

Senate Committee Action March 1, 2017

Agriculture

Commercial Fishing Device Restrictions (SB 1251):

States that lake trout, salmon, and lake whitefish may not be taken using commercial fishing devices like gill or pound nets.

Commercial Fishing Licenses Clean-Up (SB 1252):

Cleanup regarding commercial fishing licenses, to require DNR advertise public drawing for qualified applicants for unfilled licenses DNR Initiative.

Electronic Hunting Licenses (SB 1325): Allows a hunter to carry an electronic hunting license. Current law requires physical licenses to be present with a hunter, but no mention is made in statute about electronic copies.

Agricultural Export Advisory Committee Repeal (SB 1326): Repeals a section of the Civil Administration Code of Illinois that created the Agricultural Export Advisory Committee. This committee, which has become outdated, has not met in a number of years, and currently does not have any members.

Traveling Elephant Show Ban (SB 1342): Bans the use of African or Asian elephants that are currently protected under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 in traveling animal acts. Specifies that violations are subject to a civil penalty of no less than \$500 and not more than \$10,000 for each violation. The legislation does not apply to non-mobile exhibits including zoos.

Meat & Poultry Inspection License Changes (SB 1364): Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act to state that beginning July 1, 2018, licenses issued to type 1 and type 2 establishments shall not expire if the licensee remains in compliance with the Act. Additionally, the legislation makes administrative changes regarding requests for inspectors to conform to current practices.

Weights and Measures Penalties (SB 1366): Provides individuals 60 days after the issuance of notice from the Department of Agriculture to pay fees authorized under the Act before the Department may prohibit that person from using

commercial weighing and measuring devices. Penalties of \$2,500 or greater not paid within 120 days of issuance shall be submitted to the Department of Revenue for collection under the Illinois State Collection Act of 1986.

Insect Pest and Plant Disease Inspections (SB 1368):

Amends the Insect Pest and Plant Disease Act to specify that upon receipt of an inspection request from any municipality, park board, or other board or person in control of public grounds, the Department of Agriculture shall review the application and may comply with it as deemed appropriate.

Executive

Changes Senate Rules (SB 870): This bill makes changes to the Senate rules by amending the General Assembly Operations Act. The statute is changed so that for the operation and organization of the Senate, the rules adopted by the previous General Assembly will govern and be the rules of the Senate until new rules are adopted.

Prohibited Political Activity (SB 942): Amends the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act and creates a new prohibition of political activity for the executive branch. An affected appointee (appointed by the Governor) may not use their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election. In 2016, former state representative and current director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Wayne Rosenthal appeared in a radio ad for state Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Raymond. Bourne was running against Democrat Mike Mathis of Gillespie for Rosenthal's former House seat, to which she was appointed when Gov. Bruce Rauner tapped Rosenthal to lead the state agency. In the ad, Rosenthal called Mathis, a former circuit court clerk and Democratic Party chairman in Macoupin County, "a career politician who will do or say anything to get elected." He did not identify himself by his current state position.

Missing Child Hotline Information (SB 1439): This bill amends the Intergovernmental Missing Child Recovery Act of 1984 to provide that at the time of first contact with an individual making a report of a missing child who is under 18 years of age, the local law enforcement agency shall provide the individual with information, prepared by the Office of the

Attorney General and posted on its website, that includes (but is not limited to) the following: The 24-hour toll-free telephone numbers for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the National Runaway Safeline and a description of the services provided to families of missing children by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the National Runaway Safeline. SB 1439 provides that the information may be provided by the local law enforcement agency in a format that includes, but is not limited to, written materials for distribution or a posting on the official website of the local law enforcement agency.

Government Reform

Township Code Weighted Voting Amendment (SB 666): Amends the Township Code by stating that a participant in a caucus shall be entitled to only one vote for each office that is being voted on.

State's Attorney Raises Amendment (SB 685): Amends the Counties Code to allow county boards to award state's attorneys pay raises to be paid out of the county treasury.

