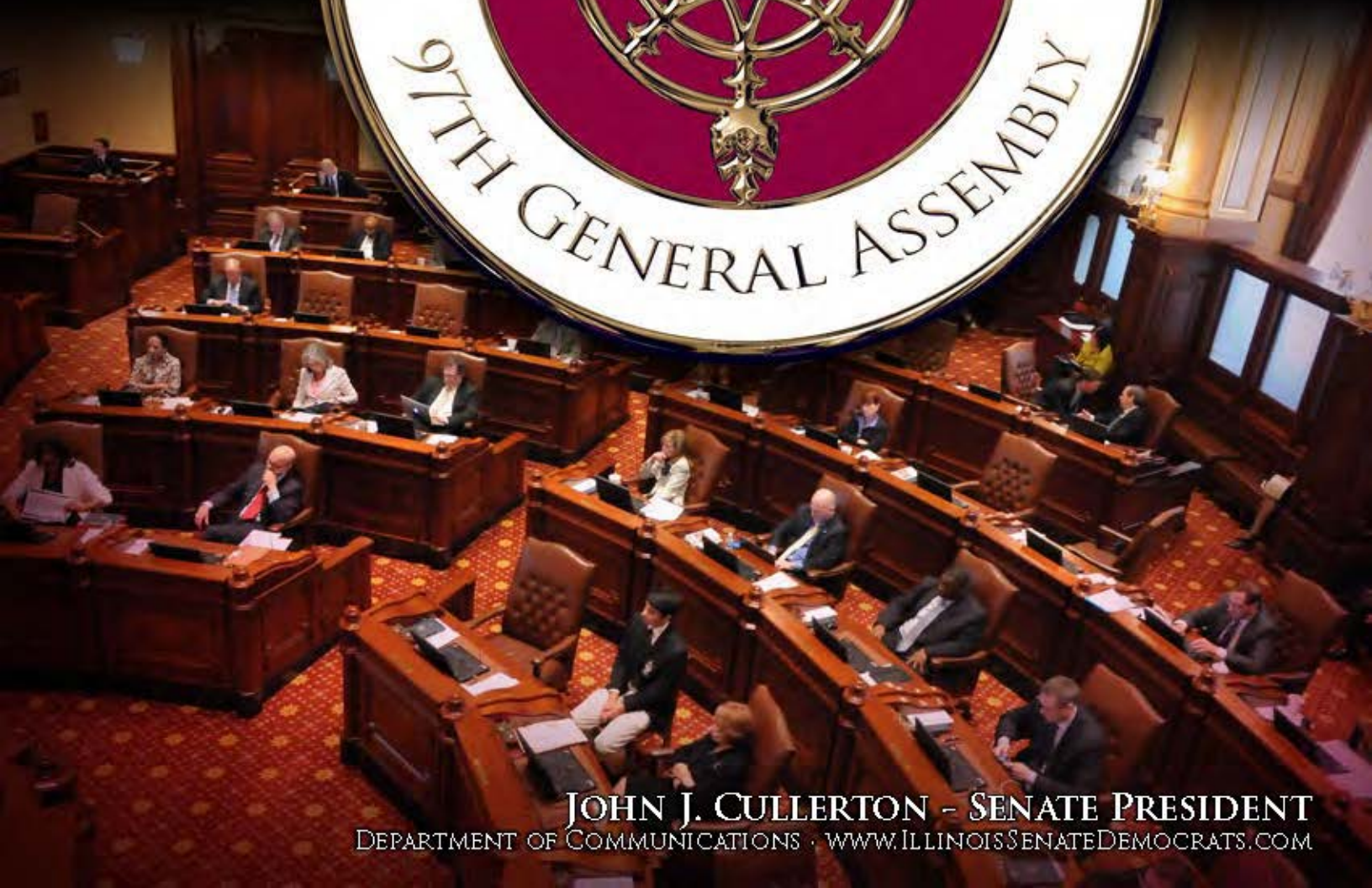


# SENATE IN REVIEW

A LOOK AT THE 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
of the  
ILLINOIS SENATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS



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## 2011 IN REVIEW





# Spring Session in Context

## STATE *of the* STATE

In January 2011, when the members of the 97<sup>th</sup> General Assembly took the oath of office, there was no shortage of historic challenges facing Illinois. The state and the nation had begun a steady, but fragile economic recovery after the worst recession since the Great Depression. However, state and local tax revenues remained weak, and their budget situations were grim. Early on, Illinois' unfunded pension liability took the spotlight as editorial boards and wealthy business leaders ramped up attention to the very real problem. At the same time, federal funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was phasing out and set to expire, compounding governments' fiscal problems. However, a mid-January, revenue-stabilizing temporary income tax increase put state government within \$1 billion of closing the structural deficit - without borrowing for pension payments - for the first time in years.

Across the nation, newly elected Tea Party Republicans launched an assault on public employee unions in the name of fiscal austerity. The turmoil spilled over into Illinois when legislators from Wisconsin and Indiana fled to Rockford and Champaign to prevent anti-labor votes in their legislative bodies. The union-related conflict did not spread to Illinois, but it did further intensify pension-benefit-reduction rhetoric and play at least a small role in ongoing education reform efforts.

Education reform was one of several lingering issues from the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. During veto session, Senate President John Cullerton created three special committees to address three critical and complicated issues: Medicaid reform, education reform, and workers' compensation reform.

Medicaid reform was completed before the end of the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly's final veto session. But negotiations on education reform and workers' compensation continued.

Business leaders and Republicans were especially outspoken regarding workers' compensation reform, claiming it was key to improving the State's business climate. Throughout the session, legislators engaged key workers' comp interest groups to seek reasonable compromises.

In addition, the senate president remained frustrated with unresolved issues regarding the process for executive-level appointees. Throughout the upcoming session, the Senate would work to reemphasize the important "advise and consent" role that Illinois' Constitution gives to the higher chamber.

Further complicating matters was an Appellate Court ruling that deemed the State's capital construction program - dubbed Illinois Jobs Now! by Governor Quinn - unconstitutional. The legal challenge quickly made its way to the Supreme Court, but the Spring Session ended before the court reached a verdict.

Also noteworthy: Chicago Mayor Richard Daley retired after holding office for the longest span in the city's history. Former Congressman and White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emmanuel was elected his successor in the first round of municipal elections.

## VETO SESSION REVIEW

The veto session of the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly was the first hint of how intense and potentially productive 2011 could be for Illinois government. During that short timeframe legislators enacted a number of substantial changes to social and fiscal policy.

Scoring major victories for human rights advocates, the General Assembly passed groundbreaking laws establishing civil unions and ending the death penalty. The civil unions law allows anyone in a committed relationship to receive all of the same rights Illinois government gives to married couples. The bill also protects the rights of religious organizations to refuse to recognize or solemnize civil union ceremonies if they violate their religious beliefs.

Additionally, after a decade-long moratorium, the abolition of the death penalty ensures that the State of Illinois will never put an innocent person to death and helps end the practice of disparate punishments for the same crimes committed in different jurisdictions by different people.

To contribute to the effort to close Illinois' structural budget deficit, the General Assembly passed a bipartisan Medicaid reform bill to streamline services and cut costs without doing significant harm to the populations the program serves. The law is expected to save the State



nearly \$800 million over the next several years. To further fight the deficit and stabilize revenue, the General Assembly passed a temporary 2% income tax increase. The revenues allowed lawmakers to make the constitutionally mandated pension payment before appropriating funds to state programs and agencies. Unfortunately, the tax increase did not provide a cure to all of the State's fiscal woes, making deep spending cuts unavoidable for the 2012 fiscal year.



# Notable Legislative Accomplishments

## BY the NUMBERS

Senate Bills Introduced	2,486
Senate Bills Passed	226
House Bills Introduced	3,791
House Bills Passed	406
Bills Signed into Law	5
Appointments Confirmed	116

## THE BUDGET

This year, the General Assembly took concrete steps to end the State's operating deficit and put Illinois firmly on the path to fiscal stability. Faced with intense spending pressures and slow-to-recover tax revenues, Senate Democrats took seriously their duty to cut government spending. Cuts to important programs like K-12 education and medical services for low income Illinoisans were extremely difficult, but reducing spending was the only way to balance the budget.

At the end of the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, House and Senate Democrats passed a revenue-stabilization plan that finally enabled the State to live within its means. However, even with new revenue, cutting the budget was absolutely necessary. Despite signing a law requiring government to spend no more than it takes in, Governor Quinn introduced a budget that relied on nearly \$2 billion in deficit spending. Leaders in the House and Senate immediately pledged to reduce the governor's spending blueprint, and both chambers came up with their own revenue estimates.

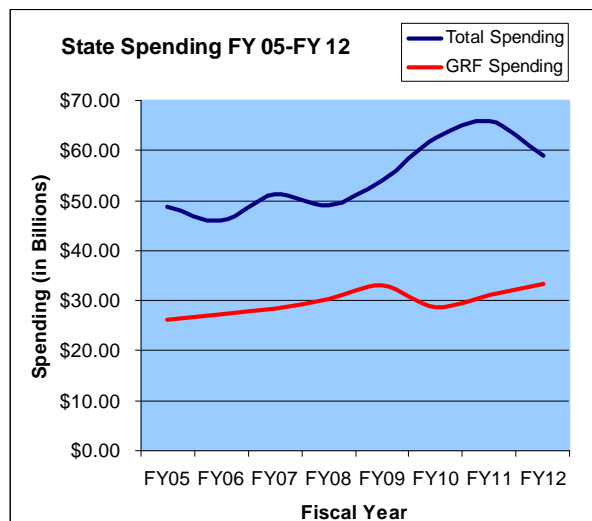
The House's revenue estimate was based on unstated criteria, but the Senate adopted the estimates of expert, independent economists who work with the legislature's bipartisan Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability. Democrats in both chambers then proceeded to lay out their budget plans. However, unlike in the House, Republicans in the Senate refused to participate in the process other than issuing empty news releases and holding press conferences. In the end, Democrats in the House and

Senate reached a compromise that reduces state spending, minimizes the impact on vital services, and allows Illinois to start paying off its past due bills.

The budget process this year was complicated by unprecedented spending pressures. When adding together group health insurance payments, a drop in federal funds, higher constitutionally mandated pension payments, debt payments, and statutorily mandated transfers out of the General Revenue Fund, maintaining level funding for FY 2012 was impossible.

Despite these intense spending pressures, the first thing the General Assembly did was appropriate money to meet State retirement system obligations. This was the first time in years that the General Assembly has made the full pension payment without relying on borrowing. This action also helped shrink Illinois' unfunded pension liability.

In the end, Illinois' total spending will be \$6.7 billion less in FY12 compared to last year when factoring in the reality that \$3.7 billion was borrowed to make pension payments in FY11. In other words, total Illinois government spending went from \$65.8 billion in FY11 to \$59.1 billion in FY12. While GRF spending increased, discretionary spending dropped as a result of paying the State's pension payment without borrowing, as well as a loss of \$1.4 billion in federal funding. It was impossible to make over \$6 billion in total spending cuts without significant cuts to human services and education. Senate Democrats worked to





achieve substantial reductions without making cuts more severe than necessary. Unlike Senate Republicans, Democrats made difficult, but necessary choices to balance the budget.

The members of the Senate Democratic Caucus also realize that they will be cutting the budget for years to come. In order to keep the unfunded pension liability from increasing, pension payments will continue to ramp up. Other statutorily mandated spending like Medicaid payments will also increase each year. In order to make these unavoidable payments, other areas of the budget will have to continue to shrink.

## EDUCATION REFORM

At the end of last year, the Senate President formed an education reform committee in response to calls for reform from a number of interest groups, including Stand for Children and Advance Illinois. Many pundits predicted a lengthy, drawn-out, and contentious battle that would result in little meaningful change. Instead, the legislature was able to pass a landmark education reform bill that will directly improve outcomes for students thanks to negotiations led by Senate Assistant Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford.

In January, Senator Lightford brought teachers, administrators, reform groups, and numerous colleagues - notably Senators Ed Maloney and James Meeks - to the table to evaluate how the State would reform its educational system to provide greater opportunities for children to succeed. The resulting bill is targeted at making schools, administrators and teachers more accountable.

Senate Bill 7 includes a number of provisions that ensure students will have access to quality educators. The bill prioritizes teacher performance rather than seniority in staffing decisions and streamlines the process for dismissing poorly performing teachers. It also makes sure that only teachers who consistently receive positive performance evaluations over a four-year period are able to receive tenure. Under the bill, Chicago - which currently has the shortest school day of any major school system in the nation - is authorized to increase the number of hours in the school day and the number of days in the school year.

One of the biggest obstacles that had to be overcome during negotiations was the issue of teachers' right to strike. In the end, a compromise was achieved,

allowing for more transparency and increased requirements before unions can go on strike.

The bill - which has been described as a national model by United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan - passed the Senate unanimously on April 15, and passed the House with near-unanimous support on May 12. It currently awaits the governor's approval.

## HISTORIC REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Every decade, Illinois is mandated by state and federal law to realign the boundaries for legislative and congressional districts to account for population shifts throughout the state. This year, the majority Democrats were charged with crafting a redistricting proposal for the next decade. That difficult process was conducted in the most transparent fashion in state history.

The Illinois Senate Redistricting Committee held over two dozen open, public hearings in every region of the state. The committee heard hours of spoken testimony and accepted countless pages of written testimony from Illinois constituents to ensure that input from the public was considered. In addition, for the first time in history, publically accessible computer stations were established to allow the public engage in the challenging process of realigning district boundaries.

Before putting a recommended redistricting proposal to a vote, Illinois Senate Redistricting Chairman Kwame Raoul allowed a full week of public review and comment. The Senate Democrats released the proposal online, using never-before-utilized Google Earth technology. That additional effort added another layer of transparency and, to date, has netted over 40,000 visits worldwide to review the redistricting proposals.



## WORKERS' COMPENSATION REFORM

After months of negotiations, Senate Democrats reformed Illinois' workers' compensation system, potentially saving businesses approximately \$700 million per year and bringing down premiums by 12 to 18%. Senator Kwame Raoul's bill (HB 1698) brings down medical costs and cuts down on waste, fraud, and abuse.

It reduces the medical fee schedule by 30%, which still ensures that Illinois physicians are paid at a very competitive rate. It strikes a compromise between allowing workers to choose their own doctors and employers' dictating doctor choice by allowing employers to create a network of doctors, much like under an insurance plan. This system should prevent "doctor shopping" but still give workers some choice. It also requires doctors to use American Medical Association guidelines when assessing partial-permanent disability and makes it easier for employers to deny claims for injuries resulting from intoxication.

The legislation also helps address abuses to the workers' compensation system by establishing new standards for the Workers' Compensation Commission. Members of the commission will have to abide by the State's judicial code of conduct, undertake training every two years, refuse gifts from workers' compensation attorneys, and have their own claims heard by independent arbitrators. There are also new procedures for appointing arbitrators and criminal penalties for fraud. The bill requires the State to purchase workers' compensation insurance from a third party rather than self-insure, which is the current practice.

## ADDRESSING PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSIONS

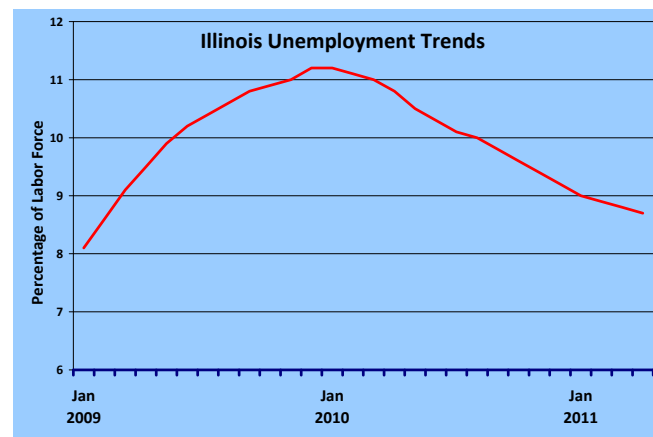
For the first time in years, the General Assembly made the State's pension payment without borrowing. In fact, pension payments were the first appropriation to pass both chambers of the General Assembly. Despite the fact that there were many other programs in need of funding this year, the members of the General Assembly made the choice to make the \$4.35 billion pension payment, addressing the State's unfunded pension liability and demonstrating that fiscal responsibility is one of the Senate Democrats' top priorities.

Though no legislation made it to the Senate, many groups - led by the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago - continue to advocate for cutting current employees' pensions. Though the senate president's chief legal council has written an exhaustively researched legal brief arguing that cutting current employees' pensions is unconstitutional, the issue is likely to continue to receive attention. It is possible that a pension reduction bill could be called in the House during veto session.

## STATE of the ILLINOIS ECONOMY

Illinois maintains the fifth-largest economy of any state in the nation. But, like nearly every state in the union, Illinois has been hit hard by the national recession. For the past two years, Senate Democrats have taken the lead in establishing economic development incentives for job creators throughout the State. There is clear evidence that Illinois is proceeding with a fragile, but progressive economic recovery.

The latest available unemployment data shows that in April 2011 Illinois' jobless rate continued its 15 month decline. In April, the state's unemployment rate dipped to 8.7%. Compared to April 2010 figures of 10.8%, the state is showing steady job growth.



Since January 2010, Illinois has added over 100,300 jobs.



Illinois Ranked Best State to Earn a Living. While Illinois Republican leaders and GOP Governors like Scott Walker (WI), Chris Christie (NJ) and Mitch Daniels (IN) conduct an all-out assault to scare the public into believing that the State is facing an economic collapse, there are reasonable studies that dispute the partisan rhetoric. Recently, MoneyRates.com, ranked Illinois as the top state to make a living:

*“At \$41,986.51, Illinois had the best adjusted average income...the state benefits from relatively high average wages, a low state tax rate, and a below-average cost of living.”*

Chicago 3rd Best City for Business in U.S. Another in-depth analysis provided reason for economic optimism this spring. The internationally respected accounting and business consulting firm, PriceWaterhouseCooper, LLC, issued a report putting Chicago in seventh place for the best cities for business in the world. The report notes that the Windy City, which earned third place in the United States behind New York and San Francisco, is the second best city in the world for entrepreneurs.

The study, Cities of Opportunity, is an in-depth survey covering 26 cities, examining 10 key indicators along with providing insight from urban experts.

## GAMING BILL SENT TO GOVERNOR

Over the last several years, Majority Caucus Whip Terry Link has been negotiating to expand gaming in Illinois to generate revenue and create jobs. Gaming expansion proposals have passed the Senate on multiple occasions; however, each of those measures failed to clear the House. Senator Link advanced a new proposal this year.

Senate Bill 744 creates five additional casino and river boat licenses. The bill authorizes a new casino in Chicago, as well as riverboats in Danville, Park City, Rockford, and a to-be-determined location in the South Suburbs. Chicago would also be allowed to add slot machines at O'Hare and Midway airports. The proposal would allow slot machines to be installed at the state's existing racetracks: Arlington, Maywood, Hawthorne, Balmoral, Quad City Downs, and the Illinois State Fairgrounds. These locations would be known as “racinos.” The bill also increases the number of gaming positions at existing and future riverboats.

As a result of the bill, the State will see an influx of hundreds of millions of dollars in new revenue. Consequently, Senate Bill 744 dedicates portions of that revenue for various purposes, including helping the State pay its bills by creating a fund to be used by the comptroller to pay vouchers that are outstanding for at least 60 days. Under the bill, revenue from casinos and riverboats would be dedicated to education, while revenue from racetracks would be dedicated to capital projects. The bill establishes a depressed-communities program to make grants to high-poverty regions of the state and distributes \$2 million each year for the next three years to the Foreclosure Prevention Program Fund. Finally, the legislation will require over \$25 million annually be used to support agricultural and natural resources programs.

The governor has expressed reservations about a gaming expansion, but has not explicitly said what he will do.

