police records.
SB 0086	Clarifies that people cannot stream videos on a cell phone while they are driving.



SB 0087	Bans tinted headlights from being installed on cars.
SB 1183	Allows funds received from the issuance of Police Memorial Committee license plates to be used for the purpose of giving grants and scholarships to spouses, currently only available to children.
SB 1258	Requires first responders who treat an individual experiencing a suspected or actual opioid overdose to document certain details about the overdose and submit them to be used in a mapping application to develop strategies to help prevent overdose deaths.
SB 1496	Increases the maximum penalty for hitting a construction worker to \$25,000 (Currently \$10,000).
SB 1862	Clarifies that vehicles need to slow down, change lanes and proceed with caution when approaching disabled vehicles or emergency vehicles on the side of the highway. Increases fines and penalties associated with breaking Scott's Law.
SB 1894	Allows children and stepchildren of police officers or firefighters who have died in the line of duty to be issued deceased police officer or firefighter license plates.
SB 1915	Restructures the rights, powers and duties of the State Police for more efficient management.
SB 1917	Allows local law enforcement associations to get licenses for raffles and poker runs.
SB 2038	Creates the Move Over Task Force and requires the secretary of state to include "zipper merging" in the Illinois Rules of the Road.
SB 2148	Expands the current Law Enforcement Officer Intern Program to also establish a Corrections Officer Intern Program and adds veterans' preferences in the application process for both programs.

Revenue and Taxes

- HB 3590 - Makes winnings from horse racing and riverboat gambling taxable as income for both residents of Illinois and non-residents.
- SB 0687 - Establishes tax rates under a graduated income tax rate structure.
- SB 0689 - Increases state revenues to fund the Fiscal Year 2020 budget, including a managed care organization assessment, a tax amnesty program and the decoupling from certain Trump Administration corporate tax breaks.
- SB 1595 - Amends the Film Production Services Tax Credit Act of 2008 and provides that the first \$200,000 of out-of-state wages paid or incurred by production companies and loan-out corporations qualify for the film production services credit, subject to withholding payments.

HB 0250	Allows counties other than Cook County to combine their property tax sales with one or more contiguous counties.
HB 0925	Allows a county treasurer with a population of between 700,000 and 900,000 to limit the maximum penalty for delinquent taxes on a mobile home to the lesser of \$100 or 50% of the original tax imposed (currently \$100).
HB 2209	Provides that property tax bills must include a list of each TIF district in which a property is located and the dollar amount of the tax due that is allocated to the TIF district.
HB 2243	Amends the property tax code to make changes concerning the certifications required for township and multi-township assessors and supervisors of assessments.
HB 2578	Extends a sunset in the Property Tax Code that excludes any increase in market value of railroad property due to investment in high speed rail.



HB 2931	Extends the TIF in the Village of Phoenix, Village of Swansea, Village of Saunemin, Village of Romeoville, the South Berwyn Corridor Tax TIF district in Berwyn and the Roosevelt Road Tax TIF district in Berwyn.
HB 3501	Amends the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Act to make the Act more consistent with Illinois' current special assessment laws and provides clear bonding authority and allows local governments to include lead pipe replacement and resiliency improvements in their PACE programs.
HB 3590	Makes winnings from horse racing and riverboat gambling taxable as income for both residents of Illinois and non-residents.
SB 0039	Creates the Illinois Property Tax Relief Fund to pay rebates to residential taxpayers with general homestead exemptions.
SB 0687	Establishes tax rates under a graduated income tax rate structure.
SB 0689	Increases state revenues to fund the Fiscal Year 2020 budget, including a managed care organization assessment, a tax amnesty program and the decoupling from certain Trump Administration corporate tax breaks.
SB 1041	Provides that when a lessee is liable for the payment of property taxes, a taxing district owns the property and the taxes remain unpaid 60 days after the second installment due date, then the State's Attorney may bring suit against the lessee. This only applies to DuPage County.
SB 1257	Removes Illinois from the new tax imposed by the federal 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) on transportation and parking benefits provided by nonprofits to their employees.
SB 1456	Provides that tax-exempt property used for parking in Chicago may lose that tax exemption for any part of the property not used for parking.
SB 1515	Provides that, for income tax purposes, Illinois' compensation of nonresidents who work in Illinois is based on the number of days worked in Illinois.
SB 1595	Amends the Film Production Services Tax Credit Act of 2008 and provides that the first \$200,000 of out-of-state wages paid or incurred by production companies and loan-out corporations qualify for the film production services credit, subject to withholding payments.
SB 1800	Increases the required payment threshold of estimated taxes, for the taxable year, from \$500 to \$1000.