IMRF Pension Code Amendment (SB 701): Amends the Pension Code for IMRF. States that compensation for automobile use cannot be used as pensionable salary.

Statement of Economic Interest (SB 1289): Amends the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act to revamp the entire statement of economic interest. Statements can be filed electronically with either the Secretary of State or the County Clerk.

Higher Education

Higher Education Supplier Diversity Report (SB 83): Creates the Higher Education Supplier Diversity Report requiring private institution of higher education approved by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to submit a two-page report on its voluntary supplier diversity program to CMS.

Tuition Affordably discount program (SB 930): Extends the repeal of the tuition affordability

discount program at Eastern Illinois University from July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2026.

Human Services

Veterans Health Insurance Program Expansion (SB 660): Creates a shell bill amending the Veterans' Employment Act.

Shelter placement for children (SB 931): Clarifies that a shelter placement is meant to be an emergency temporary placement for a minor. Requires the public agency that is the guardian of the child to file a written report to the court when: a shelter placement lasts beyond 30 days; a psychiatric hospital admission lasts beyond medical necessity; or a child remains in a detention center because placement cannot be found.

Statutory Wage Increase for Front Line DD Personnel (SB 955): Increases wages to \$15 per hour for front-line personnel of state-funded developmental disability residential and day training programs and service coordination agencies.

Annual Reports on Youth in Care Waiting for Placement (SB 973): Requires DCFS to prepare and submit annual reports to the GA regarding youth in care waiting for placement, which provides specific details regarding the youth waiting for care during the previous year.

Persons with Disabilities Task Force (SB 1224): Amends the Employment and Economic Opportunity for Persons with Disabilities Task Force Act to operate with administrative support from the Illinois Department of Human Services instead of the Department of Employment Security.

Contract preference for sheltered workshops (SB 1274): Amends the Illinois Procurement Code by making the following changes with respect to the contract preference for sheltered workshops: Changes references from persons with severe disabilities to persons with significant disabilities; Changes references from sheltered workshop to work center; changes references from fair market price to fair and reasonable price; Requires the State Use Committee to develop a list of national accrediting organizations whose certification will satisfy the requirement provided by 30 ILCS 500/45-35(a)(3); Permits use of

subcontracts and sets forth minimum requirements to be followed by qualified not-for-profit agencies when seeking and establishing subcontracts; and Requires the Committee to develop additional guidelines to be followed by qualified not-for-profit agencies when seeking and establishing subcontracts.

Personal Needs Allowance (SB 1353): Increases the personal needs allowance (PNA) for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICFDD's), Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA's) and medically complex for developmentally disabled facilities (MC/DD's) so that total monthly allowance is \$60.

Insurance

Nullification of In-Network Dental Provider Contracts (SB 634): Allows dentists who have not been paid by the State for an extended period of time the ability to become an out-of-network provider so they may be paid up front for their services. This will force the state employees to wait for reimbursement from the State rather than the provider being forced to wait.

Financial Institutions, Employees and Credit Insurance Policies (SB 692): This legislation clarifies that financial institutions and their employees do not need to be licensed to enroll borrowers in credit insurance policies they market. Also clarifies that a limited lines producer license does not apply to this situation.

Captive Insurance Company Requirements (SB 1286): This legislation liberalizes capital and surplus requirements and reduces filing fees. This bill deletes previous capital, letter of credit and financial reporting requirements. Lowers the surplus tax rate paid by captives from 3.5% to 0.5%.

Prescription Drug Synchronization (SB 1546): Requires insurers to allow patients who are on 2 or more maintenance prescriptions for a chronic condition (e.g. diabetes, blood pressure, etc.) to allow synchronization of refill dates at least once per year. The Illinois Retail Merchants Association

is in SUPPORT. The Pharmacy Benefit Managers Association is NEUTRAL. I have been informed the major insurers/pharmacies are ok with this language.