## MODERNIZING ILLINOIS ENERGY

This spring, the General Assembly passed several bills to bring Illinois' power generation and delivery infrastructure into the 21st Century. Senate Bill 1652 allows Commonwealth Edison and Ameren to roll out “smart grids” to track electrical consumption during the day. Customers who use the smart grid can reduce electrical costs at peak hours, saving themselves money. The bill requires the two power companies to invest more than \$3 billion dollars in upgrades over the next 10 years and create at least 2,450 jobs. In return, they are able to more easily secure rate increases.

On the final day of session, the Senate reconsidered efforts to facilitate the construction of the Leucadia coal-gasification plant on the South Side of Chicago. It will take advantage of a resource that is readily available in this state--coal. Increased demand for coal has the potential to create jobs right here in Illinois. Coal is also the most abundant kind of fossil fuel, so clean coal and coal-gasification have the potential to fulfill Illinois' energy needs for many years.





## 2012 IN REVIEW



# Legislative Accomplishments

## **JOBS**

Senate Democrats initiated a bipartisan effort to showcase the Enterprise Zone program, joining with the Illinois Manufacturers' Association in recommending key reforms to keep the successful program going.

Spring hearings in Carbondale, Rockford, Chicago and Peoria brought out dozens of business and economic development leaders. Back at the Capitol, the Senate approved the updates and the final package expected to move to the governor's desk includes the key changes the Senate initiated.

Here is a rundown of those changes and highlights of other employment legislation:

### **Enterprise Zone Extension (SB 3616)**

- Provides long-term extension and modernization of the Enterprise Zone program that will provide economic stability, fiscal restraint and increased transparency.
- Increases length of current Enterprise Zones by an additional 25 years subject to local and the State approval.
- Authorizes five new zones upon expiration of the state's River's Edge tax credit program.
- Requires online posting of Enterprise Zone maps, stringent review of sales tax incentives and elimination of obsolete tax breaks.

### **Unemployed Veteran Tax Credit (SB 3241)**

- Encourages hiring of unemployed veterans through a 20% tax credit for businesses when they add an unemployed veteran who served on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001.
- To receive the credit, the qualifying veteran must have been unemployed for at least four weeks during the year prior to being hired.

### **Facebook Privacy Protections (HB 3782)**

- Prohibits overzealous employers from asking job applicants for access to personal social networking accounts, like Facebook.

### **Illinois Veteran Conservation Corps (HB 4586)**

- Provides veterans with work opportunities for projects designated by the Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).
- Initial enrollment limited to unemployed Illinois veterans age 18 to 25.

## **HEALTH CARE/MEDICAID REFORM**

In arguably the strongest example of fiscal responsibility in recent history, the Illinois Senate led negotiations on how best to find a \$2.7 billion solution to the state's growing Medicaid crisis. Years of over-commitment and expansion of services without the associated funding resulted in a system teetering on collapse as people were entitled to services but fewer and fewer doctors would agree to take Medicaid patients and the state was growing excessively late in paying those who would.

The final agreement balances reduced services with lower payments to providers, a series of efficiency reforms to make sure those in the system truly qualify and a cigarette tax increase to help pay for services and reduce smoking.

For budget hawks, the deal produces what is likely the largest single budget cut in the history of Illinois, a more than \$1 billion reduction in spending on optional Medicaid services.

For those who daily see the human toll of economic downturn, the efficiencies and other changes preserve a core network of services no longer threatened with economic collapse.



The Senate seized this opportunity to resolve the lingering charity care issue regarding hospital property taxes. Included is an official policy for how the most vulnerable in society can obtain needed hospital services and an end to carrying hundreds of millions of dollars in health care bills over from one state budget to the next.

Here are highlights of the reform efforts:

#### **Why was reform needed?**

- In order to avoid massive cuts to other state priorities, the General Assembly had to decrease Medicaid expenditures by \$2.7 billion.
- That included \$1.9 million in unpaid provider bills plus \$800 million in program growth.

#### **What did we do?**

##### **1. We made tough but responsible cuts to Medicaid.**

- The “SMART Act” (Saving Medicaid Access and Resources Together) (SB 2840) is a comprehensive package of cuts, utilization controls, eligibility verification, provider rate cuts, and anti-fraud measures designed to slim down and promote efficiency while preserving access and quality of care.
- Implements enhanced eligibility verification to “scrub the rolls” of ineligible clients, saving \$360 million
- Terminates, makes reductions in, or implements utilization controls in 39 optional Medicaid services. Co-pays for brand-name drugs and most services will also be increased. Savings total \$1 billion.
- New payment systems for hospitals and nursing homes to incentivize matching patients with the level of needed care.
- Cuts provider rates by 2.7%, saving \$240 million. Doctors, dentists, and “safety net” and “critical access” hospitals are exempt.
- Total savings = \$1.6 billion

##### **2. We started paying down the backlog of old bills.**

- The legislature set aside \$150 million in greater-than-anticipated revenues (\$300 million with federal match) to start paying the overdue bills immediately (SB 2450).

##### **3. We generated new revenue for the program.**

- The remainder of the \$2.7 billion gap is filled with revenue from the cigarette tax and a new hospital assessment program. (SB 2194)
- The cigarette tax goes up by \$1 per pack; taxes on other tobacco products will be doubled.
- The Lung Association predicts 59,400 smokers will quit and 77,600 youths won’t start.
- Smoking-related conditions are the cause of at least \$1.4 billion in annual Medicaid spending.
- The tobacco tax should generate \$350 million in federally matchable revenue; \$50 million from the hospital tax will be matched, for a total of \$800 million in state and federal funds.

##### **4. We required tax-exempt hospitals to provide significant charity care.**

- SB 2194 defines charity care and exempts hospitals from property taxation when they provide charity care valued at more than they would otherwise owe in property taxes.
- This legislation resolved a situation in which several hospitals were stripped of their tax-exempt status.
- Creates a sales tax exemption and (for investor-owned hospitals) income tax exemption based on charitable activity.
- Further clarified charity care (SB 3261) by requiring hospitals to provide medically necessary services at no charge to low-income patients, defined as \$22,340 for a single person and \$46,100 for a family of four in the metro areas and \$14,000 for a single person and \$28,813 for a family of four in rural areas.



### **5. We cut up the Medicaid credit card.**

- To prevent future budgetary crises caused by unpaid Medicaid bills, SB 3397 “cuts up the Medicaid credit card” by limiting the amount of bills that can be carried over into the next fiscal year to \$700 million for FY13 and \$100 million for FY14 and beyond.

### **6. Approved Cook County’s waiver application.**

- HB 5007 allows Cook County to run a limited Medicaid program (pending federal approval) so the Cook County Hospital System can receive federal matching funds for caring for 100,000 uninsured adults.
- Coverage is limited to services obtained through the Cook County Hospital System.
- The county and federal governments will split the costs. No state money will be spent.

## **STABILIZING STATE FINANCES**

Proving their commitment to education funding, Illinois Senate Democrats launched a strategic review of all available revenues in an effort to show the public that state aid to public schools can be maintained in tight financial times.

It was the second straight year Senate Democrats sought to expand the budget debate beyond the traditional General Revenue Fund to include hundreds of long-protected special funds.

By utilizing excess dollars in these funds, Senate Democrats demonstrated how the state could maintain education funding, minimize cuts to higher education and human services, pay down \$1.3 billion in past-due bills and still make the full, \$5.1 billion state pension system contribution.

Although the final plan differed, Illinois Senate Democrats continue to show leadership in putting the entire state budget under the microscope in an effort to maximize results for taxpayers and fund priority programs such as education in tough times.

Here are highlights of the Senate’s responsible budgeting efforts:

### **Education Funding (SB 2455)... Passed Senate**

- The Senate’s Democratic FY13 budget plan would maintain K-12 education funding by keeping it level compared to last year’s spending.
- The plan would protect funding for MAP grants and Early Childhood education, preventing drastic cutbacks.

### **Cutting Legislators’ Pay (HB 3188)**

- Senate Democrats led by shared sacrificing, passing legislation to cut lawmakers’ pay by nearly 5% (via 12 furlough days) and freezing pay for the governor and other state officials.
- Total savings to taxpayers is nearly \$900,000

### **Supplemental Childcare Funding (SB 2450)**

- After 40,000 childcare providers received letters stating no money was left in the budget to pay them, legislators quickly provided relief.
- Available dollars in the budget were moved to the Child Care Assistance Program fund to reimburse childcare providers for April payments and restore monthly payments.

### **Updating Financial Reporting Systems (SB 3794)**

- A 2011 audit describing the state’s financial reporting systems as “archaic” spurred legislation to overhaul how state agencies process financial reporting data.
- The result should be better reporting of the state’s true financial status and prevent untimely reports that negatively impact Illinois’ bond rating and jeopardize federal dollars.

### **Funding for Sexual Assault Prevention (HB 1645)**

- Adult entertainment clubs that sell or allow alcohol would charge a \$3 admission fee or pay a flat fee based on yearly income.
- The money goes to community organizations assisting victims of sexual assault.





- Studies show crime, especially sexually-related offenses, is higher in neighborhoods that contain adult entertainment industries.

#### **Delinquent Student-Loan Payments (SB 3800)**

- With the Illinois Student Assistance Commission waiting on more than \$30 million in past-due funds, this legislation allows ISAC to recover state-owned student loan debt more efficiently and effectively.
- The measure allows ISAC to garnish wages, commissions and bonuses without significantly increasing its administrative costs.
- Rather suing each individual, ISAC can utilize less-costly tools to help collect the debt.

#### **Sales Tax Cheats (HB 5289)**

- Attorney General Lisa Madigan's initiative works to crack down on businesses that commit sales tax fraud and evasion.
- It toughens criminal penalties for intentionally failing to remit money collected as sales tax and allows business owners to be prosecuted for sales tax evasion when they destroy, conceal, or falsify records.

## **THE FINAL BUDGET**

In the end, the budget that passed the General Assembly stayed within the state's revenue limits. It cut discretionary spending by nearly \$700 million, made the full pension payment (preventing the state from sinking deeper into debt), kept Medicaid costs down

by finding \$2.7 billion in savings, and prevented the closure of dozens of state facilities that provide vital services and good-paying jobs throughout Illinois.

Senate Democrats also demonstrated that they understand the plight of working Illinoisans by cutting their own pay and preventing highly paid state officials from collecting raises that were included in the governor's initial budget proposal.

House Spending Walk-Up \$ in millions	
Appropriated Spending	
Non-Discretionary (SB2348/SB2454)	\$12,910
Discretionary (SBs 2378, 2409, 2413, 2443, 2454, 2474)	\$16,434
Subtotal Appropriated Spending	\$29,344
Non-Appropriated Spending	
Debt Service/Interfund Borrowing Repayment	\$2,168
TROUT	\$2,142
Subtotal Non-Appropriated Spending	\$4,310
Adjustments	
Cost to GRF for Old Bills	\$1,300
Less TROUT Shift to FY12	-\$90
Less Unpaid Approp	-\$650
Less Medicaid Reimbursement	-\$500
Total Adjustments	\$60
Total ALL Spending	\$33,714
Revenue Estimate	\$33,719

Unfortunately, members of the Illinois House insisted on cutting General State Aid to education, early childhood education funding, and MAP grants. Many Senate Democrats

vowed to work throughout the summer to find cost savings and underutilized revenues to make up for this shortfall and invest in Illinois' future.

Senate Proposal Comparison to House and FY12 Final					
House Committee	FY12 Final	House Budget	Senate Proposal	Diff Senate vs. FY12 Final	Diff Senate vs. House Budget
Elementary and Secondary	\$6,751	\$6,542	\$6,752	\$1	\$211
General Services	\$1,246	\$1,164	\$1,195	(\$50)	\$32
Higher Education	\$2,108	\$1,980	\$2,063	(\$46)	\$83
Human Services	\$5,287	\$5,086	\$5,278	(\$9)	\$192
Public Safety	\$1,714	\$1,663	\$1,563	(\$151)	(\$100)
Total	\$17,106	\$16,435	\$16,851	(\$255)	\$417



## Pensions

The Illinois Senate advanced pension reforms that have the potential to save taxpayers and the state budget billions of dollars over the coming decades.

And the Senate did it by starting with members' own pensions.

On a bipartisan roll call, the Illinois Senate passed House Bill 1447 to reform the General Assembly Retirement System (GARS) and the State Employees Retirement System (SERS).

The savings could be as high as \$31 billion over the next few decades and would come through responsible limits in how much pension annuities can grow once an employee or lawmaker retires.

State employees and retirees would face a choice: keep the 3 percent retiree cost of living raise that is compounded annually but forfeit access to the state retiree group health coverage, or keep access to the health plan and go with a lower annual cost of living adjustment that does not compound year after year.

The Senate plan is now in the House.

Still awaiting Senate action are the State University Retirement System (SURS) and the Teachers Retirement System (TRS). Disagreement remains over how much direct responsibility suburban and downstate school districts should have in covering the costs of their employees' pensions. Currently, those costs are shifted to state taxpayers.

Without savings, the ever-increasing pension payments will eat up more of the state budget, annually eroding resources for schools, public health and safety.

## Gaming

With a steady stream of Illinois gamblers crossing the border to casinos in Indiana and Wisconsin, the Illinois Senate said it was time to restore the state's competitive standing in this multibillion-dollar business.

As it has done in the past, the Senate approved a land-based casino for Chicago, a venture that has the potential to become the state's most lucrative gaming franchise that could provide a boost to the region's convention and tourism industry.

Also included are riverboats in Park City, Danville, Rockford and Suburban Cook County. In addition, the bill will help support the horseracing industry by allowing slot machines at racetracks.

The legislation, Senate Bill 1849, is a scaled down version of Senate Bill 744 which passed the General Assembly last year. The revamped version includes a 25 percent reduction in the number of slot machines at horse tracks and no longer includes slots at the Illinois State Fairgrounds track.

Sponsoring State Sen. Terry Link said he will continue to work with lawmakers and the governor to increase Illinois' competitiveness and maximize economic development through this industry.



## ETHICS

Senate Democrats continued their leadership role in bringing increased accountability and transparency to state government.

### **Legislative Scholarship abolishment (HB 3810)**

- Repeals statutes that allowed General Assembly members to award scholarships to prospective college students in their districts.
- Calls for a review of hundreds of other tuition and fee waivers at state universities.
- The waiver report is due before April 15, 2013.

### **Increased state vehicle fleet oversight (HB 5650)**

- Last year the Auditor General highlighted lax monitoring policies over state vehicle use.
- The measure mandates a vehicle-use policy for each state agency, containing specific policies relating to take-home vehicles and daily vehicle use logs and mileage recordings
- The audit report identified 65 state executive agencies utilizing over 16,000 vehicles with an annual cost of \$129 million. An analysis concluded vehicles must be driven 7,000 to 14,000 miles to be cost-effective.

### **EDGE tax credit transparency (HB 3934)**

- Ensures the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity posts details of each EDGE Tax Credit Agreement online.

### **Local government transparency (HB 222)**

- Adds all county, township and municipal employees to the Illinois Transparency and Accountability Portal (ITAP) database.
- ITAP is a single point of reference to review how tax dollars are being spent. It includes information about pay, expenditures, contracts and professional licensing.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

With high profile criminal cases raising awareness of new legal issues and abuses, the Senate quickly responded with initiatives to increase public safety. These measures cover areas ranging from missing children and child abuse reporting to speeding and increased penalties for drug offenses.

Here are highlights of the Senate's efforts:

### **Julie's Law (SB 2888)**

- Removes supervision as an option for excessive speeding, defined as exceeding 25 mph over the posted limit in urban areas and 30 or more mph on highways. Previous law allowed supervision along with a fine or traffic school.
- The legislation was inspired by a traffic crash that claimed the life of a constituent in Senator Crotty's district. The young woman was killed by a driver who had previously received seven court supervisions for excessive speeding. If these seven incidents had resulted in convictions, rather than supervisions, the defendant would not have had a valid license when the fatal accident occurred.

### **Caylee's Law (SB 2537)**

- Makes failing to report a missing child under age 13 within a 24-hour timeframe a Class 4 felony for parents or guardians. Under the measure, children age two and under must be reported missing within an hour of their parent or guardian learning of the disappearance.
- The legislation was inspired by Caylee Anthony, the 2-year-old Floridian, whose disappearance and mother's murder trial sparked national attention last summer.
- Casey Anthony allegedly waited 31 days to report her daughter missing.
- Several states adopted similar laws after the mother's acquittal.



### **Penn State (HB 3887)**

- Drafted in response to the child sex abuse scandal at Penn State, in which assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky allegedly abused young boys. University employees were said to have witnessed the abuse but did not report the actions to outside authorities
- This legislation adds college and university staffs, including athletic staff and early intervention providers to the list of individuals who are required to report child abuse.
- Witnesses who don't report or engage in a cover-up could face jail time, felony charges.

### **RICO (HB 1907)**

- Creates the Illinois Street Gang and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Law, a state version of the federal "RICO" Act. It prohibits facilitation of an enterprise engaged in a pattern of crimes involving violence/illegal weapons, sex offenses, terrorism and drug trafficking.
- In this way, different organized crime offenses and offenders may be joined into a single proceeding, and prosecutors can target the structure of the criminal organization itself, not just its expendable rank and file. This measure will allow judges and juries to hear and see a complete picture of the criminal activity, and thus it helps ensure fair results at trial and sentencing.
- Under current law, gang leaders continue to insulate themselves from prosecution and replace their underlings upon arrest in an endless cycle of incarceration.

### **Internet Dating Background Checks (SB 2545)**

- Requires internet dating sites offering services in Illinois to clearly state on their website whether they perform criminal background checks on members. Dating sites are also required to inform members of safety tips when signing up for the service. New

York, New Jersey, Texas and Connecticut have introduced similar measures.

### **Family Fugitive Loophole (SB 2520)**

- Inspired by the findings in the Tribune series "Fugitives From Justice" which found Illinois is one of about a dozen states protecting close relatives when they help a family member flee the country to avoid prosecution, no matter how brutal the alleged crime.
- This came to light in the case of Muaz Haffar, accused of beating to death Tombol Malik, a 23-year-old political science major at the University of Illinois at Chicago, in 2005. Haffar's father bought him a plane ticket so he could flee to Syria to escape murder charges.
- Haffar has never been extradited to face charges. His father couldn't be charged with assisting him under Illinois law.
- This legislation applies only to relatives who are at least 18 and who intentionally helped prevent a fugitive's arrest or helped the suspect flee jurisdiction. A violation could bring a three-year prison term.

### **Blunt Wraps (HB 3801)**

- House Bill 3801 will ban the sale of blunt wraps in Illinois. Blunt Wraps allow the easy rolling of drugs like marijuana, crack cocaine, and PCP to create larger joints with flavors like cotton candy, grape, and peanut butter. Tobacco companies began selling the wrappers relatively recently – after it became a common practice for young people to split open cigars and refill them with illicit drugs. The ban applies only to blunt wraps with flavors clearly aimed at the youth market.





### **Additional Anti-Drug Laws**

- **HB 3801** increases penalties for manufacturing and distributing small amounts of heroin. It imposes mandatory imprisonment for the manufacture or delivery of or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver 3 or more grams of a substance containing heroin. The offense will now be a Class 1 felony. Currently, a person convicted of selling or manufacturing heroin is subject to mandatory imprisonment only if the amount is five or more grams; this legislation would lower the threshold to three.
- **HB 3499** is an initiative of Madison County State's Attorney Thomas Gibbons who requested action following a local court case. This measure will ensure criminals who provide illegal drugs to overdose victims can be punished. The law specifies that Illinois' drug-related homicide law applies if the purchase or ingestion of the drugs happened elsewhere. Under current law an individual can only be prosecuted here for a drug-induced homicide if the drugs causing the death were purchased or delivered within Illinois' borders.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

After years of negotiations, 2012 brought bold consensus among key environmental groups and businesses in Illinois on key issues.

The Senate's pro-active, balanced efforts in the expanding Midwestern "fracking" industry brought national media attention. The Senate advanced responsible regulations that encourage job creation while also protecting natural resources.

Under another environmental protection initiative, concentrated animal feeding operations are required to obtain national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permits and will be charged a permit fee depending on the size of the facility and only for discharges into a public waterway. CAFOs are mass-production

meat factories that exist for most of the animal products Americans consume like cows, pigs and chickens.