Seniors

- HB 0347 - Adds other actions to the definition of abuse against the elderly. These acts include assault, aggravated assault, battery and aggravated battery.
- HB 2287 - Extends the statute of limitation for certain identity theft or elder abuse crimes from five years to 10 years.
- HB 3503 - Requires insurers to offer optional coverage for hearing instruments and any related services for all individuals 65 years and older when prescribed by a hearing care professional.

HB 0347	Adds other actions to the definition of abuse against the elderly. These acts include assault, aggravated assault, battery and aggravated battery.
HB 0833	Provides that, for taxable years 2020 through 2024 in Cook County, if a senior citizen has been granted a Senior Citizens Homestead Exemption, they need not reapply.
HB 2287	Extends the statute of limitation for certain identity theft or elder abuse crimes from five years to 10 years.



HB 2643	Extends the time frame for seniors ages 65 or older to cancel a home repair or remodeling contract from three days to 15 days if the contract was signed at the home of the purchaser.
HB 3065	Requires Adult Protective Services providers to conduct interviews of the eligible adult's family members, neighbors and friends when conducting any investigation concerning a report of suspected abuse, neglect, financial exploitation or self-neglect of an eligible adult.
HB 3343	Allows elderly, disabled or homeless individuals receiving SNAP benefits to redeem them at restaurants that contract with the Department of Human Services.
HB 3503	Requires insurers to offer optional coverage for hearing instruments and any related services for all individuals 65 years and older when prescribed by a hearing care professional.
SB 0069	Tightens up statutes to ensure those who commit crimes against elderly and disabled persons are held accountable.
SB 1319	Prohibits assisted living facilities from discriminating against a resident and adds sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and HIV status to the definition of "greatest social need."

State Government

- HB 2040 - Prohibits the state, state agencies or local governments from doing business with private detention centers in any way.
- SB 0726 - Creates a disabled persons internship program in all state agencies with more than 1,500 employees.
- SB 1332 - Creates the Illinois Bank On Initiative, an initiative to increase financial products and reduce reliance on alternative financial products.

HB 0105	Makes technical changes to clean up the Fire Investigation Act by the Illinois State Fire Marshal.
HB 0142	Authorizes bonding for the Rebuild Illinois capital program.
HB 0808	Reduces the fee from \$10 to \$5 for original, renewal and duplicated Illinois ID cards for individuals under 18.
HB 0854	Adds one additional member to the Illinois Fire Advisory Commission from a registered apprenticeship program primarily instructing in the installation and repair of fire extinguishing systems.
HB 1557	Requires the Secretary of State to provide a pamphlet or post information informing customers of the availability of literacy and English as a second language classes.
HB 2040	Prohibits the state, state agencies or local governments from doing business with private detention centers in any way.
HB 2266	Allows required reports to be published on the comptroller's website, requires county clerks to report dissolution of a local government or school district within 60 days and allows the use of funds in the Cemetery Consumer Protection Fund to be used to help pay for certain expenses.
HB 2460	Allows state agencies and boards to adopt sustainable investment policies.
HB 2613	Allows speech-language therapists to enter into corporations with the following licensed professionals fields: acupuncture, massage, naprapathy, occupational therapy and physical therapy.
HB 2676	Changes the Illinois Dental Practice Act by eliminating a requirement that allowed the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to approve the dental education courses needed to become a public health dental hygienist and sets up training requirements.
HB 2700	Requires Central Management Services to identify a situation where a Teacher's Retirement System recipient overpaid for health insurance and refund the overpaid amount as soon as practicable.



