

Senate Committee Action May 16, 2017

Veterans' Affairs

Illinois Service Member Relief Act (HB 2449): Any person or service member who enters military service may, at any time after receiving military orders to relocate for a period of service of at least 90 days, terminate or suspend certain specified contracts for service.

ISP Education Waiver for Veterans (HB 3095): Provides that a person may have 3 years of full active and continuous military duty and received an honorable discharge before hiring in order to meet the collegiate educational of the Department of State Police.

Veterans' Hiring Preference (HB 3261): Provides that, for the purpose of veteran preferences, members of the Illinois National Guard or a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces are considered veterans regardless of whether or not the person was mobilized to active duty.

Public Health

Medicaid Bed Payment Delays (HB 173): Payments of assessments shall be automatically delayed for any month for which payment for all Medicaid bed days has not been received by a facility from the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, a Medicaid managed care organization, or any entity authorized by the Department to make payments on its behalf until at least 30 days have elapsed since the receipt of payment.

Bedbug disclosure (HB 369): Requires an employer to notify employees if a person certified under the Structural Pest Control Act has determined the presence of bedbugs at the place of employment. As well as, has a provision to ensure that the failure of an employee to notify their employer of the presence of bedbugs will not result in

disciplinary action.

Health Facilities and Planning Act changes (HB 763): No person shall construct, modify, or establish a health care facility or acquire major medical equipment without first obtaining a permit or exemption from the Health Facilities and Services Review Board. Also, allows an additional four children to be served at Maryville Academy (Des Plaines).

Emergency Medical Services (HB 1952): Gives authority to EMS Medical Directors to allow fire trucks, with the proper equipment, and trained firefighters to provide advanced life support services when needed.

Birth Certificates for Homeless (HB 3060): Waives fees for a certified copy of a birth certificate for a homeless person. There are costs associated with the law of more than \$500,000 annually. Dept. Public Health has requested an amendment limiting the bill to Cook County, but the sponsor has not committed to such an amendment. As well as, includes a provision stating that anyone who knowingly or purposefully falsifies a homeless person verification will be subject to a penalty of \$100. Also, creates a limit of four on the number of birth record searches a homeless person can make a year.

Food Deserts (HB 3157): Gives more responsibility to the state Dept. of Public Health to track food deserts across the state, identifying areas where there is deficient resources for affordable, healthy foods. Also, requires the Dept of Public Health to work in cooperation with the Dept of Agriculture to notify respective municipal governments identified as food deserts.

Mandated upgrade of battery-operated smoke detectors (HB 3773): Requires landlords to install smoke detectors with long-term batteries (10-year life span). These would be double the cost of the smoke detectors currently required by state law.

Education

Homeless Student Housing Assistance (HB 261): Creates a new section regarding homelessness prevention for homeless children or those "at risk" of being homeless. The school district may then:

- Provide rental or mortgage assistance in such amount as will allow the child and his or her parent, his or her guardian, or the person who enrolled the child to remain permanently in their current living situation or allow them to obtain a new living situation;
- Provide financial assistance with respect to unpaid bills, loans, or other financial debts that results in housing being considered inadequate

Gifted Education School Report Cards (HB 2461): Amends the school code to which school report cards changes the data to be added to school reports cards to the most current data being collected and maintained. As well as, adds information to the report card on gifted education and advanced programs, and adds the number of teachers that hold a gifted educator endorsement to the report card.

Adult High School Diploma Program (HB 2527): Authorizes eligible applicants to design a high school diploma program for adult learners, and requires eligible applicants to apply for approval of a program to the State Superintendent of Education. Also, provides that funding concerning a non-profit eligible applicant may include federal pass-through revenues, private funding, or other funding sources the non-profit entity secures. Authorizes rulemaking by the Illinois Community College Board.

Suicide Training for School Personnel (HB 2545): Mandates that at least once every two years school districts must provide training to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior to school personnel who

work with pupils in grades kindergarten through 12.

Principal Endorsement Professional Educator Licensure (HB 2898): Removes the June 30, 2021 sunset date for the principal endorsement on Professional Educator License.

Budget Classroom Teaching (HB 3298): Amends the School Code. Provides for a refund of the application fee and the renewal fee for a substitute teaching license under certain conditions. The fee is \$50 for both application and renewal.

Educator Licensure (HB 3820): Makes the following changes to Article 21B of the School Code dealing with educator licensure:

1. Changes the minimum age to 19 (currently 20) for a person to be eligible to receive an educator license.
2. Provides that an individual who holds a career and technical educator (CTE) endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's degree may substitute teach in career and technical education classrooms. Also provides the same allowance for individuals who hold a provisional or part-time provisional CTE endorsement.
3. Removes the requirement that holder of a provisional CTE endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations must complete a minimum of 20 semester hours from a regionally accredited institution.
4. Adds an endorsement as a Director of Special Education to the list of current special education endorsement areas already allowed to be affixed to a Professional Educator License for any individual that meets State Board of Education requirements (established in rules). This provides statutory authority for the existing Director of Special Education endorsement.

5. Changes requirements for out-of-state and out-of-country applicants regarding the types of degrees/coursework that can qualify for licensure.
6. Provides that any licensee with an administrative endorsement who is not working in a position requiring such endorsement is not required to complete Illinois Administrator Academy courses.
7. Provides that that the State Board must audit a subset of approved professional development providers.
8. Provides that school psychologists may renew their professional educator license by providing proof of a valid national license.