In other action, the Illinois "Keep it for the Crop" initiative between agricultural and environmental groups brought the first updates to the Illinois Fertilizer Act since 1961. Included in the initiative is the creation of the Nutrient Research and Education Council (NREC) to implement new research and education provisions of the Act. One of the primary goals of NREC is modernizing regulations on the sale of fertilizer with fees dedicated for fertilizer nutrient research, education and water quality programs with a focus toward on-farm research.

Here are highlights of the initiatives:

### **Concentrated animal feeding operations (HB 5642)**

- CAFOs are mass-production meat factories for most of the animal products Americans consume, such as cows, pigs and chickens.
- Currently, CAFOs are not required to obtain national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permits to identify their waste discharge into Illinois waters.
- This requires CAFO operators to attain NPDES permits and charged a permit fee depending on the size of the facility and only discharges into a public waterway.
- This bill was negotiated and has the support of environmental and agriculture groups.

### **Hydraulic fracturing (fracking) oversight (SB 3280)**

- This initiative requires oversight and regulation of hydraulic fracturing by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
- Specifically, the bill requires fracking operators report a complete list of the chemicals used in the process before beginning.



- The measure also creates standards for the well casings used in fracking sites as well as requiring wastewater disposal pits be lined to prevent possible leakage into ground water.
- The initiative is supported by many environmental and business groups including Faith in Place, Illinois Sierra Club, Illinois Environmental Council, Illinois Oil & Gas Association, and Illinois Petroleum Council.

#### **Updated Illinois Fertilizer Act (SB 3436)**

- Revises the Illinois Fertilizer Act for the first time since 1961 to reflect industry updates.
- A primary goal of NREC will be the development of a fertilizer tonnage fee to be dedicated for fertilizer nutrient research, education and water quality programs with a focus toward on-farm research.
- This is part of the “Keep it for the Crop” (KIC) initiative joining agricultural and environmental groups to balance use of fertilizers while not damaging the soil and drinking water quality.







# 2011 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY





## Agriculture

The General Assembly addressed relatively few agriculture bills this year. The most noteworthy is SB 840, which will enable farmers and community members to sell home-made baked goods and certain other prepared foods as long as they meet a number of requirements. Under current law, only individuals with access to commercial kitchens can sell prepared foods at farmers' markets.

HB 1170	States that a Bovine Brucellosis certificate is not required during a swine auction, but must be made available if requested. Swine over 4 months may be marketed if certified to be Brucellosis-free or from a Brucellosis-free herd
HB 1683	Requires the Extension leader in each county to certify the projected amount of premiums paid out per exhibitor at a show to the State 4-H officer
HB 3139	Creates switchgrass production permits
SB 0840	Allows for the sale of non-potentially hazardous food items prepared in home kitchens at farmers' markets

## Appointments

For the first time this year, the Illinois Senate required gubernatorial nominations to be drafted in bill form and provided itemized committee postings to the public. This move greatly improved the transparency of the appointment process. The Senate also confirmed the first Latino director of the Illinois State Police, Hiram Grau.

AM 0002	Nominates Michael McRaith to be Director of Insurance
AM 0003	Nominates Ricardo Estrada to be member of U of I Board of Trustees
AM 0004	Nominates Patricia Brown Holmes to be member of U of I Board of Trustees
AM 0005	Nominates Karen Hasara to be member of the U of I Board of Trustees
AM 0006	Nominates Rocco Claps to be Director of Human Rights
AM 0007	Nominates Gary Hannig to be Secretary of IDOT
AM 0008	Nominates Julie Hamos to be Director of DHFS
AM 0009	Nominates Erwin McEwen to be Director of DCFS
AM 0010	Nominates Michelle Saddler to be Director of DHS
AM 0011	Nominates Marc Miller to be Director of DNR
AM 0012	Nominates Daniel W. Grant to be Director of Veterans' Affairs
AM 0013	Nominates Arthur Bishop to be Director of Juvenile Justice
AM 0014	Nominates Brent E. Adams to be Secretary of IDFPR
AM 0015	Nominates Mark R Neaman to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0016	Nominates Bechara Choucair to director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0017	Nominates Robert B. Wellman to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0018	Nominates David Holland to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0019	Nominates William E. Kobler to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0020	Nominates Nicholas E. Panomitros to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0021	Nominates Cheryl Rucker-Whitaker to be director of the Illinois Health Information Exchange Authority



AM 0022	Nominates Nancy Newby to be director of Health Information Exchange Authority
AM 0024	Nominates Thomas J. Tyrell to Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission
AM 0026	Nominates Jonathon Monken to Director of IEMA
AM 0027	Nominates Manuel Flores to be the Director of the Division of Banking within the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
AM 0028	Nominates Douglas Scott to be a Commissioner and Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission
AM 0029	Nominates Donna L. Manering to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University
AM 0030	Nominates Clyde Bunch to be a member of the Merit Commission of the Office of the Comptroller
AM 0031	Nominates William Taft to be a member and Chair of the Merit Commission of the Office of the Comptroller
AM 0032	Nominates Rosemarie Long to be a member of the Merit Commission of the Office of the Comptroller
AM 0033	Nominates Steven H. Dayan, M.D., to be a member of the Medical Licensing Board
AM 0034	Nominates Patrick Reardon to be a member of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Advisory Board
AM 0035	Nominates Timothy Newlin to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Peoria County
AM 0036	Nominates David Hill to be a member of the Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Board
AM 0037	Nominates James M. Meyer to be a member of the Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Board
AM 0038	Nominates Bruce N. Friefeld to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Governors State University
AM 0039	Nominates Randall A. Jacobs to be a member of the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority
AM 0040	Nominates Lorine S. Samuels to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Governors State University
AM 0041	Nominates Sharon Jenkins-Collins to be a member of the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
AM 0042	Nominates William McKinley Simmons to be a member of the Prisoner Review Board
AM 0043	Nominates Craig Findley to be a member of the Prisoner Review Board
AM 0044	Nominates Dana M. Considine to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Lee County
AM 0045	Nominates Kevin N. McDermott to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Sangamon County
AM 0046	Nominates Joseph M. Cernugel to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Will County
AM 0047	Nominates Frederick D. Floreth to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Fayette County
AM 0048	Nominates Frederick D. Floreth to be Public Guardian and Public Administrator of Montgomery County
AM 0049	Nominates Joseph Klinger to be Assistant Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency
AM 0050	Nominates Lawrence Matkaitis to be the State Fire Marshal
AM 0051	Nominates Joseph Costigan to be Director of the Department of Labor
AM 0052	Nominates Hiram Grau to be Director of the Illinois State Police
AM 0053	Nominates Jonathan Joel Stein to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University
AM 0054	Nominates Terry Cosgrove to be a member of the Illinois Human Rights Commission
AM 0056	Nominates Robert Antimo Cantone to be a member of the Illinois Human Rights



	Commission
AM 0057	Nominates Anthony R. Licata to be Chairman of the Capital Development Board
AM 0058	Nominates Peter J. Birnbaum to be a Judge on the Court of Claims
AM 0059	Nominates Gerald E. Kubasiak to be a Judge on the Court of Claims
AM 0060	Nominates Dr. Andrea Barthwell to be a member of the Personnel Review Board of the Office of the Treasurer.
AM 0061	Nominates Charles Scholz to be a Democrat member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0062	Nominates Judith C. Rice to be a Democrat member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0063	Nominates Ernest L. Gowen to be a Republican member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0064	Nominates Betty J. Coffrin to be a Republican member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0065	Nominates Jesse R. Smart to be a Republican member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0066	Nominates Bryan A. Schneider to be a Republican member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0067	Nominates William McGuffage to be a Democrat member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0068	Nominates Harold D. Byers to be a Democrat member of the State Board of Elections.
AM 0069	Nominates Elba Aranda-Suh to be a member of the Personnel Review Board of the Office of the Treasurer
AM 0072	Nominates Peter J. O'Brien, Sr., to be a member of the Capital Development Board
AM 0073	Nominates Warren C. Ribley to be Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
AM 0074	Nominates Salvador A. Godinez to be Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections
AM 0075	Nominates Jay Stewart to be the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation at the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
AM 0076	Nominates Sharron D. Matthews to be Assistant Director of the Department of Healthcare and Family Services
AM 0077	Nominates Matthew Z. Mammoudeh to be Assistant Secretary of Operations of the Department of Human Services
AM 0078	Nominates John D. Rogner to be Assistant Director of the Department of Natural Resources
AM 0079	Nominates David A. Bonoma to be a member of the Department of Employment Security Board of Review
AM 0080	Nominates Marilyn S. Orso to be a member of the Department of Employment Security Board of Review
AM 0081	Nominates Jay D. Bergman to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University
AM 0082	Nominates Anne Davis to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University
AM 0083	Nominates Betty J. Kinser to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University
AM 0084	Nominates Anthony Alfred Iosco to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
AM 0085	Nominates Robert T. Marshall, Jr., to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
AM 0086	Nominates Cherilyn G. Murer to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
AM 0087	Nominates Marc J. Strauss to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
AM 0088	Nominates Roger D. Herrin to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University



AM 0089	Nominates Mark A. Hinrichs to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University
AM 0090	Nominates Donald Lowery to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University
AM 0091	Nominates Marquita T. Wiley to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University
AM 0092	Nominates John Rednour to be a member of the Illinois State Police Merit Board
AM 0093	Nominates Arthur J. Smith, Sr. to be a member of the Illinois State Police Merit Board
AM 0094	Nominates Gladys C. Taylor to be Assistant Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections
AM 0095	Nominates Steven B. Schnorf to be a commissioner of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission
AM 0096	Nominates Dan Seals to be Assistant Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
AM 0097	Nominates Kennard Tucker to be a member of the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority
AM 0099	Nominates John Hipskind to be a member of the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority
AM 0100	Nominates Barrett F. Pedersen to be a member of the Illinois Finance Authority
AM 0101	Nominates Roxanne Nava to be Director of the Division of Financial Institutions within the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
AM 0102	Nominates Percy Harris to be a member of the Weatherization Initiative Board
AM 0103	Nominates Kevin C. Kaufhold to be a member of the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority
AM 0115	Nominates Michael J. Williams to be a member of the Illinois Workforce Development Board
AM 0116	Nominates Shelley Stern Grach to be a member of the Illinois Workforce Development Board
AM 0117	Nominates Elizabeth A. Dickson to be a member of the Illinois Workforce Development Board
AM 0118	Nominates Donald DeDobbelaere to be a member of the Illinois Workforce Development Board
AM 0119	Nominates John T. Coliton III to be a member of the Illinois Workforce Development Board
AM 0120	Nominates Michael McCuskey to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University
AM 0121	Nominates Allan Karnes to be a member of the Illinois Board of Higher Education
AM 0122	Nominates Frances G. Carroll, Ed. D, to be a member of the Illinois Board of Higher Education
AM 0123	Nominates Santos Rivera to be a member of the Illinois Board of Higher Education
AM 0124	Nominates Grace B. Hou to be Assistant Secretary (Programs) of the Department of Human Services





## *Banking & Finance*

The majority of the banking and finance laws passed this year were crafted to protect consumers. For example, Senate Bill 1603 allows families to leverage the resources of their family-owned businesses for mortgages without getting special licenses. The General Assembly also passed several adjustments to Illinois' payday loan law to further protect state residents from unscrupulous businesses.

HB 0159	Makes a variety of changes to currency exchanges
HB 1651	IDFPR initiative makes a number of technical and grammatical changes
HB 3041	Trust companies are considered financial institutions, which allows them to keep their own notarial records rather than deliver them to the Recorder of Deeds
HB 3050	Allows IDFPR to issue civil penalties to non-compliant credit unions, but gives them time to come into compliance before they're required to pay the fees
SB 0087	Currency exchanges licensed under the Currency Exchange Act are exempt from licensing for the sale, loading, or unloading of stored value cards.
SB 0674	Defines "affiliate" as it relates to Payday Loans as an individual that controls (meaning an ownership interest of 25% or more), is controlled by, or shares control with another person
SB 1133	Sets the limit on finance charges applicable to the extra days when the first installment period of a payday loan is larger than the remaining installment periods
SB 1603	Exempts businesses that do not originate mortgage loans in the course of ordinary business from having to be licensed (intended to allow family members to offer each other loans without getting a license)

## *Budget*

The biggest story related to budget bills is obviously the budget itself; however, the General Assembly also changed several laws to cut costs. Senate Bill 1336 requires IDOT to notify CMS before it disposes of any vehicles. This change will allow CMS to determine if any other State agencies could use the vehicles before they go on auction to local governments. House Bill 1929 requires inmates to pay slightly higher copays for non-emergency medical services to help deter unnecessary visits and reduce spending at IDOC.

HB 0116	Appropriates \$135,000,000, minus the amount transferred to the State Universities Retirement System pursuant to continuing appropriation authorized by the State Pension Funds Continuing Appropriation Act, from the State Pensions Fund to the Board of Trustees of the State Universities Retirement System. Appropriates \$845,485,000 from the Education Assistance Fund to the Board of Trustees of the State Universities Retirement System for the State's contribution, as provided by law. Effective July 1, 2011.
HB 0117	Makes appropriations from the Illinois Civic Center Bond Retirement and Interest Fund, the Build Illinois Bond Retirement and Interest Fund, and the General Obligation Bond Retirement and Interest Fund for repayment of bonded indebtedness. Effective July 1, 2011.



HB 0123	FY12 Appropriations to constitutional officers, legislature, legislative agencies and some commissions
HB 0124	FY12 appropriations for Agriculture, CMS, DCEO, DNR, CHIP, the Arts Council, the Executive Ethics Commission, the Executive Inspector General, the Civil Service Commission, the Historic Preservation Agency, the Illinois Labor Relations Board, the Governor, and the State Board of Elections, the Lieutenant Governor, the Court of Claims, the ICC, GOMB, IDOR, and IDES.
HB 0132	Appropriates amounts from various funds to DHFS for provision of health care coverage as elected by eligible members per the State Employees Group Insurance Act of 1971. Makes appropriations to CMS, Bureau of Benefits. Effective July 1, 2011.
HB 0326	Makes FY12 appropriations to the State Board of Education for various purposes
HB 0327	Makes FY12 appropriations to the State Board of Education and the Illinois Community College Board.
HB 1303	Changes funding for the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) from GRF to the Fire Prevention Fund
HB 1929	Provides that for the purpose of exempting a committed person who is indigent from the co-payment for non-emergency medical or dental services only, defines "indigent" as a committed person who has \$20 or less in his or her Inmate Trust Fund at the time of such services or for the 30 days prior to such services
HB 2107	FY12 Appropriations for the Educational Labor Relations Board
HB 2109	FY12 Appropriations for: the Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council, the Illinois Gaming Board, the Property Tax Appeal Board, the Department of Insurance, the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, and the Illinois Racing Board; all OSF
HB 2165	FY12 Appropriations for Criminal Justice Information Authority, IEMA, the Prisoner Review Board, the Southwest Illinois Development Authority, the State Police Merit Board, the Judicial Inquiry Board, State Appellate Defenders, and State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutors, IDOL, Military Affairs, the Sports Facilities Authority, and the Upper Illinois River Valley Development Authority
HB 2167	FY12 Appropriations for: the Capital Development Board, the Illinois Power Agency, the Law Enforcement Training Standards Board, the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Workers' Compensation Commission; all OSF
HB 2168	HB 2168 makes FY 2012 appropriations to the following State agencies: Department of Corrections, East St. Louis Finance Authority, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of State Police, Department of Transportation, and the IL Violence Prevention Authority.
HB 3639	\$2.4 billion from Common School Fund to the Teachers' Retirement System; smaller amounts to TRS to Chicago teachers' retirement fund
HB 3697	Appropriates \$899,504,680 from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Trustees of the State Employees' Retirement System. Appropriates \$63,628,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Trustees of the Judges Retirement System. Appropriates \$10,502,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly Retirement System



HB 3700	FY12 Appropriations for Higher Education (IBHE, ICCB, ISAC, IMSA, SUCSS, and state universities)
HB 3717	FY12 Appropriations for DCFS, HRC, DHS, HFS, DPH, Veterans' Affairs, DHHC, and GAC. Increases funding to Aging, Human Rights, and the Council on Developmental Disabilities.
SB 0335	FY12 budget implementation bill
SB 1336	Requires IDOT to notify CMS if vehicles must be replaced so that CMS may transfer them to another agency; if the vehicle can't be transferred IDOT must make the vehicle available to local governments
SB 2007	Allows the treasurer to publish policy changes for the college savings pool online rather than or in addition to paper papers
SB 1968	Changes the effective date on certain provisions of the FY12 BIMP bill
SB 2405	Makes supplemental appropriations for Medicaid assistance and contains clean up to HBs 2168 and 3700, which referenced the incorrect end date for the fiscal year

## Civil Law

As usual, the General Assembly passed a large number of bills adjusting Illinois' civil laws. Several of these bills made it easier for people to help others. House Bill 1549 expands the State's Good Samaritan Law by protecting more people trained in CPR from civil damages when they make good faith efforts to save another person's life. Senate Bill 1372 makes it easier for people to donate used medical supplies to veterinarians' clinics by exempting them from civil damages unless it can be proven that they intended to cause harm.

HB 0178	Allows parties to voluntarily and in writing agree to waive the fact finding conference conducted by the Dept of Human Rights
HB 0350	A notary public may accept ID documents from a consulate as satisfactory evidence that a signature is valid
HB 1153	Establishes the Illinois Residential Real Property Transfer on Death Instrument Act, creating a way to transfer real estate upon owner's death without need for a probate
HB 1209	Allows a landlord to request the pro rata amount of rent due for a period where judgment is stayed (in addition to claim of owed rent) when he or she is suing for possession of a rental unit under Forcible Entry and Detainer
HB 1226	Subcontractors must file a notice including amount due and amount paid with the political subdivision and contractor before proceeding with a claim of labor or material.
HB 1379	Accelerates the sunset of the Registered Titles Torrens Act to January 1, 2014
HB 1524	A person can only be admitted involuntarily to a mental health facility if at least one qualified mental health examiner has examined that individual and testifies at the hearing
HB 1549	Protects more individuals from civil damages if they perform CPR in good faith
HB 1699	Provides that agency adoption forms may only be used by legal parents



HB 1712	Adds to the definition of "excluded power of attorney"
HB 3478	Allows creditors to place liens on personal property under certain circumstances
SB 1074	Replaces the Uniform Foreign Country Money Judgment Act with a new version that has been introduced in 15 states; it institutes new burdens of proof, a statute of limitations, and more
SB 1122	Makes it a civil rights violation for employers to hire or not hire or otherwise discriminate against woman on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition
SB 1372	Protects individual donors of medical supplies (but not medications) to veterinarians or veterinary schools from civil damages if the supplies cause injury, unless they donated the faulty supplies with malicious intent or reckless disregard for safety
SB 1877	Changes a reference to the Power of Attorney Act in the statutory short form power of attorney for health care; deletes a provision immediately allowing persons with power of attorney to review medical records
SB 2015	Allows the State to appoint temporary guardians upon the death, incapacity, or resignation of a current guardian

## *Consumer Protection*

The General Assembly passed a large number of bills this year to help protect consumers from dangerous and unethical business practices. To protect people from identity theft, the Senate passed several bills limiting the use of Social Security numbers (HB 700 and HB 3513). To protect children from harm, HB 1130 establishes safety regulations for movable soccer goals. This bill stems from a case in which a goal fell on a small child, killing him. The General Assembly also passed laws requiring animal shelters to scan all animals for identification chips (SB 1637) and set new guidelines for rebate offers (HB 3406).