HB 2722	Provides that contractors with state contracts greater than \$50,000 shall deliver a surety bond and file it with the state to ensure the completion of the contract and all related material and subcontractor costs.
HB 2800	Allows a non-profit operating in Illinois to use a rural route number in its annual report as opposed to a traditional address for the non-profit's principal address.
HB 2811	Extends the sunset of the Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics Act to January 1, 2030 and makes technical changes to the Act.
HB 2836	Allows the state treasurer to purchase property in Springfield, rather than lease.
HB 2837	Aligns the State Treasurer Act with certain federal requirements governing 529 College Savings Programs and clarifies language regarding administrative fees collected by the treasurer.
HB 2941	Requires that the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Cook County Department of Corrections and the office of the sheriff of every other county to honor all intergovernmental agreements and shall provide all required information in a timely manner.
HB 2987	Creates the Protection of Individuals with Disabilities in the Criminal Justice System Task Force, which will consider issues that affect adults with disabilities in the criminal justice system.
HB 3014	Requires the Department of Agriculture to rename the Ethnic Village exhibit at the Illinois State Fair to the Village of Cultures.
HB 3217	Creates the Asian American Family Commission.
HB 3249	Creates the First 2019 General Revisory Act.
HB 3554	Allows the state to send EMS license renewal notices via email in addition to regular mail.
SB 0182	Requires the Department of Public Health to study the feasibility of creating a statewide registry of advance directives.
SB 0190	Attempts to assist individuals with disabilities who want to work for the State of Illinois by requiring CMS send the Successful Disability Opportunities List to any agency that is looking to hire.
SB 0196	Extends the deadline for governor to make appointments to the State Board of Elections from April 1 to May 15 for appointments to the Board of Elections occurring in 2019.
SB 0205	Extends the sunset date for bonding authority without referendum for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to December 31, 2034.
SB 0527	Allows for property sold to the state in Will County, for the purpose of developing an airport, to be sold based on current property tax assessments and not assessments from 2002.
SB 0528	Changes the Senate's appointments to the General Assembly Retirement System Board to mirror those of the House.
SB 0654	Extends the sunset of the Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989 from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2030.
SB 0656	Extends the Perfusionist Practice Act sunset from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2030 and clarifies the responsibilities and duties of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulations (IDFPR) and the Perfusionist Board.
SB 0657	Extends the sunset of the Structural Engineering Practice Act.
SB 0658	Extends the sunset of the Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Act of 1989 from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2030.
SB 0725	Repeals the sunset date on the Open Operating Standards Act, which established a single data portal (data.illinois.gov) for all agencies to use to publish information for public review.



SB 0726	Creates a disabled persons internship program in all state agencies with more than 1,500 employees.
SB 0727	Creates the Native American Advisory Council, which will be compiled by members of various state agencies. The goal for the council is to increase the number of Native American employees and Native Americans in managerial positions at state agencies.
SB 0731	Requires the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation to have a memorandum of understanding detailing the cooperation between the two and requires annual filings to be submitted the governor and General Assembly.
SB 1055	Provides that applications to be a qualifying water treatment facility must be filed with the Department of Revenue after January 1, 2020.
SB 1135	Requires that, before a psychologist obtains his or her prescribing psychologist's license, they must take a full-time practicum of 14 months' supervised clinical training as part of their educational and training requirements.
SB 1289	Expands the state treasurer's ability to invest and expands options on what banks may hold state investment money.
SB 1332	Creates the Illinois Bank On Initiative, an initiative to increase financial products and reduce reliance on alternative financial products.
SB 1344	Provides that confidential documents submitted with an application for a driver's license or identification card may only be released to certain parties.
SB 1674	Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act to extend the repeal date of the Auction License Act from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2030.
SB 1684	Extends the sunset date of the Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989 from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2030.
SB 1806	Provides clean up language regarding local government accounting standards.
SB 1841	Requires practitioners of Asian bodywork to be licensed by a governing body.
SB 1872	Amends the Regulatory Sunset Act to extend the repeal date of the Real Estate License Act of 2000 from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2030.
SB 1902	Allows the CEO, CFO or Chief Legal Officer of a state agency to designate someone who may sign contracts for more than \$250,000.
SB 1918	Dissolves the Sex Offender Investigation Fund and Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Fund and merges their assets with the Offender Registration Fund.
SB 1938	Authorizes the state to relinquish rights to land throughout Illinois.
SB 2037	Establishes requirements for notary public remittance agents. The expanded requirements include being free of any administrative, civil or criminal complaints, a \$20,000 surety bond, and compliance with the Secretary of State notary application requirements.
SB 2120	Amends the underlying language by adding provisions that extend the sunset date for the Capital Development Board's single prime construction delivery system from January 1, 2019 to January 1, 2020.
SB 2128	Changes the Illinois Certified Shorthand Reporters Act to allow a shorthand reporter to use a closed microphone voice dictation silencer when practicing shorthand reporting.
SB 2153	Changes the amount of time that an option to renew a lease must be published to the appropriate procurement bulletin from 60 calendar days to 30 calendar days.