Judiciary

Phone Number Transfer for Order of Protection (SB 57): Allows victims of domestic violence to have a shared wireless service plan separated by court order without approval from the primary account holder. Provides the immunity extended to wireless telephone service providers does not apply to willful or wanton misconduct. Requires the clerk of the court to serve the order on the wireless telephone service provider's agent for service of process listed with the Secretary of State.

No GOP Collaborative Process (SB 67): Establishes the Collaborative Process Act. This act provides a new avenue for alternative dispute resolution for conflicts arising from family and domestic relations. Under the proposed act, aggrieved parties *MAY* choose to resolve their dispute through this Collaborative Process. If the parties choose to participate in the collaborative process; each party will retain their respective attorney and these attorneys will communicate directly with each other in attempt to reach a resolution. Under the proposed act, the "collaborative process" will occur outside of the judicial process. There will be no court dates, no court filings and no judge. Ensures the Collaborative Process is not used in juvenile court.

Jury Trial Involuntary Admission (SB 881): Amends the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code to provide, when requested, a jury trial must be commenced within 15 days of the request. Also provides in counties of less than 500,000 inhabitants, a jury trial must be commenced within 30 days of the request.

County Board Redistrict-Minorities and Political Party Consideration (SB 910): Amends the Counties Code. Adds the definition of "racial minorities or language minorities" to include the same meaning as the Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011. When drawing districts for a county board member, each district must consider 1) racial minorities or language minorities with equal opportunity to participate in the political process, 2) racial minorities or language minorities who constitute less than a voting age

majority of a district with an opportunity to influence the outcome of an election, and 3) not discriminate against or in favor of any political party or individual.

CICAA and Condo Act Budgets & Closed Board

Meetings (SB 948): Amends the Common Interest Community Association Act and Illinois Condominium Property Act. Provides that each member of a Common Interest Community Association, as well as each unit owner subject to the authority of the board of the master association (Condo Act), shall receive a copy of the proposed budget at least 25 days (current law is 30 days) but not more than 60 days prior to adoption by the board. It also changes the issues which may be discussed during a closed meeting of the board of the master association and makes them identical to the items which can be discussed by a board of directors in a closed portion of a meeting.

Labor

Minor League Baseball Minimum Wage

Exemption (SB 81): Provides for an exemption to the Illinois Minimum Wage Law regarding employees of a minor league professional baseball team.

Low-wage Employee (SB 858): Clarifies that a low-wage employee is an employee whose earnings do not exceed the greater of the minimum wage or \$13.00 an hour.

Licensed Activities and Pensions

Home Dialysis Equipment Sales (SB 636): Allows for home dialysis equipment and drugs to be sold directly to patients without the use of a pharmacy. Currently, all such sales must go through a pharmacy.

Insurance Continuing Education (SB 659): Gives the Directors of Insurance the discretion to grant up to four hours of continuing education credit for membership and active participation in a state or national insurance trade association.

Home Medical Equipment Act Sunset Extension (SB 770): Extends the repeal date of the Home

Medical Equipment and Service Provider License Act to January 1, 2028. Additionally, amends the Act to mirror current practice and create conformity with other licensure Acts administered by the State of Illinois.

Felony Forfeiture Pension Code (SB 896): Forfeits benefits for any person that would receive a survivor benefit who is convicted of any felony in connection with the service of the member from whom the benefit results. The legislation is in response to a situation in which a Fox Lake police officer, who was using his official position to defraud the government and public, committed suicide. The officer's wife, who is in line for a survivor's annuity benefit, is currently under investigation for suspicion of being complicit in these acts.

Accountants Equivalency (SB 899): Eases restrictions currently in place on CPA firms that practice within Illinois, but have a principal that is not located within the state.

Collection Agencies (SB 901): Puts in place a multi-State licensure for those licensed under the Illinois Collection Agency Act, and diminishes the responsibility of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations in favor of a multi-state licensing system.

Chicago Fire Pension Contribution (SB 1345): Specifies that certain excess municipal contributions may be used only for reducing the amount that Chicago would otherwise be required to contribute for duty, disability, occupational disease, or administrative costs of the fund.