HB 0105	Creates the Patients' Right to Know Act, establishing a database of physicians' profiles including info to assist consumers in making choices about their health care providers. It re-enacts current law, which was nullified/enjoined by the Supreme Court in 2010
HB 0141	Requires landlords to disclose to renters the existence of a radon hazard
HB 0274	IDFPR may take disciplinary action against dental practitioners who violate licensee probation
HB 0700	In order to limit the use of social security numbers for licensing purposes, requires new licensees to include social security numbers when applying for a professional license, but requires the respective agency to then assign a customer ID number to be used for subsequent renewals
HB 0880	Creates a fund to ensure that people who sell used cars to car dealers get their money if the dealers go out of business
HB 1125	Removes sunset of the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act
HB 1130	Creates the Movable Soccer Goal Safety Act
HB 1228	Establishes the State as the sole authority regarding regulation, standards, and licensing suspensions of plumbers





HB 1279	Extends fire sprinkler contractor licensing period to two years. Licensee must complete 16 hours of continuing education in a two year period following an initial renewal or licensure.
HB 1394	Adds to subjects licensees must study and makes other changes under the Detection of Deception Examiners Acts
HB 1973	Prohibits optometric fee splitting
HB 2974	Telecommunications carriers must inform people who live nearby before building new facilities; also requires them to submit site plans
HB 3012	States that stable keepers shall have a lien upon tack and equipment, and any other personal property stored by the owner at the stable or boarding facility in the amount the proper charges dues for the keeping of these items and any expenses
HB 3025	Requires companies and state agencies that have experienced data breaches to provide information on dealing with identity fraud
HB 3034	Sets forth restrictions on contractors offering repairs following a "catastrophe"
HB 3406	Requires retailers to improve the transparency of their rebate offers
HB 3513	States that Social Security numbers may not be printed on wristbands or the outside of any file associated with products or services
SB 0153	Extends and amends the Massage Licensing Act. Sets more stringent requirements (600 curriculum hours before license) and allows the State to impose higher fines for violations
SB 1306	Requires the licensure of repossession agencies and sets new limits on local governments' ability to regulate repossession agencies
SB 1396	Requires the ICC to review and update its current consumer education materials for residential and small commercial electric customers with input from interested parties, including electric utilities, the Attorney General, and the Citizens Utility Board
SB 1539	Requires registration for appraisal management companies and allows IDFPR to regulate registration qualifications and disciplinary proceedings
SB 1607	Prohibits insurance companies from using senior-specific certification in order to mislead purchasers, allows life insurance providers to require proof of death and sets a minimum payment schedule
SB 1637	Requires dogs and cats to be scanned and examined for identification upon impoundment within 24 hours
SB 1654	Requires the ICC to prepare an annual report regarding the development of competitive retail natural gas markets in Illinois (rather than the gas market in general)



## Criminal Law

The General Assembly focused a great deal of energy on improving public safety this year. They banned new hallucinogenic drugs called “bath salts” (HB 2089), made it a crime to intimidate someone who is trying to call the police about a violent crime (SB 1739), and ensured that felons found with guns will go to jail (SB 1589). The General Assembly also passed a bill prohibiting people who injure themselves during the commission of violent crimes from collecting workers’ compensation benefits (SB 1147). This bill was inspired by a tragic incident where a police officer killed several young women in an automobile accident caused by driving too fast and texting-while driving. He then filed for workers’ compensation for his own injuries.

HB 0021	Expands the crime of drug-induced homicide to include deaths caused by absorption of an illegally possessed controlled substance or methamphetamine
HB 0078	Prohibits a student who has been suspended or expelled from entering or remaining in a school safe zone when the prohibition is a condition of the suspension or expulsion
HB 0083	Requires a court to make a finding that secure confinement is necessary prior to committing a juvenile to the Dept of Juvenile Justice
HB 0167	Creates a Class A misdemeanor for knowingly discharging a laser into a cockpit of an aircraft
HB 0180	Increases the distance in which protesting at a funeral or memorial service is prohibited
HB 0233	Increases penalties for aggravated battery to a Class 1 felony for cases where the crime intentionally or knowingly caused great bodily harm, permanent disability or disfigurement, and involved the infliction of torture
HB 0277	Makes registered sex offenders who harass their victims guilty of aggravated stalking
HB 0298	Allows courts the discretion to seal criminal records relating to felony charges that result in acquittal, dismissal, or reversal or vacation of a conviction
HB 1258	Establishes that when a person is convicted of manufacturing or delivering cannabis or a controlled substance because an emergency response was needed, the person is liable for those emergency response expenses
HB 1908	Prohibits individuals who are on parole from crimes related to methamphetamines from purchasing the ingredients used to make meth
HB 1909	Provides that offenders who have violated a county’s property maintenance code 2 or more times may be served with a notice to appear after a violation
HB 1985	When a complaint accompanied by a sworn affidavit is filed against a police officer, it will go to the State's Attorney, who will determine if it contains knowingly false information
HB 2089	Bans a "bath salt" hallucinogen; adds several synthetic drugs to the list of Schedule I controlled substances
HB 2193	Creates restrictions on the ownership of acid to prevent its use as a weapon
HB 2267	Imposes an additional fine of \$2,500 (in addition to incarceration) on people who have driven without insurance more than twice and caused an accident resulting in injuries



HB 2362	Clarifies that a therapist may disclose a patients records or communications to a court-appointed therapist, psychologist, or psychiatrist for use in determining the patient's fitness to stand trial <b>if</b> the records were made within a <b>180 day period</b> preceding the date the therapist, psychologist or psychiatrist was appointed by the court
HB 2581	Courts must assess a \$75 fee for certain offenses relating to bail; if ISP is involved \$70 goes to the State
HB 2595	Makes K2 (a synthetic canniboid) illegal
HB 2935	Adds cell-phone based communications to cyberstalking and harassment statutes
HB 3042	Makes six synthetic marijuana substitutes and "bath salts" illegal
HB 3238	Requires DNA samples from murderers and rapists after they are indicted, there is a judicial finding of probable cause, or he/she waives a hearing
HB 3283	Creates a harsher penalty for video child pornography than still images
HB 3300	Provides that when a defendant has been convicted of violating any statute relating to the use of a motor vehicle and the violation resulted in great bodily harm or death, the person who suffered the harm, or a family member of an individual whose death was caused by the violation, is entitled to notice of any sentencing hearing as well as a right to give a victim impact statement
HB 3390	Requires courts to sentence someone convicted of aggravated assault who aims a firearm at a law enforcement officer to at least the minimum term of imprisonment for the crime (1-3 years)
HB 3417	Redirects certain fees assessed on criminals on probation to the probation and court services fund rather than working cash fund
HB 3431	Changes the classification of "delivery of a stolen firearm" to clarify criminal code
SB 0064	Expands the definition of False Personation to include individuals who represent themselves as government employees (the actual people, not just the broad category) through appearance or words
SB 0074	Requires the first hearing for a defendant who is not fit to plead or stand trial be conducted within 14 days (rather than 21 days)
SB 1035	Allows the AG to investigate listed sex crimes and allows the AG and State's Attorneys to issue limited purpose subpoenas without having to empanel a grand jury of file charges (must provide notice and do so under the supervision of the Chief Judge of the relevant Circuit Court)
SB 1037	Allows defendants with misdemeanor or first-time felony convictions for prostitution to petition a court for relief from judgment if the crime resulted from sex trafficking
SB 1038	Conforms the definitions within child abduction to the existing definitions within the crime of luring a minor; includes an enhanced penalty for a convicted sex offender who is subsequently convicted of child abductions
SB 1147	Prohibits a person from collecting workers' comp if the injury or death occurred as a result of the individual committing a forcible felony, aggravated DUI, or reckless homicide
SB 1228	Increases penalties for child abduction concerning luring or attempting to lure a child into a car or a home
SB 1292	Authorizes courts to require the Department of Juvenile Justice to report about efforts to secure post-release placement; allows the department to secure federal matching funds
SB 1361	Extends the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act



SB 1470	Changes the authorities and procedures of the Prisoner Review Board to allow longer periods between hearings in certain cases
SB 1471	Establishes that the Prisoner Review Board may not release certain information to an inmate relating to a victim's objection to granting parole without a waiver from an objecting party
SB 1554	Exempts process servers from trespassing regulations
SB 1589	Establishes automatic sentences for felons found in possession of weapons
SB 1699	Provides that a financial crime of a value between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000, is a Class 1 non-probationable felon and that a financial crime of full value higher than \$1,000,000, is a Class X felony
SB 1708	Requires that individuals on probation for hate crimes involving vandalism of religious buildings take an educational program discouraging hate crimes. Courses may be online
SB 1739	Extends "aggravated intimidation" to include intimidating a person calling the police about a violent crime
SB 1740	Requires that parole or mandatory supervised release be written as part of a sentencing order and adds that if a parolee is in compliance with the terms of his or her parole or mandatory supervised release (MSR) and completes his or her high school degree then the Prisoner Review Board may reduce the period of the parolee's parole or MSR by 90 days (instead of must)
SB 1754	Establishes that assaulting a county juvenile detention facility supervisor is aggravated assault
SB 1766	Requires landlords to put a written notice into leases that the tenants can be convicted for allowing a felony to be committed on the premises; allows municipalities to evict tenants under these circumstances
SB 1807	Requires the supervising officer of a parolee to request the Department of Corrections to issue a parole violation warrant and sets up the process for various violations and offenses
SB 1828	Allows people from IDOC investigating parole violations to serve short form notifications; requires parolees to report being served with restraining orders
SB 1837	Allows members of the Prisoner Review Board to accept compensation for teaching if the teaching is within the member's field or expertise
SB 1908	Allows individuals to place identifying purple marks on trees or posts to indicate no trespassing
SB 1950	Creates larger penalties for falsely reported child abuse/neglect
SB 2004	Attacking a sheriff's employee, licensed detective or licensed detective's employee who is delivering court documents is upgraded to aggravated assault or battery, with higher penalties
SB 2027	Expands the definition of forgery to include knowingly making a false statement
SB 2040	Provides that the offense of unlawful use of recorded sounds or images with respect to sound recordings (other than those accompanying a motion picture or other audiovisual work), applies only to sound recordings that were initially recorded before February 15, 1972
SB 2064	Allows the SOS to suspend the license of a vehicle for 90 days if a court finds the vehicle was used in gunrunning





SB 2069	Requires private detectives to register with the sheriff before serving court documents
SB 2267	Maintains that a person who hires or directs someone to stalk someone on his or her behalf is equally guilty of stalking
SB 2268	Requires the State to seek a preliminary determination from the court as to whether there is probably cause to believe that a property may be subject to forfeiture within 14 days from the seizure of the property; raises the threshold for non-real property to \$150,000 to be subject to forfeiture
SB 2270	Adds various additional crimes to the definition of "violent offense against youth"
SB 2271	Creates the Racial and Ethnic Impact task force to find a standardized, unbiased way of collecting racial and ethnic data on arrestees

## *Economic Development*

The General Assembly continued to support business this year by offering them incentives to build and expand in Illinois. Senate Bill 4 granted tax credits to tire/inner tube companies and telecommunications companies. Another bill will help the State track business growth by requiring the Secretary of State to report how many new business licenses are filed, how many licenses are renewed, and how many licenses are allowed to lapse (Senate Bill 2082).

HB 1215	Extends Markham TIF
HB 1486	Extends Bensenville TIF district until 2023
HB 1698	Workers' compensation reform package
HB 1730	Allows the corporate authorities of a municipality to appropriate and expend funds for economic development purposes
HB 2073	Creates the Small Business Development Grant Fund
HB 2777	Allows drycleaners to pay license fees using credit cards or business checks and reduces penalty for late fees
HB 2991	Vending machine operators must only inform IDOR if they increase the number of machines they operate, rather than file annual reports
HB 3186	Requires at least 10% of state contracts to go to small businesses
HB 3244	Requires DCEO to create an agricultural tourism program
HB 3414	Creates the Illinois Main Street Act
SB 0004	EDGE tax credits for tire/inner tube producers. Sunsets the Film Production Services Tax Credit Act to end in December 2016. Grants EDGE credits for telecommunications companies for infrastructure upgrades and repairs
SB 0107	Allows the Treasurer to make investments from the TDA IIa that help attract, assist and retain technology businesses in Illinois
SB 0269	Creates the Minority Contractor Opportunity Initiative through the Comptroller's Office. This goal of the Initiative is to conduct outreach and education to minority-owned businesses, female-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small businesses



SB 0398	Increases the sunset provision of the Film Production Services tax credit that is currently in SB 4 from 5 to 10 years
SB 0109	Allows cigarette manufacturers to sell promotional cigarettes directly to retailers
SB 0401	Extends the centralized purchasing activities sales tax exemption - given if a person or company takes the delivery of an item in Illinois and temporarily stores it in Illinois before shipping it out of the State for use - for 5 years from June 30, 2011 to June 30, 2016
SB 1435	TIF extension for the City of Lawrenceville
SB 1670	Requires any aquarium or museum to be open to Illinois residents (instead of just "the public") without charge for a period equal to 52 days
SB 1755	Expands the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority to include additional counties
SB 2082	Requires the SOS to send a report to the General Assembly detailing how many new businesses are incorporating in Illinois, how many businesses are renewing their licenses, and how many businesses who are up for license renewal are allowing their licenses to lapse
SB 2083	Exempts required annual reports from the \$50 filing fee for State forms
SB 2168	Creates a Historic Tax Credit for historic properties in a River Edge Redevelopment Zone

## Education

The big news in education this year was Senate Bill 7--the education reform bill. However, the General Assembly passed several more important bills relating to education. School district consolidation became a hot topic after the governor proposed forced consolidation in his budget address. The General Assembly did not agree with this approach and instead created a commission to study the issue, come up with specific recommendations, and bring this plan back to the legislature (HB 1216). To improve the safety of children, the General Assembly also passed a law allowing school districts to suspend or expel students who commit gross misconduct over the Internet or cell phones (HB 3281). The law gives schools new tools to confront cyber-bullying.

HB 0012	Allows special education cooperatives to be eligible for school energy efficiency grants
HB 0139	Summer school courses that are part of a remediation program for students deemed to be 2 or more grades below current placement must emphasize math and reading
HB 0147	Allows an employer to require a school bus driver to submit to drug and alcohol testing if there is reasonable suspicion of DUI; the driver's permit may be suspended for three years in the event of a positive test or refusal to take a test
HB 0189	Special education students who receive speech therapy outside of the classroom are not included in the total amount of students with individualized education programs



HB 0190	Specifies that at least 5 of the 70 charter schools allowed to operate in Chicago may be devoted to students from low-performing or over-crowded schools
HB 0192	Courts must consider a variety of factors when determining whether or not to transfer a student who is subject to a restraining order from a student from the same school
HB 0200	Requires each school board to adopt a policy regarding student athlete concussions and head injuries that is in compliance with the protocols, policies, and by-laws of the Illinois High School Association
HB 1197	Education reform trailer bill regarding mediation impasse and strikes
HB 1204	Encourages school districts to teach violence prevention and conflict resolution education for grades K-12
HB 1216	Creates the School District Realignment and Consolidation Commission to make recommendations on the optimal course for consolidation and the number of students in a district. Requires approval of at least 11 members of the Commission for adoption of the recommendation. The GA would vote on whether or not to accept the report
HB 1240	Requires school districts, community college districts, and private schools to make information they have obtained available to schools that request the information
HB 1415	Permits schools that have been on the academic watch list for 2 years to opt in to a year long school pilot program, provided it meets certain other conditions
HB 1571	Requires all employees to receive inservice training under the Care of Students with Diabetes Act
HB 1706	Allows students to have home or hospital tutoring if it is anticipated that they will miss school due to a medical condition and sets up how the tutoring will work
HB 1831	Requires educational services block grant to include the bilingual program
HB 2086	Provides that under no circumstances may an eligible student be denied participation in an alternative learning opportunities program based solely on the fact that he or she has been suspended or expelled from school (except in cases in which such transfer is deemed to cause a threat to the safety of students or staff)
HB 2265	Removes the capacity cap on multifunction school activity buses
HB 2397	Requires schools to promote 60 minutes of reading opportunities a day for primary grade students (K-3) who are reading at least one level behind his or her current grade
HB 2401	Charter school campuses for dropouts must operate on separate contracts or payrolls, even when run by the same charter
HB 3109	The Advisory Council on Bilingual Education shall issue a report on bilingual education
HB 3115	Repeals sections of the school code referring to the Textbook Loan Program; and creates a new section under the school code to allow the State Board, subject to appropriation, to provide annual block funding grants directly to public school districts and State-recognized, non-public school districts to purchase secular textbooks
HB 3171	Makes assistant principals legally the same as principals and creates an evaluation method for them
HB 3179	Habitually truant students are defined as absent 5% rather than 10% of school days
HB 3222	Allows individuals with Master's Degrees in Public Administration to qualify as chief school business officials if they meet other requirements



HB 3223	Creates rules for internet-based school courses that allow students to participate in such courses over breaks
HB 3281	Allows schools to suspend or expel students for gross misconduct over the internet/cell phones
HB 3440	Expands the definition of a service animal, the groups of people who may have service dogs in public places, the types of service dogs allowed in public places, how the dogs are to be identified
HB 3464	ISBE technical statute clean up
HB 3489	Schools may adopt substitute teacher authorization programs
HB 3539	Eliminates Hold Harmless
HJR 0007	Extends the School Success Task Force
SB 0007	Education Reform bill to improve student access to high quality teachers
SB 0079	Creates a separate Charter School Commission (as a State agency); the commission has authority to receive and expend gifts and grants from public and private entities; allows local boards to develop their own process but states they must follow the time frames laid out in the bill
SB 0170	Allows the Governor to appoint two superintendents, one to the Illinois School for the Deaf and one to the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired. Removes the Hansen-Therkelsen Memorial Deaf Student College Loan Fund from the State Treasury to a locally held account
SB 0620	Implements the findings and recommendations of the Chicago Educational Facilities Task Force (CEFTF)
SB 0621	Allows a selective enrollment magnet school in Aurora to be operated by the local school district with support from Aurora University
SB 1578	Requires school districts to pay support personnel for service days, but allows districts to dock these personnel if they refuse to attend; establishes exemptions for irrelevant training
SB 1643	Allows a school district, following a public hearing and board approval, to increase its drivers' education course fee up to \$250
SB 1669	Requires the disclosure of names and permits of school transportation drivers; prohibits smoking in school transport vehicles; allows certain vehicles to be used to transport students so long as a permitted individual is driving; increases liability insurance for accidents
SB 1742	School districts must provide reports on their use of block grants
SB 1744	Disallows the first day of school from being a half day (in terms of state funding)
SB 1794	Amends the School Code regarding special education teacher certifications as required by the Corey H. decision
SB 1799	Creates the Educator Licensure Article to replace the current certification system (numerous certificates) with a new licensure system (3 licenses) and increases licensure fees
SB 2096	Defines which high school press boxes do not have to comply with the accessibility code
SB 2134	Encourages Regional Superintendents to share in joint education or operational programs and requires them to submit more information to ISBE
SB 2143	Allows reorganized school districts to follow through with grant applications from the combined/dissolved school districts





SB 2149	Establishes procedures, powers, and restrictions for new Financial Oversight Panels under ISBE (other than CPS)
SB 2170	Removes county boards' role in school sales tax referenda
SJR 0027	Encourages the General Assembly to promptly review and evaluate the Report on Waiver of School Code Mandates filed by the State Board of Education to determine if the Report should be disapproved in whole or in part
SR 0176	Creates "Education and Sharing" Day

## Elections

The only major change the General Assembly made to election law this year was to codify the current practice of allowing people to register to vote at local Department of Motor Vehicle offices (SB 90).

SB 0090	Provides that driver services facilities will no longer register voters, but will instead only accept registration materials and forward them to local election authorities
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## Energy

Energy policy is an extremely complex topic. Many of the energy bills that passed this spring are of great interest to the industry, but probably not the average Illinoisan. However, there were several bills that might interest energy consumers. HB 1558 creates a council to study the possibility of harvesting offshore wind energy on Lake Michigan. HB 3038 creates new protections for families who get their power from alternative electrical producers.