Transportation

- HB 2315 - Brings the Secretary of State into compliance with federal regulation, streamlines driver’s license services and corrects prior drafting errors.
- SB 0728 - Creates the DUI Prevention and Education Commission and Fund, which will distribute grants to crash victims, impaired driving prevention programs, law enforcement support and other DUI programs.
- SB 1473 - Allows an individual who has had their license suspended a second time for failure to pay child support to have that suspension lifted if they have entered into a payment plan approved by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

HB 1494	Amends the Vehicle Code to allow any charitable non-for-profit organization that maintains and repairs motor vehicles to be donated to low-income individuals to apply for a temporary permit with the Secretary of State and also creates the Global War on Terrorism license plates.
HB 1876	Allows deputy and assistant fire chiefs to operate a vehicle with red or white oscillating lights.
HB 2119	Allows the Secretary of State to issue United Nations Protection Forces license plates.
HB 2315	Brings the Secretary of State into compliance with federal regulation, streamlines driver's license services and corrects prior drafting errors.
HB 2383	Removes the provision that authorizes the Secretary of State to suspend a person’s driving privileges for 12 months if they violate any vehicle right of way provision and cause a Type A injury to an individual.
HB 2823	Allows the Regional Transportation Authority to open a line of credit with a bank or financial institution in addition to using Working Cash Notes.
HB 2856	Requires the Secretary of State to implement an Electronic Title System by July 1, 2021 that will permit a lienholder to perfect, assign and release a lien.
HB 3437	Authorizes the Department of Human Services to issue "Developmental Disabilities Awareness" decals for the universal special license plate.
SB 0024	Requires freight trains to be operated by a crew of at least two people.
SB 0102	Allows the Secretary of State to issue digital registration plates and stickers.
SB 0158	Provides the legal framework for the Houbolt Road Extension, a privately financed 1.5 mile extension of Houbolt Road with a toll bridge over the Des Plaines River. This would serve as an access route for trucks entering the CenterPoint Intermodal Center.
SB 0728	Creates the DUI Prevention and Education Commission and Fund, which will distribute grants to crash victims, impaired driving prevention programs, law enforcement support and other DUI programs.
SB 1256	Prohibits a diesel truck from idling for more than a total 10 minutes within an hour if the vehicle is within 200 feet of a residential area.
SB 1343	Allows an extreme heavy duty tow and recovery vehicle to travel to and from the scene of a disabled vehicle if the towing service has obtained a permit for the vehicle.
SB 1381	Removes the Class III highway designation from the Vehicle Code and requires local governments to report to the Illinois Department of Transportation any routes on which trucks are prohibited from traveling.
SB 1473	Allows an individual who has had their license suspended a second time for failure to pay child support to have that suspension lifted if they have entered into a payment plan approved by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.