Medical Practice Sunset Extension (SB 1348): Extends the repeal date of the Medical Practice Act to December 31, 2027. Additionally, amends the act to update language bringing it in line with current practice.

Illinois Pension Code – Chicago Teachers (SB 1354): Amends the Chicago Teacher Article of the Illinois Pension Code to increase the number of members on the pension board from 12 to 13. Additionally, the legislation provides that the additional member must be a pensioner.

Professional Regulation (SB 1525): Clarifies that the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional

Regulations has the ability to deny licensure to a licensee who has been convicted of a forcible felony.

Public Health

Nursing Home Staffing/Nurses (SB 626): Allows the Director of Public Health to grant or renew a waiver of certain staffing requirements for registered nurses under certain circumstances connected to difficulties in hiring. The waivers require a quarterly review by the Dept. of Public Health. The Director would not have such authority if the facility is federally certified.

Vital Records Search/Parolee (SB 1413): A person shall not be required to pay a search fee for a birth record search or an additional fee for a certified copy of the record upon that person's from the Department of Corrections, if the person presents a specified form completed by the Department of Corrections.

Radiologic Advisory Board/Abolish (SB 1478): Abolishes the Radiologic Technologist Accreditation Advisory Board. This is an initiative of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The Board hasn't met since 2010. Additionally, many of the board members' terms expired and haven't been replaced.

Revenue

Tax Changes to Sales in Error (SB 586): Provides changes to the Sales in Error section to clarify appropriate uses of provisions and lessen the financial impact of sales in error to counties.

Abatement on Property Taxes – Forest Preserve Districts (SB 1493): Provides forest preserve districts can abate property taxes on certain property it acquires.

State Government

Certification of Payroll (SB 932): CMS initiative, changes the certification of pay from the Director of CMS to the individual agency head. Provides that the agency, instead of the Department, determines any person named in the payroll

voucher or account to streamline the payroll process.

Prohibited Transfers from DHS Recoveries Trust Fund (1225): Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code to prohibit certain transfers from the DHS Recoveries Trust Fund that were required to be made prior to June 19, 2013.

IL Lottery Deposit to Capital Projects Fund (SB 1311): Amends the Illinois Lottery Law. Requires the Department of the Lottery, on or before the last day of each fiscal year, to deposit any estimated remaining proceeds (rather than any remaining proceeds), after certain payments and transfers are made, into the Capital Projects Fund. Allows the Department to increase or decrease its deposit into the Capital Projects Fund each year by the amount that the actual expenditures either fell short of or exceeded the estimate used by the Department in making the deposit for the previous fiscal year.

Fees for IEMA Conferences (SB 1489): Illinois Emergency Management Agency initiative. Allows the IEMA by rule to assess and collect reasonable fees for attendance at Agency-sponsored conferences and trainings to enable Agency to carry out the requirements of this Act. Any moneys received from fees shall be deposited in the Emergency Planning and Training Fund and used by the Agency, subject to appropriation, for planning and training activities.

Military Affairs Omnibus (SB 1501): Adds State Guard to the Administrative Procedures Act and the State Employee Indemnification Act to correspond to the re-write- of the State Guard Act. Includes a complete rewrite of the State Guard Act. The Act has not been updated or changed since 1951.

Juvenile Justice Personnel (SB 1519): Amends the Unified Code of Corrections. Deletes provision that provides that Dept. of Juvenile Justice personnel who are hired by the Dept. must have a specialization in criminal justice, education, psychology, social work, or a closely related social science or 2 years of experience if they: Participate or assist in the rehabilitative and vocational training of delinquent youths; supervise the daily activities involving direct and continuing responsibility for the youth's security, welfare, and development; or participate in the personal rehabilitation of delinquent youth by training, supervising, and assisting lower level personnel who perform these duties. Changes notification requirement to a parent or guardian from

certified mail to regular mail. Amends the Illinois Pension Code to make conforming changes.