HB 1558	Creates an Offshore Wind Energy Council to study the topics of offshore wind facilities on Lake Michigan.
HB 1703	Modifies ICC procedures and determinations for applicants of gas pipeline
HB 1723	An agreed bill between nuclear power providers and IEMA; raises fees paid by nuclear plant owners to pay for nuclear safety programs
HB 1865	Allows MidAmerican Energy to have the IPA procure electricity on its behalf
HB 3038	Allows residential electricity customers to return to mainstream electrical producers from alternative electrical producers for a mandatory 12 months rather than 24 months if they cancel their alternative service; provides a 2 month grace period to find a different alternative provider
HB 3182	Allows power companies to inform local customers of how many customers they have for aggregation purposes
SB 1241	Extends the Illinois Petroleum Resources Board applicability to January 1, 2018 from January 1, 2016
SB 1533	Authorizes clean coal facility at Leucadia on Chicago's South Side
SB 2062	Re-enacts the Clean Coal FutureGen for Illinois Act ("Act"), which became inoperative earlier this year and reduces the State's liability for the FutureGen project
SB 2145	Extends the Petroleum Equipment Licensing Act; makes some personnel rule changes for investigators; makes other changes



## Environment

The Senate passed a number of environmentally-friendly bills this session. HB 2902 creates the Electric Vehicle Advisory council to conduct a study regarding the feasibility of promoting the use of electric vehicles in Illinois and HB 2903 would create a pilot program through EPA to issue grants for electric vehicles. In addition, House Bill 1487 allows areas within a single county to incorporate as a renewable energy production districts.

HB 0806	Regulates the application of sludge to farmland
HB 0991	Requires homeowners' association, common interest community association, or condominium owners' association energy policy statements to include whether or not wind energy collection, rain water collection, or composting systems are allowed and info regarding their location, design and architectural requirements
HB 1093	Adds certain vehicles to the list of vehicles not subject to testing by IEPA emissions tests
HB 1297	Makes changes to the IEPA's air permit application process
HB 1326	Provides incentives for the recycling of asphalt roofing shingles
HB 1458	Changes the definition of "renewable energy resources" to include energy produced from "anaerobic digestion"
HB 1487	Creates the Renewable Energy Production District Act. Changes the definition of "renewable energy facility" to mean a generator attached to a building or parcel of land that is powered by solar electric energy or wind, dedicated crops grown for electricity generation, anaerobic digestion of livestock or food processing waste, fuel cells or microturbines powered by renewable fuels, or hydroelectric energy
HB 1563	Increases the fine for unlawful sewage or waste dumping
HB 1953	Requires drycleaners who have received funding from the Environmental response trust fund to maintain insurance until 2020 or the facility is inactive
HB 2001	Makes it a Class 4 felony to openly dump 250 cubic feet of waste or 50 tires
HB 2056	Transfers the creation of the Prescription Pill and Drug Disposal Fund from the Environmental Protection Act to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act; the Fund is to be used by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to make grants to local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of facilitating the collection, transportation, and incineration of pharmaceuticals from residential sources that are gathered and transported by law enforcement agencies per the Environmental Protection Act
HB 2902	Creates an Electric Vehicle Coordinator within the DCEO. Creates the Electric Vehicle Advisory Council to study and report the viability of EVs and infrastructure in Illinois
HB 2903	Establishes a pilot program to assist car-sharing organizations in Illinois purchasing electric cars
HB 3090	Permit any city, village or municipality to authorize its city hall or police department to display a container suitable for use as a receptacle for used, expired, or unwanted pharmaceuticals
HB 3371	Eliminates the benzo(a)pyrene restriction in current law and permits the Illinois Pollution Control Board to consider TACO background levels in soil going into fill sites. Changes the interim soil certification requirements to allow professional geologists (in addition to professional engineers) to provide certifications



HB 3620	Creates stricter coal filtering standards when using coal waste as structural fill
SB 0100	Grants new authorities to the EPA for calling meetings, assessing fees, and makes other changes
SB 1357	Changes the procedure for EPA compliance agreements by granting more authority to the agency
SB 1821	Authorizes the construction of CO2 Pipelines
SB 1929	Requires that certain construction debris be sorted and made available for use as land-cover, road building material, etc.
SB 2106	Requires the EPA to conduct a campaign by January 2012 informing counties and municipalities about the collection and disposal of solid waste; authorizes EPA to enforce violations of the Electronic Product Recycling and Reuse Act and sets out the enforcement procedures; sets various fees
SB 2190	Adds and subtract various species of birds and mammals from the State's endangered species registry; allows the State to prohibit or regulate the importation of non-indigenous species
SB 2193	Creates an environmental justice commission
SB 2288	Excludes non-hazardous secondary material that is used legitimately as fuel in accordance with the standards set forth in the federal register, and specifies that the USEPA or Pollution Control Board shall make the formal compliance determinations and grants rulemaking authority to the Board

## *Ethics & Transparency*

During the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, the legislature established some of the most sweeping ethics reforms in Illinois history in response to numerous instances of corruption in the Executive Branch. This year, a number of bills were introduced to achieve further reform. HB 3158 clarifies that political contributions to the Governor and the Lt. Governor are regarded as a contribution to a single entity. Current law bans businesses or individuals who contribute more than \$50,000 to a candidate from bidding for State contracts. HB 3158 would close loophole where businesses could circumvent that law by donating to both candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor. HB 1857 makes laws regarding political contributions to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago officials the same as those regarding State officials and State employees.

HB 0093	Requires the Auditor General to operate a toll-free hotline for the public to report allegations of fraud; Authorizes the Auditor General to conduct audits and report fraud to law enforcement
HB 1716	Changes the Freedom of Information Act to help relieve burdens on local governments caused by commercial and recurrent requestors
HB 1857	Conforms political contribution provisions for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago with similar provisions under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act
HB 1928	Provides that victim impact statements--oral, written, video-taped, tape recorded or made by other electronic means (rather than only written statements)--shall not be considered public documents under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act



HB 2972	Limits the ability of future paid gubernatorial appointees to hold over after the expiration of their terms to 60 calendar days
HB 3158	Regulates political contributions to Governor and Lt. Governor as to a single political entity
HB 3184	Requires counties to charge the same fees for civil unions as it charges for marriage licenses
SB 0043	Requires the Dept. of Revenue to post all Illinois state and local tax rates online
SB 0541	Allows a county board (for counties over 300,000 but less than 2 million) to enact an ordinance requiring local government units (appointed by the board or county executive) to provide the county with certain financial information
SB 1344	Prohibits public service announcements on behalf of State administered programs that features elected officials on a billboard or electronic message board
SB 1364	Exempts members of public hospital boards from certain conflict of interest rules in counties of a certain population
SB 2123	Requires the Workforce Development Board to post more information on DCEO's website

## *Family Matters*

The General Assembly passed several important bills that will affect Illinois families. HB 3343 exempts the names of minors who participate in park district programs from FOIA in an attempt to protect children from predators who could potentially request that information under current law.

HB 1149	Makes it possible to file a Record of Foreign Birth using new official documents created under international treaty
HB 1255	Trailer bill to last year's adoption bill; makes clarifications to certain provisions and allows for the use of certain forms for people born before and after certain dates
HB 2093	Requires employees of abortion clinics to report suspected child abuse and neglect
HB 3005	Men shall not legally be considered parents of children resulting from the rape, abuse, and other sexual crimes without the mother's consent
HB 3289	Requires internet providers to provide parental controls
HB 3343	Exempts the names (and other personal information) of minors who participate in park district (etc.) programs from FOIA
SB 0106	Clarifies that confidential communications are no reason not to report child abuse or neglect
SB 1236	Requires DHS to establish a co-payment scale that provides for cost sharing by families that receive child care services
SB 1612	Clarifies the child support lien process
SB 1753	Allows courts to subpoena professionals in child custody hearings. Costs are split between the divorcing parents
SB 1824	Requires life insurance benefits deemed to be marital property to be allocated equally between the parties
SB 1949	Requires that the initial hearing on whether or not a child should be permanently removed from their parents take place within one year of taking the children away
SR 0043	Creates Shaken Baby Awareness Week
SR 0244	Urges the governor and secretary of state to create a task force on how bicycling is healthy for children and how children who bicycle should wear helmets





## Gaming

This year, the General Assembly passed a bill creating five new casinos and allowing slots at racetracks.

SB 0744	Creates five new casinos and allows racetracks to become “racinos” with slot machines; dedicates the money generated to various purposes, including paying past due bills, education, and capital projects
SB 0745	Allows licensed fraternal and veterans establishments in Hamilton County to conduct video gaming even if such establishments do not hold a liquor license
SB 1279	Extends the "Ticket For The Cure" lottery scratch-off game until December 31, 2016 (instead of December 31, 2011).

## Health & Health Care

Much of the health and health care legislation passed by the General Assembly this year focused on improving Illinoisans’ health outcomes. SB 1234 allows medical providers to share prescription information with each other to prevent dangerous drug interactions. HB 1338 creates a better system for the State to keep track of immunization data. HB 1591 improves access to mental health care. Another significant change, HB 2917 fundamentally reforms the way the State schedules drugs. A drug’s schedule determines who can prescribe it and under what circumstances.

HB 0204	Requires testing for HIV to consist of a test approved by DPH based on the recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; if test is positive, a reliable supplemental test must be administered
HB 0286	DCFS must establish rules and guidelines relating to the administration of psychotropic drugs for children in the Dept.'s custody
HB 0299	Clarifies that data pertaining to cases involving the HIV/AIDS registry must consist of all CD test results
HB 0308	Addresses permitting for closed loop wells statewide
HB 0653	Expands investigative authority of DHS with regard to community integrated living arrangements; establishes rules to govern reviews of such arrangements, and requires annual registry checks
HB 1096	Requires skilled nursing facilities to designate Infection Prevention and Control Professionals
HB 1338	Enhances immunization data registry to collect, store, analyze, release, and report immunization data; strengthens info sharing and confidentiality
HB 1380	Requires DPH to develop a surveyor development unit funded from money in the Long Term Monitor/Receiver Fund
HB 1391	Prohibits funds collected within an Emergency Medical Service region from being transferred to another EMS region



HB 1425	Establishes a fund to encourage the use of electronic health records. Funds are to be disbursed by DHFS at amounts applicable under federal regulation
HB 1463	Requires blood banks to allow blood donors to designate a recipient rather than requiring them to provide all donors with a form to designate a recipient
HB 1476	Requires IDFP to disclose the status of a pending complaint against a medical licensee to the party who filed the complaint upon request
HB 1494	Broadens the prescriptive authority of optometrists
HB 1531	Licensed medical personnel may administer vaccinations as part of a health program or fair on Chicago Park District property as long as proper procedure and requirements are followed as determined by the CPD
HB 1591	Clarifies conflicting provisions in state law to remove roadblocks to mental health care
HB 1658	Requires death certificates to indicate if the presence of methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) contributed as a cause of death
HB 1702	Licensed physician assistants and advance practice nurses may draw blood for alcohol and drug testing
HB 1707	DCFS must work to increase immunization awareness and participation among parents of children enrolled in day care
HB 1748	Clarifies HIV testing requirement for inmates and allows DOC, Dept of Juvenile Justice, and the Cook County Jail to conduct opt-out testing
HB 1888	Creates the Roseland Community Medical District, establishing a new medical district in Cook County to attract and retain academic centers, health care facilities and research facilities
HB 2084	Creates the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Services Strategic Planning Task Force for the purpose of developing a five-year comprehensive strategic plan for the State's mental health services
HB 2249	Provides that diabetes self-management training shall include education programs (to be defined by contract of insurance) that allow the patient to maintain an A1c level within the range identified in nationally recognized standards of care
HB 2917	Allows JCAR to remove and schedule controlled substances on Schedule I through V; allows electronic prescriptions; allows 90 day prescriptions for Schedule II substances
HB 2936	Clarifies that a transferring medical facility is subject to EMTALA rules concerning transport of an involuntary admission of a person or mental health patient on an inpatient basis or court order
HB 3010	Expands the definition of "disability" to includes any mental, psychological, or developmental disability, including autism spectrum disorders
HB 3425	Amends the Mid-America Medical District Act to extend its boundaries to include the Cities of Belleville and O'Fallon
HB 3255	EMT personnel who serve as volunteers for non-profits (or are state troopers or serve in the Illinois National Guard) that serve a population of 5,000 or less or who are members of the National Guard may request a waiver for certain fees
SB 0123	Allows health care personnel to provide medical services within a public health clinic in compliance with standing orders issued by a public health standing orders physician



SB 0145	Creates the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, for licensure of long-term care facilities that specialize in services for persons with a severe mental illness
SB 0670	States that if a pharmacist substitutes a generic prescription for a brand name anti-epileptic drug, the pharmacist must provide written notice to the patient no later than the time the prescription is dispensed
SB 1213	Prohibits an individual from adding, removing, or modifying dental amalgam in the course of treating patients at a dental office unless the dental office has installed an amalgam separator system that removes the amalgam from the dental office's wastewater prior to its discharge into a sewer or septic system and other similar conditions are satisfied
SB 1234	Allows pharmaceutical records to be shared between medical providers to decrease the number of adverse drug-drug interactions and the additional medical care necessary as a result of those interactions
SB 1248	Requires all physician's orders and plans of treatment to have an original written signature or an electronic signature (instead of a stamp)
SB 1282	Allows patient claims and data submitted by hospitals to include various pieces of personal information about a patient--not including social security number
SB 1342	Requires health care facilities to provide copies of their written staffing plans for nursing care upon request
SB 1379	DPH must incorporate the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' optimal fluoridation recommendations in its rules concerning water fluoridation
SB 1584	Requires county board chairmen (outside of Cook County) and township supervisors (in Cook County) to appoint 7 member mental health advisory committees (unpaid). Exempts townships that currently provide mental health services from the requirements of the amendatory Act
SB 1761	Requires DPH to offer screening newborns for several additional diseases within 90 days
SB 1784	Enables DHFS to increase efficiencies within Medical Assistance Programs by eliminating duplicative services, among other things
SB 1805	Requires DPH to publish a yearly report on Multi-drug resistant infections
SB 1843	Allows chiropractors to prescribe oxygen
SB 1945	Creates a commission to track health care workforce trends; the council's implementation is subject to funding availability
SB 1948	Creates a dental home initiative for children covered under the Children's Health Insurance Program Act, the All Kids Health Insurance Act, and the Public Aid Code
HB 2255	Authorizes advanced practice nurses and physician assistants to prescribe a Schedule II controlled substance
SR 0170	Extols the benefits of breast feeding
SR 0214	Urges localities, schools, not-for-profits, businesses and citizens to promote Kids Eat Right
SR 0204	Declares Interstitial Lung Disease Awareness Week



# Higher Education

The biggest news in higher education this year is the move toward performance based funding. HB 1503 requires the Illinois Board of Higher Education to develop a system of assessing state universities performance and awarding them funding based on these new standards. In addition, the Senate passed SB 2185 – the DREAM for Education Act – which allows the children of immigrants to participate in several college savings programs.

HB 0166	Creates the Higher Education Green Jobs and Technology Act and requires the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board to annually publicize on their websites information concerning efforts made by State universities and community colleges to promote the green technology industry
HB 0464	Allows South Suburban Community College District to issue 25 year bonds for purchasing, improving or constructing property; allows Lockport HS, Elgin Community College District and Kishwaukee Community College District to do the same
HB 1079	CMS may require a listing of equipment items only for those items valued in excess of \$2,000 from public universities; universities also must report information on tuition increases, cost-saving measures, and new programs/changes to existing programs (e.g. consolidation); each university must submit improvement plans when cost is greater than \$2 million
HB 1256	Creates the Diversity in Engineering Scholarship Program
HB 1503	Requires IBHE to form a group to devise a system for spending state dollars at public universities based upon performance and states that IBHE budget requests must incorporate performance-based funding beginning in FY 2013
HB 1710	Allows College Planning Program to be used to target low-income and potential first generation students with programs to promote college awareness and planning
HB 1876	Creates the University Technology Entrepreneur Center Act, allowing boards of trustees to create technology entrepreneur centers on state university campuses
HB 1877	Allows IDFPR to issue a registration to the U of I Veterinary Teaching Hospital upon U of I's request
SB 0122	Requires universities to track first-generation students
SB 1798	Allows EIU to implement a pilot program of tuition waivers (funded by tuition, not state money) to lure in out-of-state students
SB 1883	Requires state universities to report to the Board of Higher Education regarding consolidation, dissolution, reduction, or termination of programs of instruction, research, or public service
SB 2133	Allows the South Suburban Community College district to issue bonds for purchasing, constructing, or improving real property and allows South Suburban Community College District along with Lockport High School, Elgin Community College District, and Kishwaukee Community College District to issue bonds to pay claims against any such district incurred for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, or improving real property
SB 2185	The DREAM for Education Act, helping the children of immigrants obtain financial aid





## Housing

This year, the most important housing issue continues to be addressing the foreclosure crisis. HB 1960 and SJR 30 address this topic.

HB 1110	Allows a housing authority to claim exemptions to federal, state and local requirements in determining income of tenants through waivers approved by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
HB 1233	Establishes that a landlord is responsible for changing locks of a rental unit that has been vacated prior to a new tenant moving in and may be held liable for any theft or damages that occur as a result of failure to change the lock (Applies only to Cook County)
HB 1574	Requires the owners of apartment buildings to transfer all security deposits to the new owners when a building is foreclosed upon to ensure renters don't lose their deposits through no fault of their own
HB 1926	Allows property that would receive a tax exemption to receive the exemption if the title of the property is held by a partnership or LLC
HB 1960	Creates a 90-day time limit for filing motions to quash residential foreclosures
SB 1972	Clarifies which fees and debts of the previous owner a master association must pay when purchasing a condo structure
SB 1996	Makes several changes to the Mobile Home Tenant and Landlord Act, including requiring landlords of closing mobile home parks to compensate their tenants and creating a Mobile Home Relocation Trust Fund

## Human Services

Human services are always an important issue at the State Capitol. This year the General Assembly continued to work on shifting the State's population of people with disabilities from large institutions to community integrated living arrangements (SB 1622 and SB 1623). It also passed a bill allowing the State to maximize its federal reimbursement from the Medicaid program (HB 2934).

HB 0091	Changes annual DCFS report on child abuse and neglect prevention date to first Friday in October (from April)
HB 0279	Requires hospitals to include anti-discriminatory language in facility policies. Creates grievance procedures and the exact language to be used
HB 0785	Allows adults with disabilities who are under the care of a guardian to receive therapy without the guardian's consent
HB 1077	Extends the amount of time granted to DHFS regarding its report to the General Assembly on the number of fraud cases identified and pursued under the medical assistance program, and the fines assessed and collected
HB 1152	Requires DHS to improve access to behavioral care providers for those with mental illness, substance abuse, and other behavior disorders
HB 1259	The electronic reporting system for death registrations shall be used to transfer information to the Department of Healthcare and Family Services at least once every 3-month period in order to update the roster of Medicaid recipients



HB 1470	Requires DHFS to establish an electronic process for long-term care facilities to submit reports
HB 1547	Creates a commission to study disparities amongst the African American community
HB 1656	Creates a pilot program for non-governmental community based organizations to become responsible for processing medical assistance applications
HB 1659	Requires DHS to submit a report to the GA if they experience a reduction in individuals receiving care at a facility when the reduction is 10% or more of the facility's population for the previous year
HB 1662	Requires DHFS to conduct an analysis and deliver a report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2012 to evaluate the feasibility of changing Illinois' Medicaid State Plan status
HB 1684	Expands factors that a hospital's safe patient handling policy must contain
HB 2259	Exempts public aid appeals from FOIA and the open meetings act; public aid applications are already exempt
HB 2934	House Bill 2934 creates the Cash Management and Medicaid Maximization Act of 2011. This legislation requires \$900 million of special state funds (excluding the Road Fund and the State Construction Account Fund), to be transferred to the Healthcare Provider Relief Fund in order to maximize federal Medicaid matching funds that will expire July 1, 2011
HB 2982	Requires DHS to assist in the creation of Regional Integrated Behavioral Health Networks, which will improve access to mental health and substance abuse services
HB 3134	DPH must publish the DNR Advance Directive form in Spanish and must meet national standards for a life-sustaining treatment form
HB 3155	Fixes some DPH audit issues
HB 3207	Delays certain State programs involving nursing care until the State gets federal approval
HB 3468	Requires DHS to track the menstrual cycles of women who will be in their facilities for more than 60 days (rather than all women in their facilities)
HB 3635	Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) to create an administrative appeals process by rule for non-emergency ground ambulance providers, and delays the Nursing Home provider tax collection until federal approval of the tax is gained
SB 0262	Changes the composition of the Commission to End Hunger
SB 1235	Eliminates DHS grants-in-aid to local government and not-for-profit day care centers and removes DHS' authority to establish a Child Care Expansion Program (eliminates programs that have never truly been enacted)
SB 1622	Requires DHS to do a geographic study of community settings for persons with disabilities/special needs
SB 1623	Requires DHS to issue yearly reports on the Williams v. Quinn Consent Decree (moving people from institutions to community settings) for the next four years; requires the department to promulgate new rules for community-based settings
SB 1802	Allows the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the Department of Human Services to implement various program changes necessary to operate under the fiscal year 2012 appropriation levels



SB 1894	Exempts facilities for people with developmental disabilities from having to consult with DPH and DHS regarding minimum facility standards; DPH permission alone is acceptable
SB 2046	Allows HFS to pay for 90-day prescriptions to brand name maintenance medication, provided that it is cost-effective; HFS is already authorized to pay for 90-day prescriptions for generics

## Insurance

Insurance is a highly technical field, and many state insurance laws primarily affect the insurance industry. However, the General Assembly passed several noteworthy consumer protection measures to protect cancer patients. HB 1191 ensures that people participating in clinical cancer trials get coverage for routine care. HB 1825 requires insurance companies to cover orally-administered cancer drugs if they cover intravenous cancer drugs.