SB 1602	Makes changes to the Vehicle Code regarding manufactured home dealers including: 1) amending the definition of "community-based manufactured home dealer" to limit the number of homes bought or sold 2) stating that a dealer may operate a supplemental lot within 50 miles of principal place of business.
SB 1993	Removes language stating that 16,000 lb diesel-powered vehicles operating as interstate carriers of property are subject to diesel emission inspections.

Veterans

- HB 0120 - Creates the Veterans’ Service-Related Ailments Task Force, which shall review and make recommendations regarding veterans’ service-related ailments that are not recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- HB 2618 - Allows any veteran that has a service-related disability of 50% or more to obtain any military series license plate without a registration fee.
- HB 3536 - Allows the secretary of state to accept a Department of Defense honorable discharge certification (DD-256) as applicable documentation to receive a driver’s license or identification card with a veteran designation.
- SB 1244 - Increases the amount of grant money that the Department of Veterans’ Affairs can pay to the families of veterans and cemetery associations from \$100 to \$125.

HB 0120	Creates the Veterans' Service-Related Ailments Task Force, which shall review and make recommendations regarding veterans' service-related ailments that are not recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
HB 2088	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Cold War license plates.
HB 2126	Authorizes K9's for Veterans to issue decals to promote awareness for veterans with PTSD.
HB 2177	Allows school boards of school districts with students in grades 10 through 12 to posthumously award a diploma to any service member who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed forces of the United States as long as they meet certain criteria.
HB 2293	Provides the Marine Corps Coordinating Council the ability to provide grants to the Marine Corp Scholarship Foundation, the Young Marine National Foundation, the Women Marines and any chapter of the Marine Corps League located in Illinois.
HB 2618	Allows any veteran that has a service-related disability of 50% or more to obtain any military series license plate without a registration fee.
HB 3216	Creates a new process for issuing veteran's driver's licenses and ID cards. The secretary of state will issue the veteran license or ID and then send the documentation to the Department of Veterans Affairs to confirm that the individual meets the right criteria.
HB 3536	Allows the secretary of state to accept a Department of Defense honorable discharge certification (DD-256) as applicable documentation to receive a driver’s license or identification card with a veteran designation.
SB 0944	Allows for a special license plate for veterans with disabilities to be affixed to motorcycles.
SB 1007	Allows for the disclosure of military discharge documents that have existed for 62 years.
SB 1127	Requires that the Division of Aeronautics under the Department of Transportation fly the Prisoner of War and Veteran Missing in Action (POW/MIA) flag at all of the airports in their jurisdiction.



SB 1244	Increases the amount of grant money that the Department of Veterans' Affairs can pay to the families of veterans and cemetery associations from \$100 to \$125.
SB 1467	Expands eligibility for Illinois Veterans' Grants and the POW/MIA Scholarship to include veterans who have, at some point after leaving federal active duty, lived in Illinois for 15 consecutive years and are Illinois residents at the time of application for the grant.
SB 1468	Expands eligibility for the military service discount program currently offered by businesses to veterans and military personnel to include spouses and dependents.
SB 1907	Deems all active duty military and individuals receiving VA education benefits Illinois residents for tuition purposes beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.
SB 2076	Makes various changes to the Illinois Code of Military Justice to conform state law to the Federal Uniform Code of Military Justice and removes all language concerning the death penalty.



ISDC Communications Staff

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(Front Row)

**Toby Trimmer, Keenan Irish, Julianne Micoleta, Moyo Adeolu, Deb McCarver,
Brandy Renfro, Liz Mitchell, Taeveon Johnson, Shawn Berry**

(Middle Row)

**Antonio Rosas-Landa, Kellee Sporrer, Diana Martinez, John Patterson, Reena Tandon,
Lauren Barry, Anne Bottaro, Krista Burris, Jayette Bolinski, Andrew Hoffmann**

(Back Row)

**Jack Cann, Catie Witt, Spencer McGowan, Matt Walsh, Zach Braun, Drew Hill,
Alex Gough, Colby Huff, Ken Lowe, Craig Miller**