School Booking Stations (HB 3903): Provides that there shall be no student booking station established or maintained on the grounds of any school. For example, a student booking station is defined as a building, office, room or any indefinitely established space or site, mobile or fixed, which operates concurrently as both of the following:

1. A predominant or regular place of operation for a municipal police department, county sheriff department, or other law enforcement agency or under the primary control thereof; and,
2. A site at which students are detained in connection with criminal charges or allegations against those students, taken into custody, or engaged with law enforcement personnel in any process that creates a law enforcement record of that contact with law enforcement personnel or processes.

Teacher Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (SB 449): Directs the State Superintendent to convene the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council. This Council is to advise ISBE on public feedback, best practices,

rule changes, and subjects deemed appropriate by the chairperson of the council, towards the ongoing implementation of evaluation in the state.

Human Services

Medicaid Fraud Penalties (SB 1577): Sets the civil penalties for false Medicaid claims to mirror the federal annual adjustment. As well as, allows the State to continue to recover damages for Medicaid fraud at a higher amount without seeking a statutory change in the General Assembly every year. Also, without the change the State could lose 10 percent, or an average of \$1,095,961.32 per year, of its Medicaid fraud recoveries.

Higher Education

Illinois Higher Education Savings Program Act and Fund (HB 3691): Creates the Illinois Higher Education Savings Program Act and Illinois Higher Education Savings Program Fund. This act would include the following:

- A 529 college savings account will be opened automatically for every child born in Illinois after 2018.
- The account will be held by the Treasurer with the child as the beneficiary. It would be seeded from the Fund with an initial investment of \$50.
- Households with incomes less than 250% of the federal poverty level would qualify for annual dollar-to-dollar match up to \$150 to add to the Fund.
- Currently, a household of 4 people with an income of \$61,500 would be at 250% of the federal poverty level.
- The cost of the initial seed is estimated to be \$7.9 annually. The cost of the dollar-to-dollar match would be \$2 million annually if 20% of eligible beneficiaries participated.

Higher Education Procurement Reform (SB 1401): Higher education procurement reform measure which reinstates higher education exemptions and creates a pilot program to utilize Best Value Procurement on heavy machinery purchases for IDOT, IDNR, agriculture, and higher education. Also, raises small purchase thresholds to \$100,000.

Judiciary

State's Attorney Access Funds to Investigate Crime (HB 1685): Amends the Insurance Claims Fraud Prevention Act to provide that a State's Attorney can access funds not awarded to a private party to investigate "crime" (currently "insurance fraud").

New Voting Requirement (HB 2401): Amends the Common Interest Community Association Act and the Condominium Property Act to establish the association shall have one class of voting membership instead of just one class of membership, and amends the Condo Act to establish a fourth tier of voting requirements to permit a forced sale of the property to an outside investor. This new tier includes properties with 7 units or more and requires the vote of 85% of the unit owners. Furthermore, the increased vote requirement for properties with 7 or more units will not apply to properties with less than 25% of the units being owner occupied.

Forfeit of Animals Humane Care for Animals Act (HB 2810): Provides that any law enforcement officer making an arrest for a violation of animals in entertainment, or confinement in a motor vehicle, may lawfully take possession of some or all the companion animals in the possession of a person being arrested.

Removal of Verified Response in DHR Investigations (HB 3092): This legislation will eliminate the Verified Response which is currently is required by statute to be filed by a respondent. According to the IDHR the form

has become outdated and often impedes investigations from being conducted in a timely matter. VR is a legal form much like an affidavit that must be filed by a respondent. It asks the respondent to either agree or disagree with the facts that were given to the department concerning the allegations of discrimination.

Geolocation Privacy Protection Act (HB 3449): Creates the Geolocation Privacy Protection Act. Prohibits private entities from collecting, using, storing, or disclosing geolocation information from a location-based application on a person's device (smart phone, tablet, etc.) unless the person gives affirmative express consent or the private entity is using the information to assist a parent or guardian in locating an emancipated minor child, a court-appointed guardian in locating an incapacitated person, or for fire, medical, public safety, or other emergency services.

Service by Email Administrative Cases (SB 951): Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act to allow service of notices by email. Also, adds electronic mail to the ways in which notices to parties shall be served in a contested case, and adds language that an agency may request. However, does not require an email from an unrepresented party, unless required by law.

DNR Transfer- Scott County (SB 1103): Allows DNR to release, by quit claim deed, a parcel of land along the Illinois River in Scott County.

Revenue

Adapted Housing Valuation Procedure (SB 1073): Provides that improvements to residential property for the purpose of providing living quarters for a person with a disability or special need will not increase the assessed valuation of the property, beginning in the 2018 levy year. Also, provides "person with a disability or special needs" has the same meaning as an "adult with a mental disability" as defined in Section 2-3 of the Developmental Disability and Mental Disability Services Act.

Agriculture

DNR Consulting Fees (HB 3033): Provides that the DNR may assess specified consultation fees up to \$100 (rather than assess a \$500 fee), and deletes language stating that the DNR cannot assess fee's for consultations requested by a State agency or federal agency.

Catfish on the Menu (SB 312): Requires that if a menu lists "catfish" as an item it must belong to a specific family of fish native to North America, and introduces fines for non-compliance.