HB 0224	Brings Illinois law into conformity with the federal health care law by adding specific consumer protection provisions
HB 1128	Clarifies the newly enacted Public Adjusters Law, including allowing the Dept. of Insurance to require fingerprints for applicants for licensing and renewal
HB 1129	Requires health provider organizations to comply with same annual reporting requirements as insurers; imposes new reporting requirements on insurers
HB 1191	States that no health insurance policy shall exclude coverage for routine patient care for individuals participating in qualified clinical cancer trials if the policy covers the same care of insureds now enrolled in qualified clinical cancer trials
HB 1193	Limits the time an insurance company can request recoupment or offsets withheld from future payments to a provider to 18 months or more after original payment
HB 1284	Requires vendors to have a limited-lines license to sell insurance for portable electronics
HB 1287	Includes webinars within the acceptable methods of instruction to satisfy the course study requirements for insurance producer licensure
HB 1378	States that volunteer drivers may not be refused or charged additional fees for auto insurance
HB 1530	Requires every insurer that issues insurance coverage for treatment of mental, emotional, nervous, or substance use disorders to comply with specific coverage parity requirements; expands mandate for mental/emotional disorders to substance use as well
HB 1562	DPH website must include the Hospital Report Card Act, provide links to the Consumer Guide to Health Care and Hospital Report Card Act, and include information and a description of both laws
HB 1825	Requires insurance policies that provide coverage for certain cancer medication to ensure that limitations on applicable financial requirements for orally-administered medications are no more restrictive than limitations for intravenously administered or injected medications
HB 3039	Requires insurers to develop and implement a process to communicate with their adult insureds on an annual basis regarding the importance and value of early detection and proactive management of cardiovascular disease



HB 3358	Requires public employee insurance programs to cover the special medical costs of victims of abuse
HB 3405	Provides that qualification for the CHIP Medicare plan begins 24 months after the entitlement date determined by Social Security Administration in most cases
HB 3411	Requires the Teacher Retirement Insurance Program Committee to identify proposed solutions to the funding shortfalls that are affecting the Teacher Health Insurance Security Fund
HB 3441	Allows CHIP to extend its current plan administrator contract for 3 years (at which point the Affordable Care Act will cause the program's termination)
SB 0152	Provides that with respect to physical damage subrogation claims arising from auto damages incurred on or after January 1, 2012, insurers shall arbitrate and settle such claims where the amount in controversy, exclusive of the costs of the arbitration, is less than \$2,500. Provides that the arbitration shall be in accordance with the terms of and rules adopted pursuant to the Nationwide Inter-Company Arbitration Agreement
SB 0673	Requires that every insurer that amends, delivers, issues, or renews group accident and health policies providing for coverage on an expense-incurred basis shall offer, for an additional premium and subject to the insurer's standards of insurability, optional coverage or optional reimbursement of up to \$500 annually for a tobacco use cessation program for a person enrolled in the plan who is 18 years of age or older
SB 1544	Sets maximum insurance filing fees
SB 1553	Adjusts the dates at which a health insurer must file a report of its aggregate administrative expenses to the Dept. of Insurance
SB 1555	Creates healthcare exchanges, as required by federal law
SB 1557	Requires the State's group insurance program to cover physical/occupational therapy for the treatment of autoimmune diseases

## *Labor & Employment*

The most significant labor bill to pass this year was a mutually agreed upon settlement between businesses and labor to pay the State's unemployment debt service (HB 1030).

HB 0297	States that the Task Force on Inventorying Employment Restrictions must issue a report on employment records based on criminal records by November 1, 2011 and the impact of these restrictions by February 1, 2012 and issue their findings and recommendations to the Governor and the GA by September 1, 2012
HB 1030	Allows IDES to divert a portion of taxes employers pay to support debt service on bonding for interest owed to the federal government for unemployment insurance this year; reduces the maximum amount of regular unemployment insurance benefits to 25 weeks (instead of 26) and increases the taxable wage base for employers
HB 1427	Chicago fire dept members are considered employees for purposes of Workers Compensation; allows these individuals to seek claims for burn disfigurement.
HB 1552	Requires the Department of Human Rights to adopt the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission's determination as its own
HB 2927	Makes several changes to the Emergency Employment Development Program



HB 2987	Requires project labor agreements on public works projects.
HB 3237	Requires Contractors and Subcontractors who are subject to the Prevailing Wage Act to keep pay records for 3 years from the date of last payment
HB 3314	Authorizes the Central Illinois Economic Development Authority to create one or more employment advisory boards
HB 3360	Requires IDES and IDOC to work together to find employment for discharged inmates
HB 3428	Repeals several labor laws that are already minimally used/enforced due to irrelevance
SB 115	Doubles the fine for employers who violate sections of the equal pay act
SB 1310	Extends the repeal date for the Interior Design Title Act to January 1, 2022 from January 1, 2012
SB 1350	Redefines Health Care Professionals (excludes licensed dentists) as anyone who works in a hospital or ambulatory care center and treats patients
SB 1602	Creates rules and regulations for mobile dental vans
SB 1806	Makes changes to licensing for home inspectors
SB 1952	Repeals IDOL's ability to provide labor arbitration services
SB 2236	Makes changes to the licensure process for Professional Land Surveyors

## Liquor

Normally, the majority of the liquor laws passed by the General Assembly are exemptions for restaurants and retail stores that want to sell liquor within 100 feet of a school or church. This year was no exception. However, several bills also passed that will help craft brewers of beer and spirits get off the ground. SB 665 allows craft distilleries to distill more alcohol per year, and SB 754 allows microbreweries and brewpubs to self-distribute their products, allowing them access to the marketplace.

HB 0079	Provides that alcoholic liquors may be delivered to and sold at Memorial Hall, located at 211 North Main Street, Rockford
HB 1192	Authorizes sale of liquor at buildings under DNR control during events lasting no more than 7 continuous days
HB 1491	Allows counties to authorize sale or delivery of alcohol in designated buildings owned by the county
HB 1686	Allows a retail establishment on S. Ashland Avenue in Chicago to sell alcohol even though its property line is within 100 feet of a school
HB 1852	Allows alcohol to be sold at a golf course owned by Illinois State University
SB 0665	Increases the amount of spirits a craft distiller can distill from 5,000 gallons to 15,000 gallons per year
SB 0754	Allows microbreweries/craft brewers to distribute their own beer
SB 1293	Allows for the renewal of a license authorizing the sale of liquor within 100 feet of a church in Chicago
SB 1668	Allows alcohol to be sold at NIU functions that are not student-related
SB 1782	Permits a brewer to sell only beer manufactured on his or her premises





## Local Government

This year, the General Assembly focused on the issue of local government consolidation. Illinois has, by far, more units of government than any other state, and most authority to levy taxes. Consolidating local governments reduces administrative costs and gives voters greater control over taxing bodies. HB 268 creates a commission to explore consolidating local governments. SB 1907 creates a procedure for Cook County township boards and voters to eliminate some township services, potentially saving taxpayers money.

HB 0156	Local officials (county board, State Rep and State Senator) must be notified 30 days before construction of a new telecommunications tower by the building permit applicant
HB 0177	Establishes that paper copies of library records are no longer public information once transferred to an electronic format
HB 0195	Disqualifies an individual who resigns or is convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime from holding office as a township office or board member
HB 0242	Requires a county board to begin demolition proceedings in 60 days when responding to a request from a township
HB 0248	Changes the date on which North Shore Sanitary District trustees take office; gives the district power to sell treated wastewater
HB 0268	Creates the Local Government Consolidation Commission Act of 2011. Establishes a commission of legislative members and local government representatives appointed by the Governor to report to the Governor and General Assembly on consolidating local governments
HB 1056	Establishes procedural rules subject to judicial review that apply when a municipality makes certain decisions regarding zoning ordinances when the action is brought by an interested party
HB 1127	Requests the authority to extend a 5-year deadline on bonds approved by voter referendum and issued by Lake County's Forest Preserve District
HB 1218	Creates safeguards to the tax sale process to ensure the sale is done properly and that all parties have remedies to correct any errors; in response to Madison County incident
HB 1220	Allows municipalities to establish procedures for releasing properly impounded vehicles and charging fees related to administrative costs; any fee shall be waived upon proof the vehicle was stolen
HB 1311	Provides that the corporate authorities of a municipality may, by ordinance, regulate sound devices
HB 1320	Adds municipalities sharing a border with a municipality with a federally funded research facility in excess of 2000 acres to the list of acceptable bounding parcels for annexation
HB 1324	Changes definition of "construction purposes" under the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act to include alterations, enlargements, and replacements that add appreciably to the value of administrative buildings
HB 1339	Allows municipalities to impose a bail processing fee of \$20
HB 1359	Allows fire departments to ban open burning within a district on an emergency basis
HB 1513	Allows a municipality to deduct wage overages from an employee's pay check within 6 months of overpayment with no written notification



HB 1526	Allows annexation by a 2/3 county board majority vote for property located more than 1.5 miles from the corporate limits of municipality
HB 1576	Establishes minimum guidelines for the appointment of firefighters
HB 1700	Authorizes a fire department and fire protection district to negotiate an intergovernmental agreement allowing the fire protection district to have jurisdiction over an annexed parcel when an unincorporated parcel of land within the boundaries of a fire protection district is annexed into a municipality
HB 1709	Fire training classes and programs may charge fees for use
HB 1760	Allows the Metropolitan Reclamation Water District of Chicago to eliminate a candidate for promotion due to failing seniority and efficiency portions of the promotion exam
HB 1866	Allows the Upper Illinois River Valley Development Authority to issue bonds and other notes for a debt up to \$500,000
HB 2069	Allows municipalities to decide whether or not to change the number of aldermen they have after receiving census data
HB 2101	Allows counties to buy local-government-interest-bearing-bonds whether or not they are tax exempt
HB 2550	Township code supervisors can enforce township and county codes if there is an appropriate intergovernmental agreement in place
HB 2554	Allows counties to pay auxiliary sheriffs' deputies (used in emergency circumstances), but pay must be no less than the lowest amount paid to a police officer or deputy
HB 2556	Establishes that municipalities shall be entitled to a \$25 prosecution fee for certain traffic violations only if the defendant is found guilty
HB 2590	Prohibits local governments from contracting out their jail services
HB 2993	Allows park districts to have 123 days (rather than 88 days) to fill vacancies
HB 3033	Provides that the Criminal Justice Information Authority is responsible for providing training to local governmental entities who request training for the purposes of assistance in procuring grants from the U.S. Department of Justice for gang intervention and prevention programs as well as other criminal justice programs
HB 3102	Changes the property descriptions required for annexation, zoning, etc.
HB 3152	Allows townships to sell personal property (not real property) without referenda
HB 3458	Allows park districts to enter into design-build contracts
HB 3550	Prohibits fire departments from charging for review sessions following promotion tests
SB 0041	Grants townships more authority over leaf and brush disposal
SB 0063	Creates more local circuit judge positions in Kane and Kendall Counties in response to population growth
SB 0083	Allows a majority of municipalities to acquire a water system by eminent domain if there is a intergovernmental agreement in effect between the municipalities acquiring the water system
SB 0091	Names the Fox River and its interconnecting lakes the "Chain of Lakes Fox River Recreational Waterway" and opens the waters within to the public
SB 0168	States that the Mississippi River Coordinating Council shall consist of 16 (instead of 13) voting members and sets out the make up of the board



SB 0172	Removes the requirement for a referendum before consolidation occurs between two or more soil and water conservation districts, instead requires the Dept. of Ag. to determine whether or not it is feasible; requires a district to return unspent dollars to the State if the district is dissolved
SB 0539	Allows two or more municipalities to designate a joint redevelopment project if one of the municipalities qualifies under the Illinois Industrial Jobs Recovery Law
SB 1073	Provides quick-take authority to Will County for land surrounding an intersection
SB 1240	Allows an Emergency Telephone System Board to purchase real property if the purchase was made before March 16, 2006
SB 1253	Allows a county board member in a county having fewer than 40,000 inhabitants to also serve as a member of the board of a community college district
SB 1436	In provisions concerning annexation of contiguous territory, provides that the definition of a "conservation area" includes any area owned by a conservation district
SB 1631	Permits a county or circuit to use probation and court services funds to pay the salaries of probation officers and other court services personnel and adds a new fee
SB 1651	Makes a series of changes to the Common Interest Community Association Act to provide protections similar to those enjoyed by condominium owners
SB 1686	Makes changes to the Public Funds Statement Publication concerning publication of summary statements of operations
SB 1688	Allows the Cass County Board to create a flood protection district in Beardstown
SB 1804	States that deed restrictions may not allow a government to waive or prohibit the right to provide public notice of a hearing on certain topics relating to special service areas
SB 1907	Creates a procedure for townships in Cook County to abolish their road districts
SB 2042	Reapportions the trustee districts for Lincoln Land Community College (Community College District No. 526)
SB 2162	Allows sheriffs to transfer license plates between vehicles without paying fees

## *Military & Veterans' Affairs*

In honor of the service and sacrifice of Illinois' military men and women, the Senate passed a number of bills specifically targeted at making life easier for veterans when they return home. HB 1250 prohibits utility companies from disconnecting service for non-payment during the winter if the customer who hasn't paid is a veteran. The bill will help many veterans cope with financial hardship when they return from service. SB 98 makes it easier for disabled veterans to vote by allowing residents of veterans' homes to be considered as "incapacitated voters" who are able to vote in their homes.

HB 0173	Allows the issuance of U.S. Air Force license plates to Illinois residents who meet eligibility requirements to be prescribed by the Secretary of State
HB 0464	allows the Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) to transfer any property valued under \$100 that was donated for the explicit benefit of residents of IDVA's veterans' homes to any civic organization



HB 1260	Prohibits electric or gas public utilities from disconnecting service during winter months due to non-payment for residential customers who are veterans when the gas or electricity is their primary heating source
HB 1445	Eliminates requirement that the Department of Veterans Affairs to have a commission to address Persian Gulf War veterans issues and creates a Division of Women Veterans Affairs
HB 1537	Declares August 7 <sup>th</sup> of every year Purple Heart Day and repeals an act regarding veterans' affairs that is no longer relevant
HB 2095	Makes violating the Service Member's Employment Tenure Act a civil rights violation. Requires the AG to maintain a list of employers who have violated the Act
HB 2870	Allows public schools to ask if children's parents are active duty military members who are or will be deployed in the near future
HB 2875	Allows parents or spouses of veterans killed in action to be admitted to veterans' homes if there are vacant beds
HB 3035	Makes it easier for the children of military personnel to attend schools by removing barriers to transfers and cutting certain costs and fees
HB 3172	Eliminates and reduces fees for more military license plates
HB 3257	Establishes that a violation of the federal payday loan protections for military members is a violation of Illinois Payday Loan Law
HB 3273	Makes it a crime to accept metal pilfered from veterans' monuments
HB 3274	Reduces fishing and hunting fees for veterans so long as the veteran provides verification of service
HB 3275	Creates the Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Public Service Announcement Fund ; all money will come from donations
HB 3315	Requires the Returning Veterans' Task Force to include the availability of prosthetics in its report
HB 3331	Allows the SOS to defer military drivers' license expirations for an additional 30 days (total 120)
SB 0098	Provides that residents of veterans' homes qualify as "incapacitated voters" who receive in-person absentee voting privileges in their homes
SB 1270	Creates the goal of an annual 3% set-aside of State contracts for award to veteran-owned small businesses
SR 0218	Urges IDVA to continue to support Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans

## Natural Resources

The Senate passed several bills regarding Illinois' many natural resources. HB 390 allows the Department of Natural Resources to lease a portion of Pyramid State Park to a coal company for mining, which could create a good number of jobs in Southern Illinois.

HB 0006	Establishes that muskrat trapping season will be the same as beaver season (November 5 to March 31)
HB 0390	Allows DNR to lease a portion of Pyramid State Park to a coal company for mining for no longer than 10 years



HB 1657	Adds one member to the Illinois congressional delegation appointed by the Governor to the Task Force on Conservation and Quality of the Great Lakes
HB 1724	Sets season limits for river otter hunting
HB 2094	Redefines the term "bait" and creates a definition for "baiting" under the Wild Turkey Provision and the Deer Provision
HB 2804	States that if a properly tagged deer is processed at a licensed meat processing facility and the owner of the deer fails to claim the processed deer within reasonable time or notifies the licensed meat processing facility that the owner no longer wants the processed deer, then the deer meat may be given away or sold by the licensed meat processor to another person
HB 2861	Allows terminally ill youth to get hunting/fishing permits for free and out of season
HB 3019	Prohibits people using duck blinds from shooting ducks on other people's property without consent (Applicable only in Alexander, Union, Williamson, and Jackson Counties)
HB 3178	Allows hunters to harvest roadkill
SB 0154	Designates an area in Vermillion County the Harry "Babe" Woodyard State Natural Area
SB 1703	Creates the Conservation Police Operations Assistance Fund paid for by automated record keeping fees and fees for certain criminal offenses; clarifies that a defendant shall not be charged two separate fees if convicted of a violation

## Pensions

Although there was not a major bill to change pensions this year, several bills passed the General Assembly this year that will affect Illinois' pension systems. HB 3591 acts as a deterrent for corruption by providing that future CTA and RTA members cannot collect pensions if they are convicted felons.

HB 0144	Allows municipalities to dissolve police or firefighter pension funds if an independent auditor certifies that the fund has no liabilities, participants, or beneficiaries entitled to benefits
HB 1471	Allows service credit and earnings to be factors when determining an employer's cost for an individual's pension, as opposed to the current situation which only factors in service credit
HB 1719	Adjusts the Chicago Police and Fire Pensions Fund's funding schedule to 80% funded by 2065 instead of 90% by 2040
HB 1872	Allows participants in the Downstate Police Pension Fund to transfer up to 10 years of credible service from the Chicago police pension fund, provided that the individual pays into the fund at a sum determined by the Board.
HB 1956	Makes various changes to IMRF, including letting management have some voting power, requiring employees to work for 1,000 hours before becoming vested, and allowing retirees to work for IMRF without losing their pensions (but prohibits them from collecting pensions while working)
HB 3253	Prohibits sheriffs' personnel from entering into an enhanced pension plan
HB 3332	Allows people to transfer downstate police pensions into IMRF, providing they pay all costs themselves
HB 3334	Changes the time period in which IMRF beneficiaries can file for disability leave; allows IMRF to inspect medical information to confirm disability claims





HB 3376	Public Safety Pension Reform clean up
HB 3591	Establishes that future CTA and RTA employees cannot collect pensions if they're convicted felons
SB 1278	Allows benefits to dependent beneficiaries of firefighters to be paid to or received by a trust established for the beneficiary
SB 1831	Makes a number of changes to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF)

## Public Safety

To help protect citizens from crimes, lawmakers passed a significant number of bills this year that are targeted at keeping communities safe. HB 219 requires everyone traveling in a motor vehicle to wear a seatbelt, whether they are seated in the front or the back seat. HB 220 would revoke the license of any health care worker who is convicted of sexual crimes. HB 263, or "Andrea's Law," requires the State Police to establish registry to identify individuals convicted of murder or violent offenses against. Finally, the legislature passed HB 3500, which exempts individuals with FOID cards from FOIA.

HB 0106	Expands the definition of "police station" to include college campus areas
HB 0143	Exempts nationally recognized members of military re-enactors from the Criminal Code of certain weapon prohibitions related to vintage firearms, and authorizes Illinois citizens with FOID cards to purchase ammunition through the mail from an authorized firearms shipper
HB 0219	Requires everyone traveling in a motor vehicle to use a seat belt in both the front and back seat of a vehicle; exempts emergency vehicles and taxi cabs except when they are being used to transport kids to school
HB 0220	Revokes a health care worker's license if the individual commits a sexual criminal act, is convicted of criminal battery against a patient, commits a forcible felony, or must register under the Sex Offender Registration Act as part of a criminal sentence. Individual may practice until criminal proceedings under supervision
HB 0263	Requires the State Police to establish statewide First Degree Murderer Database to identify persons convicted of first degree murder or violent offenses against youth. It may be cited as Andrea's Law
HB 0276	Allows wardens to move prisoners who are threatening the security of other prisoners to some other jail until the prisoner can be safely returned.
HB 0295	Requires sex offenders/sexual predators to register with the security director at any college he or she attends or is employed by whether the school is in-state or out-of-state
HB 0711	Allows musical acts to perform pyrotechnic displays and requires certain things regarding pyrotechnic displays
HB 1095	Requires the State Fire Marshal to adopt rules that prohibit the use of a rebuilt flame safeguard control in forced air heating equipment
HB 1112	Requires an additional \$4 penalty for each \$40 of fine imposed for driving 31 mph or more above the speed limit, speeding in a construction zone, or speeding/failing to stop at a light or stop sign in a park zone when children are present



HB 1222	Provides that upon completion of a child passenger safety instructional course, the technician conducting the course shall issue a letter of completion printed on a form or in a manner required by the Illinois Department of Transportation (rather than on the technician's letterhead)
HB 1253	Requires sex offenders who committed their crimes before Jan. 1, 1996 to register as sex offenders when they are convicted of a felony after July 1, 2011
HB 1271	Revokes a health care worker's license if the individual commits a sexual criminal act, is convicted of criminal battery against a patient, commits a forcible felony, or must register under the Sex Offender Registration Act as part of a criminal sentence. Individual may practice until criminal proceedings under supervision. Prevents individuals who commit these offenses from receiving a health care worker license.
HB 1272	Establishes that a circuit court clerk must mail confiscated FOID cards to ISP prior to convicts' release dates
HB 1398	Establishes that dwelling units and hotels must have at least one smoke detector within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes. Hotels are responsible for installation and maintenance
HB 1490	Requires professional boxing and full-contact mixed martial arts matches to register and meet certain safety requirements
HB 1521	Requires the Fire Marshal to provide fire inspections to comply with licensing requirements for community living and other similar types of facilities
HB 2099	Requires all childcare providers who take infants to train on SIDS once every three years
HB 3294	Creates the School Emergency use of Epinephrine Task Force
HB 3346	Creates the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System Fund and creates a mechanism for sending money to it
HB 3365	Prohibits people convicted of aggravated domestic battery from possessing FOID cards
HB 3500	Exempts FOID cards from FOIA
SB 0086	Gives the Inspector General longer to issue a report on the Domestic Abuse Project and expands definitions of certain types of abuse
SB 0151	Establishes that using a radio device capable of obtaining identity information is identity fraud
SB 1043	States that when law enforcement reopens a closed case, it must provide notice unless doing so would endanger the case
SB 1321	Expands the Premise Alert Program and allows "special needs individuals" who use pressurized oxygen to report deliveries to private homes to the Premise Alert Program, notifying law enforcement (i.e. firefighters)
SB 1943	Makes changes in the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act to provide distinctions between various products as it relates to required lead warning labels
SB 2034	Establishes that Fire Marshall vehicles can be used as emergency vehicles
SB 2037	Creates an exemption from certain parts of the Elevator Safety Act for certain religious facilities
SB 2151	Requires the Juvenile Justice Commission to study and make recommendations with the goal of making sure that juvenile offenders who are adjudicated delinquent sex offenders receive effective treatment and supervision
SR 0044	Urges K-12 schools to include a railroad crossing warning in student handbooks



## Revenue

While not a lot of revenue bills passed the General Assembly this spring, there were a couple of measures worth noting. SB 1741 allows taxpayers to apply refunds to the next year's first tax installment. SB 1360 requires the Secretary of State to conduct a feasibility study for implementing corporate sponsored license plates.

HB 0212	Provided there is a public hearing, allows 2 disadvantaged municipalities to enter into an intergovernmental agreement and abate property taxes levied by the municipalities and local school districts for property located within a "business corridor"
HB 0234	In property tax code, open space valuation must be filed by June 30 (instead of January 31)
HB 2955	IDOR's tax code cleanup bill; makes some substantive changes (pursuant to federal law)
SB 1360	Requires the SOS to complete a feasibility study for the implementation of corporate sponsored licensed plates
SB 1386	Extends the statute of limitations to appeal property taxes under very specific circumstances in Cook County
SB 1712	Establishes that Flood Prevention District taxes are not considered "local sales taxes" for the purposes of STAR Bonds
SB 2063	Streamlines the process for collecting the 9-1-1 surcharge to prepaid wireless phones
SB 2293	Creates two new income tax check off boxes and corresponding funds

## Senior Issues

Recognizing the importance of protecting seniors, the legislature passed a variety of bills directed at helping the State's older residents. HB 1610 allows remote dialing of 911 in order to track missing persons who are unable to call 911 themselves. HB 1629 increases penalties for financial exploitation of an elderly person.

HB 1426	Fully implements the Older Adult Services Act (93rd GA law) which established a framework for reconfiguring the State's elder care system
HB 1518	Increases Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral income limit from \$50,000 to \$55,000
HB 1610	Allows remote dialing of 911 on behalf of a person who has been designated as a critical missing person but is unable to call 911 or unaware they should do so
HB 1689	Enhances penalties for financial exploitation of an elderly person or person with a disability
HB 2019	Repeals the Community Senior Services and Resources Act, which has never been funded
HB 2020	Allows the Department on Aging to investigate elder abuse even after the person has moved to a different home



HB 2043	Allows the Senior Pharmaceutical Assistance Review Committee to meet less frequently
HB 2874	Requires RTA to create a universal fare card for seniors, excluding Pace ADA paratransit services

## State Government

Each year, legislators introduce a number of bills that affect State government in a variety of vastly different ways. This year was no exception. HB 275 bans DCFS from employing an individual who has been declared sexually dangerous. HB 1353 prohibits lawmakers from giving General Assembly scholarships to their relatives. Finally, SJRCA 13 – which passed the Senate this year – contains a proposed amendment to the State’s Constitution to merge the offices of the Comptroller and the Treasurer. If approved by the voters, the bill would save the State millions of dollars annually.

HB 0103	Requires the Department of Public Health to issue a report on pharmaceutical manufacturers and group purchasers as required by the Affordable Care Act
HB 0176	Creates the Illinois Department of Corrections Parole Division Offender Supervision Fund in the State treasury, with an additional fine to be imposed on crimes committed by parolees and deposited in this fund
HB 0179	Updates public library financial protection procedures, including new deadlines for reports, clarification on TIF reimbursements to library districts, and insurance policies
HB 0236	Designates the second Thursday in April as D.A.R.E. Day and provides that State, county, and municipal D.A.R.E. funding is distributed by the Secretary of State
HB 0237	Creates the Illinois Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission Act
HB 0275	Bans DCFS from employing any individual who has been declared a sexually dangerous person
HB 0332	Replaces racial classifications in Illinois statutes with those used by the federal government for census purposes
HB 0466	Allows South Suburban Community College District to issue bonds to pay for purchase, construction or improvement to real property
HB 1069	Establishes a homicide investigator application waiver for officer training
HB 1091	Allows IDOT or the Toll Highway Authority to enter into public-private partnerships, subject to approval by GA and the Governor
HB 1195	Requires all police dogs used for drug enforcement purposes to be trained by programs meeting certain standards
HB 1277	Creates an exception under the Open Meetings Act, allowing a public body to conduct a closed meeting for discussing internal financial control weaknesses or potential fraud with auditors, finance committees, and their equivalents
HB 1298	Allows the State Police to appropriate money from the LEADS Maintenance Fund to reduce expenses for establishing, maintaining, and supporting the issuance of electronic citations
HB 1316	Creates several State Police Funds to collect interest accrued from federal funds awarded to ISP and IEMA



HB 1317	If a prospective juror is found to be unqualified or is excused due to a total and permanent disability, the county board, the jury administrator, or the jury commissioners shall permanently exclude the person from all jury lists
HB 1353	Prohibits legislators from giving General Assembly scholarships to their relatives
HB 1373	Reassigns the duties of the Electronic Records Advisory Board to the existing State Records Commission
HB 1375	Requires a bidder to submit a signed affidavit stating that it will maintain an Illinois office as the primary place of business in order to be considered a responsible bidder
HB 1444	Allows privately held entities with more than 200 shareholders - instead of 400 - to submit disclosure information about any person holding a share in excess of 5% rather instead of using individual shareholder disclosure forms
HB 1484	Allows for religious exemptions to photo identification and allows the Secretary of State to issue non-photo ID cards under these circumstances
HB 1485	Establishes cross-agency prequalification processes, standard agreements, and streamlining requirements within DCFS, DHS, Aging, DPH, and DHFS related to contracts with private human service providers
HB 1488	Creates a Management Improvement Initiative Committee to implement changes mandated under Public Act 96-1141, which deals with streamlining and auditing DHS
HB 1527	Allows the Department of Revenue to enter into offset payment agreements with the State Comptroller and U.S. Treasurer
HB 1542	Authorizes - rather than requires - electronic filing of statements of economic interests
HB 1553	Allows law enforcement to donate unclaimed property to charity if it has remained unclaimed for at least 6 months
HB 1560	Changes the time period for banks to turn over unclaimed paychecks to the State Treasurer from five years to one year
HB 1670	Creates "good government" training programs and procedures for newly elected officials
HB 1948	The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority must post State agencies' security camera policies online
HB 1949	Changes the composition of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board
HB 2048	Allows State's Attorneys to make grants to substance abuse programs if they have budget surpluses from court fees collected from drug cases
HB 2066	Allows unemployment lists to be compiled for use for jury pool selection
HB 2500	Makes a non-substantive change to the TVA Payment authority
HB 2853	Technical clean up of Illinois law with no major substantive changes
HB 2858	Funds the Auditor General from OSF
HB 2922	Requires State agencies to report certain fiscal information to the Comptroller by Oct. 31 and allows the Comptroller to request the information earlier and serve written notices to agency directors
HB 3342	Prohibits a tollway from selling personal information, but exempts such information from FOIA
HB 3377	Prohibits the Charitable Trust Stabilization Committee from making loans and authorizes the Committee to allow the Treasurer to distribute grants





HB 3386	Allows State employees to take paid time off to assist IEMA with emergencies declared by the governor
HB 3449	Says that the State is not required to pay interest until it is worth more than \$5 and authorizes the State to charge \$2.50 to vendors who will not accept direct deposit
HJR 0013	Requires DPH to study Krabbe Disease and related leukodystrophies
HJR 0031	Establishes a Task Force on Turkish Relations
SB 0042	Gives the Secretary of the Department of Transportation the power to determine whether or not a load applying for an overweight permit may reasonably be dismantled or disassembled
SB 0062	Allows authorities who take oaths and affirmations to take their oaths anywhere in the state rather than just their own jurisdictions
SB 0178	Makes changes to state employee group health insurance in response to State terminating contracts with Health Alliance and Humana
SB 0265	Requires one member of the Sex Offender Management Board to be appointed by the Governor to represent Probation Services on the advice of the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association and reduces the size of the board to 20 members
SB 0270	Restores the Illinois State Lottery to its status as an independent Department
SB 0675	Regulates pre-need contracts under the Illinois Funeral or Burial Funds Act
SB 1177	Legislative redistricting bill
SB 1178	Congressional redistricting bill
SB 1179	Cook County Board of Review redistricting bill
SB 1263	Authorizes the Treasurer to invest in short-term obligations of Limited Liability Companies if they have assets worth more than \$500 million
SB 1352	Exempts certain existing capital projects from certain requirements
SB 1394	Makes clean up changes and updates requirements for late fes, notices, and lien sales under the Self-Storage Facility Act
SB 1672	Puts all the retirement systems in compliance with the federal Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act (HEART Act)
SB 1833	Makes state law more politically correct by removing references to "mental retardation" and "crippled"
SB 1852	Adds the lieutenant governor or his or her designee as a member of the Farmer's Market Task Force
SB 1862	Requires the Department of Central Management Services to implement a policy mandating all hard drives of surplus electronic data processing equipment to be erased, wiped, sanitized, or destroyed in a manner that prevents retrieval of sensitive data before being sold, donated, or transferred
SB 1918	Removes existing provisions which place convention incentive funds under the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and streamlines the incentive reimbursement program
SR 0001	Elects Senate officers



SR 0002	Establishes Senate Rules
SR 0003	Informs the House that the Senate has organized
SR 0004	Establishes the process for Senate journals
SR 0005	Appoints the Committee of Correspondents
SR 0025	Requires appointment messages to be drafted by LRB
SR 0037	Honors the American Society of Safety Engineers for 100 years of service
SR 0038	Honors former Senator Lou Viverito on his retirement
SR 0048	Honors Ronald Reagan
SR 0049	Honors former Senator Burzynski on his retirement
SR 0052	Designates the first Wednesday in May as Disabled Peace Officers Recognition Day
SR 0056	Extends the report date for the Re-Sellers' Electronic Reporting Task Force to Dec. 31, 2012
SR 0063	Calls on the federal government to prosecute the State and any involved individuals for workers' compensation fraud
SR 0070	Encourages Congress to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976
SR 0081	Urges Congress and the President to maintain the current classification system of promoted or carried interest used by real estate partnerships for tax purposes
SR 0082	Encourages Congress to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976
SR 0093	Designates the month of March as Social Work Month in the State of Illinois
SR 0097	Designates the month of Ramadan, the 9th month of the Islamic lunar calendar, as a Green Month in the State of Illinois
SR 0107	Honors former Senator Rickey Hendon on his retirement
SR 0109	Designates the week of March 14 through March 20, 2011 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week
SR 0118	Creates the Senate Committee on Procurement to study all aspects of the State's procurement system
SR 0120	Designates the week of March 27, 2011 to April 2, 2011 as Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Week
SR 0121	Urges the President and the Secretary of the Navy to name one of the new LCS cruiser ships the U.S.S. Aurora in honor of the City of Aurora
SR 0125	Urges the Department of Healthcare and Family Services in cooperation with the Department of Public Health to pursue the feasibility of assessing certain chronic disease management.
SR 0127	Designates March of 2011 as Illinois Poison Prevention Month in the State of Illinois
SR 0133	Shows support for the positive impact of the Community Services Block Grant and opposes action by Congress and the President to reduce Community Services Block Grant funding
SR 0149	Encourages schools to become "Democracy Schools"
SR 0168	Creates a method for removing hostile bill sponsors
SR 0169	Urges the Army Corps of Engineers to not close the locks leading into Lake Michigan
SR 0199	Urges various state agencies to do various things regarding minority and women owned businesses
SR 0247	Disapproves 3 improperly filed Executive Orders
SR 0249	Redistricting proposal description



SR 0251	Congratulates former Senator Gary Dahl on his retirement
SR 0261	Adds 4 members to the Senate Procurement Committee

## Transportation

Transportation is a major issue in every single district in the state. The legislature passed a number of bills that are aimed at enhancing transportation and infrastructure in Illinois. HB 585 provides a mechanism within the RTA to make funding available each year for paratransit services. HB 1966 creates the Illinois and Midwest High-Speed Rail Commission to recommend the best governmental structure for a public-private partnership to build, operate, and finance a high-speed rail system.

HB 0585	Requires the RTA to deposit \$115 million into the ADA Paratransit Fund in 2012 and requires RTA each year thereafter to allocate an equal amount for paratransit services for the current year to the ADA Paratransit Fund
HB 1241	Requires a police officer to request a driver to undergo a chemical test if there is probable cause to believe the driver is under the influence of drugs or alcohol during a DUI stop
HB 1291	IDOT's annual land transfer bill
HB 1295	Brings the regulation of Commercial Drivers' Licenses in line with new federal standards that go into effect in January 2012
HB 1315	Provides that no one may occupy a vehicle or the cargo area of a second division vehicle while it is being towed on a public highway, but exempts the back of pick up trucks
HB 1377	Requires local governments to provide preferred truck routes and requires the Secretary of State to include distinctions in instructions for using truck attributed GPS and non-truck GPS
HB 1385	Removes religious exemptions for excluding SSN from driver's license or permit
HB 1541	Allows local governments and state agencies, rather than just the State, to seek recovery for costs of repairs or damage to roadway property
HB 1573	Requires rail carriers to be equipped with a first aid kit when transporting railroad employees during the course of their employment
HB 1593	Authorizes local governments to hold a lessee accountable instead of rental car companies for automated traffic law violations committed in their vehicle.
HB 1761	Requires IDOT to include a comprehensive and multimodal freight mobility plan in the periodic master plan
HB 1884	Creates a pilot program allowing certain public buses in Chicago to drive on roadway shoulders
HB 1889	Requires IDOT, counties and municipalities to configure electronic toll collections system to be compatible with the system used by the Toll Highway Authority
HB 1966	Creates the Illinois and Midwest High-Speed Rail Commission
HB 2270	Allows the Toll Highway Authority to construct new railroad tracks and charge access fees to passengers who wish to use the tracks
HB 2836	Equalizes size regulations for various types of semi-truck setups
HB 2860	Allows motorcyclists and bicyclists outside of Cook County to go through a red light after a reasonable time if the light isn't changing because the sensor only works for cars



HB 2937	Extends the Fatal Accident Memorial Marker program to Dec 31, 2012
HB 2938	Creates protocols for eliminating underperforming special license plates
HB 3256	Permits vehicles older than 25 years and replica vehicles to be registered as expanded-use antique vehicles
HB 3403	Allows video monitors in the front passenger seat of a car, as long as the driver cannot see them and requires the screen to be permanently attached to the vehicle
HB 3597	Requires the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to develop a policy for reducing the cost of transfers on public transportation services provided by the Service Boards
HJR 0024	Requires the Senate Transportation Committee and the House Mass Transit Committee to hold a hearing on Chicago area mass transit to come up with a more modern, efficient system
HJR 0025	Designates a portion of Milwaukee Avenue from Albion Avenue to Harts Road in Niles as the Wojciech M Seweryn Memorial Road
HJR 0028	Designates that Interstate 57 between Exit 339 and Exit 358 be renamed the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Trail
SB 0956	Clarifies that emergency vehicles may use oscillating lights when parked at the scene of a fire, rescue call, or car crash
SB 0959	Allows rental car companies to charge an "airport concession charge" to all of those who rent a motor vehicle
SB 1585	Allows the Secretary of State to accept written statements from more medical professionals stating that certain individuals can drive safely
SB 1641	Allows local governments to authorize operation of low-speed vehicles on streets that have a speed limit between 30 and 35 mph
SB 1644	Makes various changes to weight and size limitations on trucks
SB 1856	Requires public reviews to be held 10 years after a protected highway corridor is established by IDOT
SB 1913	Makes speed limits uniform for all vehicles on four-lane highways outside of Cook and the collar counties
SB 1923	Requires IDOT to review evidence of racial and gender discrimination and enhances transparency of the target market program process
SB 1924	Broadens the Secretary of State's authority to investigate and correct driver's license errors and removes the requirement that bus drivers' social security numbers be on their licenses
SR 0220	Encourages efforts to create a comprehensive pavement preservation and maintenance plan



# 2012 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY





## *Agriculture & Natural Resources*

HB 0404	Makes several technical changes to the Energy Assistance Act, the Counties Code, and the State Employee Housing Act
HB 4447	Clarifies how agriculture research grants are awarded and improves transparency by requiring additional reporting
HB 4819	Allows crossbow hunting during the second half of deer season and under other specified circumstances
HB 5115	Inserts cattle pastures to the list of damaged property that can be filed with the Department of Natural Resources
HB 5145	Prohibits annual expenditures for non-coal reclamation from exceeding 2% of the Department of Natural Resource's annual budget for mine reclamation
HB 5353	Extends rabbit hunting season by one month to February 28
HB 5539	A comprehensive reform of the Illinois Fertilizer Act
HB 5642	Establishes NPDES permit fees for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
HB 5685	Allows the Department of Natural Resources to remove anyone committing illegal activities or disorderly acts from DNR lands and establishes penalties
HB 5893	Encourages convention centers to provide space at a free or reduced rate to local farmers' markets for rain locations
SB 2882	Creates an Adopt-a-Park program to help with maintenance in state and local parks
SB 3292	Redefines the situation under which the Department of Agriculture labs may collect fees for diagnostic services
SR 0530	Urges Congress to adopt a farm bill that supports the development of local and regional food systems
SR 0558	Designates February 17, 2012 Agricultural Communications Day
SR 0791	Urges the Department of Corrections to establish a thoroughbred horse groomer training program for inmates at the Vandalia Correctional Center

## *Budget*

HB 4139	States that if at the end of the budgetary lapse period, the balance in the State Surplus Property Revolving Fund exceeds \$1,000,000 (now \$500,000), all additional dollars will be transferred to the General Revenue Fund
HB 4440	Creates a procedure to determine when seniors who receive free rides become deceased and revoke their cards
HB 4570	Provides that debts owed to the State that exceed \$250 (currently \$1,000) and are more than 90 days past due shall be placed in the Comptroller's Offset Program
HB 4601	Changes several procedures related to the Office of the Comptroller in an effort to save money
HB 5007	Allows for Cook County to finance and operate a Medicaid waiver program and extends the moratorium on Medicaid program eligibility expansions for an additional 2 years
HB 5337	Mandates that vouchers for under \$5 be paid through electronic funds transfer
SB 1313	Requires state retirees to pay insurance premiums



SB 2332	Capital Spending Re-Appropriations
SB 2348	Non-Discretionary Spending Budget
SB 2378	Constitutional, Legislative, and Judicial Offices Budget
SB 2409	State Agencies Budget
SB 2413	Preschool-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Education Budget
SB 2443	Higher Education Budget
SB 2450	Continued appropriation for child care providers
SB 2454	Human Services Budget
SB 2474	Public Safety Budget
SB 3397	Limits the state's ability to pay current Medicaid bills in future fiscal years
SB 3802	Budget Implementation Act
SR 0586	Sets the Senate's revenue estimate

## Business

HB 1882	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to report on why businesses have left Illinois; also requires DCEO to make information on federal, local and state benefits available on its website to help attract businesses; makes other changes
HB 3329	Allows two Chicago liquor licenses near schools
HB 4076	Allows people who have graduated from cosmetology school to qualify for barber licenses; allows barber schools, cosmetology schools and other to qualify to accept student loans
HB 4314	Gives businesses up to 2 years to certify the relocation of 300 full-time jobs after applying to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for an Enterprise Zone utility tax exemption--currently the time limit is 1 and 1/2 years.
HB 4324	Allows a restaurant in Chicago to obtain a liquor license
HB 4523	Exempts "household products" from the restrictions on the purchase or acquisition of corrosive or caustic acid
HB 4697	Allows coal mine permit applicants to make minor alterations to permits or applications after the hearing concerning the applicant has started
HB 4707	Extends the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act until June 30, 2016
HB 4320	Exempts electronic versions of common games like skee-ball and bowling from the definition of gaming "redemption machines" as long as prizes are less than \$25
HB 5033	Makes changes to the time frame the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation has for addressing applications and requests from currency exchanges
HB 5221	Amends the Income Withholding for Support Act and makes a handful of changes designed to protect small employers who must withhold income for child support
HB 5359	Provides that any confidential information collected by the state relating to the Real Estate Licensing Act of 2000 must remain confidential; makes other changes
HB 5452	Makes several provisions of the Illinois Finance Authority Act optional rather than mandatory



HB 5478	Ensures that insurance industry trade secrets are not disclosed by the Director of the Department of Insurance
HB 5616	Allows the Will-Kankakee Regional Development Authority to issue up to \$250 million in economic development bonds, up from the current limit of \$100 million
SB 0409	Sets the public hearing schedule for Special Service Areas, groups of properties that pay extra property taxes to pay for infrastructure that specifically benefits only them
SB 0548	East Peoria & Carlyle Tax Increment Financing extension
SB 1127	Allows corporations to indemnify officers, directors, employees, or agents
SB 1286	Makes animated features eligible for film tax credits
SB 1691	Creates uniform processes for businesses to file forms with the Secretary of State's office
SB 2945	Establishes that employers who treat cancer can discriminate against hiring those who use tobacco products
SB 3249	Exempts automobile rental companies, salvage auction, towing companies, lawn care companies, and certain others from a law that says you may not repossess a vehicle unless licensed
SB 3262	Allows a theater in Chicago to have a liquor license despite being close to a school
SB 3277	Extends Glenwood's Tax Increment Financing District
SB 3399	Allows beer distributors to cancel their contract with a brewer if the contract accounts for 10% or less of the brewer's total produced volume
SB 3538	Allows optometrists to keep records off-site in a secure location
SB 3616	Allows Enterprise Zones to be extended by up to 25 years and creates a competitive, transparent process for the creation/extension of Enterprise and River Edge Development Zones
SB 3619	Reinstates the Business Location Efficiency Incentive Act

## Civil Law

HB 1927	Allows people whose vehicles are seized by the courts during foreclosure proceedings to petition the court for relief if being without a vehicle creates a substantial hardship, such as making it impossible for them to get to work
HB 4028	Reduces the court time for adoptive parents in cases where the child was willingly given up for adoption within the DCFS system; makes other changes
HB 4190	Allows the Attorney General the flexibility to intervene in a civil suit brought on the state's behalf after the action, currently he/she cannot do this because the court does not have the jurisdiction to hear the case
HB 4662	Authorizes the practice of trust "decanting" - moving funds from one trust to a second trust
HB 4663	Authorizes the formation of directed trusts
HB 5062	Provides that process of adoption proceedings need not be directed to a minor defendant under 14 years of age for whom a guardian ad litem has been or will be appointed
HB 5434	Creates an appeals process to make it more difficult for debt collectors to essentially send people to debtor's prison
HB 5823	Makes changes to the Health Care Services Lien Act
SB 2847	Allows for individual liability under Equal Pay Act so a company cannot evade a judgment



	or award by dissolving the company
SB 3204	Clarifies that the Power of Attorney Act does not apply to financial institutions in certain situations
SB 3552	Allows for certain assets of a debtor to go to a trust created for his/her spouse and/or children rather than directly to the spouse/children
SB 3593	Provides that public guardians need not maintain insurance on their wards' possessions if the estate lacks sufficient funds or the property is otherwise uninsurable
SB 3592	Creates a process for public guardians and people with disabilities to file verified petitions for a number of legal changes
SB 3594	Allows public guardians to waive certain court fees
SB 3764	Conforms Illinois' regulations for security interests in personal property and fixtures to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and the American Law Institute's recommendations
SB 3792	Establishes guidelines under which mechanics liens may be filed
SB 3823	Allows the courts to issue new penalties when a parent violates a court visitation order including suspension of the offending parent's driver's license, placement on probation, and sentencing them to imprisonment for up to 6 months, as well as a fine of up to \$500

## Consumer Protection

HB 3935	Prohibits unlicensed loans
HB 3950	Allows high speed internet condominium easements in some circumstances
HB 4013	Requires recyclable metal dealers to keep records of transactions containing copper to try to reduce the incidence of copper theft
HB 4126	Makes numerous changes to the Naprapathic Practice Act, which governs the branch of medical specialization focused on relieving pain caused by connective tissue (including arthritis pain)
HB 4520	Establishes clear standards for qualifications, education, training, and experience for those engaging in either the independent practice of clinical professional counseling
HB 4521	Makes various changes to residential mortgage regulation
HB 4689	Extends consumer protections already available for gift certificates to credit slips
HB 5016	Aimed to clear up any confusion regarding the role and obligation of debt buyers, who differ from traditional collection agencies
HB 5025	If a public utility reports a customer to a credit reporting agency, they must then notify them within 5 days of any full payment made
HB 5047	Allows consumers to receive credits when they cancel portable electronic insurance and makes various other changes to laws regulating portable electronic insurance
HB 5211	Eliminates unlawful bill cramming, which is the addition of unauthorized charges to customers' telephone bills by third-party vendors
HB 5314	Allows landlords to deliver an itemized statement of damages and repair costs to a former tenant via email
SB 0038	Extends the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Licensing Code



SB 1692	Amends High Risk Home Loan Act in order to harmonize the Act with changes made to federal law by Dodd-Frank
SB 2545	Requires Internet dating sites to warn their members that they do not conduct criminal background checks, requires these sites to provide safety awareness notifications, and makes it a crime to falsely claim they conduct background checks
SB 2935	Increases penalties for violating the Wholesale Drug Distribution Licensing Act and strengthens investigative procedures
SB 2941	Establishes that a dentist may not supervise more than four dental assistants at a time
SB 2950	Establishes that beginning January 1, 2014, a retailer may not knowingly sell children's food or beverage containers that contains bisphenol A
SB 3202	Changes some of the licensing and disciplinary procedures pertaining to community association managers
SB 3217	Makes a variety of changes to credit union rules, including allowing lapsed members to re-subscribe within 30 days, allowing the union to set minimum age requirements for voting, and names the surviving credit union in a merger the successor-in-interest
SB 3279	Requires roofers to present government-issued identification with building permit applications
SB 3385	Allows an exemption for certain specific electrologist licensure applicants
SB 3517	Prohibits the Department of Children and Family Services from licensing (including child care licensing) people convicted of a variety of financial crimes; provides exemptions
SB 3572	Makes a number of changes to managing boards of common interest community associations, including changes to election timing, eligibility to serve on the board, and budgeting
SB 3685	Deregulates amateur fights for Karate, Kung Fu, Judo, Jujutsu, and Tae Kwon Do and lists Jujutsu and Kyuki-Do as a martial art

## *Criminal Law*

HB 1554	Expands the circumstances in which people can be charged with a Class A misdemeanor for allowing underage drinking on their property
HB 1907	Creates the Illinois Street Gang and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Law, an Illinois-focused version of the federal Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act
HB 2582	Simplifies the criminal code, renaming the Criminal Code of 1961 the Criminal Code of 2012; does not make substantive changes
HB 3366	Recodifies several laws relating to harming children and puts them in more logical locations in state code
HB 3801	Prohibits the sale of "blunt wraps" and lowers the threshold for mandatory sentencing for possession of heroin from 5 grams to 3 grams
HB 3825	Makes several changes to encourage recycling companies to support suspected stolen metal
HB 4081	Provides an exception to the eavesdropping law concerning law enforcement officers who are engaged in a conversation during the course of a drug investigation





HB 4590	Redefines the items the Departments of Corrections and Juvenile justice must include in inmates' master files
HB 4592	States that Department of Corrections inmates may not use the Freedom of Information Act to gain access to information available in the prison's library, records of staffs' personnel files and related information, or information available through a DOC administrative request
HB 4636	Allows prior convictions in other states to be used when determining if a person who violates a restraining order has committed similar offenses and is therefore guilty of a class 4 felony
HB 4749	Mandates counties to contact public agencies to find a public prosecutor's availability when the State's Attorney is sick or absent (before contacting a private attorney)
HB 4863	Allows drivers' vehicles to be seized and forfeited if they have had their licenses suspended or revoked for DUIs, leaving the scene of an accident resulting in injury or death, reckless homicide, or statutory summary suspension
HB 5021	Provides that any funds received by the SOS Police for DUI convictions shall be used for the purchase of law enforcement equipment that will assist in the prevention of alcohol related criminal violence
HB 5056	Makes it a crime to use dead people's handicapped parking placards/plates
HB 5121	Provides that a prisoner who is serving a term of imprisonment for attempt to commit terrorism shall receive no more than 4.5 days of good conduct credit for each month
HB 5122	Creates the offense of abuse of a corpse and defines abuse
HB 5187	Requires law enforcement agencies to provide crime victims with a written statement and explanation of their rights within 48 hours of initial contact
HB 5190	Makes it unlawful to file a false record with the Secretary of State
HB 5233	Sets harsh penalties for distributing synthetic drugs
HB 5235	Combines the offenses of child pornography and aggravated child pornography to make prosecution easier
HB 5250	Creates a graduated penalty structure for the manufacturing or delivery of hydrocodone, dihydorcodeinone, dihydrocodeine, and oxycodone based on the amount someone possesses
HB 5264	Provides that in a criminal prosecution in which the defendant is accused of 1st or 2nd degree murder when the commission of the offense involves domestic violence, evidence of the defendant's commission of another offense or offenses of domestic violence is admissible
HB 5265	Redefines child abduction by luring in the Criminal Code, raising the age to 17 (from 16)
HB 5278	Makes various changes to the Criminal Code, providing that when a victim is under 18 years of age at the time of an offense, a prosecution for various sexual offenses shall commence within one year of the victim turning 18 years old



HB 5280	Designates a criminal a sexual predator after his or her first conviction for luring a child
HB 5330	If a person is alleged to be a sexually violent person is in custody or on parole/release by the DOC, then a petition filed under the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act may be served on the person by the DOC
HB 5441	Eliminates obsolete duties of the State Appellate Defender relating to the death penalty codifies the Defender's role in assisting public defenders
HB 5493	Requires the Secretary of State to immediately revoke the driving privileges of a person receiving a second conviction for illegal possession of illegal drugs; allows the SOS to revoke driving privileges after the first offense; also makes changes related to car dealer fees and electronic exchange of information with the Secretary's office
HB 5602	Creates consistency between the School Code and the Juvenile Court Act in sections that relate to the access and inspection of a student's arrest records
HB 5606	Prohibits criminals convicted of meth-related crimes from owning meth ingredients without a prescription
HB 5749	Allows the Office of the Appellate Prosecutor to assist State's Attorneys with hearings on post-conviction relief and directs the Appellate Prosecutor to hire private investigators for criminal and tax objection cases
HB 5771	Provides that a certificate of good conduct and relief from disabilities may be granted to an eligible offender who has demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she has been a law-abiding citizen and is fully rehabilitated
HB 5877	Creates the Judicial Privacy Act, which prohibits any person from displaying on the internet a judicial officer's personal information with the intent to pose an imminent and serious threat to the health and safety of the officer
SB 2520	Makes it a Class 4 felony to actively aid a fugitive who is fleeing to escape capture, even for family members
SB 2537	Creates the Class 4 felony of failure to report disappearance of a child
SB 2559	Requires treatment providers to return defendants to county jails once they are fit to stand trial
SB 2621	Gives the director of the Department of Corrections the discretion to give inmates good credit toward their sentences; also provides some inmates may not be eligible for good credit under certain situation
SB 2869	Requires the sheriff to inform the Department of Corrections if an inmate or parolee is subject to a restraining order
SB 2888	Creates "Julie's Law" providing that the court may not enter orders for supervision for defendants who are charged with speeding 25 miles per hour or more over the speed limit on local roads or 30 miles per hour or more on highways
SB 3137	Establishes that any prosecuting attorney in Illinois must notify the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation if a healthcare worker has been accused of a sex crime (rather than just a state's attorney)



SB 3201	Creates requirements for the sale of plastic bulk merchandise containers in an effort to deter theft
SB 3258	Clarifies that several sex offenses qualify as child sex offenses if the victim is under 18 and allows juveniles convicted of reckless driving (once) to have their records expunged
SB 3349	Reduces penalties for non-violent misdemeanors; creates an automatic sentence of probation (in addition to any applicable fines) rather than jail-time--requires the state's attorney's consent and a court order
SB 3423	Allows first-time meth offenders who possess 15 grams or less to seek supervised treatment and probation rather than criminal charges
SB 3433	Prohibits the State Police from distributing expunged records to a variety of non-law enforcement government bodies
SB 3458	Creates a process for individuals convicted of felonies to apply to the Prisoner Review Board for certification of eligibility recommending that their criminal records be sealed
SB 3579	Prohibits child sex offenders from participating in holiday events like handing out candy at Halloween or dressing like Santa at Christmas except under certain very specific circumstances
SB 3602	Changes the amount paid under the Violent Crime Victims Assistance Act for late payment of fines and fees from \$4 per \$40 of fines to flat fees based upon the crime
SB 3638	Creates the Sex Offender Evaluation and Treatment Licensing and Disciplinary Board to license sex offender evaluators and treaters; increases the sex offender registration fee; provides penalties for false representation
SB 3665	Establishes that any attack on a mail carrier or postal worker is an aggravating factor when imposing a sentence
SB 3673	Amends the AIDS Confidentiality Act to permit the court to subpoena the HIV testing records of a person charged with criminal transmission of HIV
SB 3677	Grants the Attorney General subpoena powers and the ability to enforce subpoenas, making it easier to obtain information and using less taxpayer resources
SB 3693	This legislation is an initiative of the Attorney General to make various adjustments to crime victim compensation procedures to allow broader compensation and greater recoupment of money owed to the Crime Victims Compensation Act Fund; these changes will help reimburse family members who pay for the expenses of victims, as well as compensate the spouse of a deceased individual as a victim

## *Education*

HB 1473	Allows the Chicago Board of Education to develop a program to establish common bonds between youth of various backgrounds and ethnicities
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HB 3806	Changes the definition of chronic truant from a student who misses 10% of classes to a student who misses 5% of classes
HB 3819	Requires the Advisory Council on Bilingual Education to submit a report on bilingual education by the end of the year
HB 4043	Allows Christopher Unit School District 99 and Zeigler-Royalton Community Unit School District 188 to wait until they receive state school construction grant funds to consolidate if a consolidation is approved by the voters
HB 4602	Allows Ridgeland School District 122 to issue bonds that exceed its debt limitation in order to refinance capital appreciation bonds from 2000
HB 4993	Allows individuals currently enrolled in school administration programs to graduate without meeting certain recently enacted requirements, as long as they graduate before 2013
HB 5114	Allows school districts to train 6th through 8th graders about CPR and how to use an automated external defibrillator
HB 5689	Creates the Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force to develop a statewide effective and feasible prevention course for high school students to prevent violence
SB 0638	Delays the implementation of the alternative certification program for teachers for one year
SB 0639	Will allow school districts to utilize school construction funding to rehabilitate school buildings - currently, they can only use the funding to replace or reconstruct school buildings
SB 2706	Reduces the number of Regional Superintendents of Schools and raises the minimum population in a regional district
SB 2850	Prohibits the first and last day of school from counting as full days if there is less than 5 hours of instructional time
SB 3244	Requires the State Board of Education to create middle and high school mathematics curricula models with the aim of eventually implementing a required 4th year of high school mathematics
SB 3259	Creates a Commission for High School Graduation Achievement and Success to study graduation rates, mandatory attendance age, dropout rates, etc.
SB 3367	Makes a variety of changes relating to drivers' education
SB 3374	Creates the Enhance Physical Education Task Force
SB 3393	Allows teachers with lapsed certificates to immediately get their licenses reinstated if they pay all back fees and either meet certain educational requirements or pay a \$500 fine
SB 3487	Allows schools to use vans to transport students to and from extracurricular activities; limited to high school students
SJR 0061	Grants educational mandate waivers
HB 5013	Mandates school districts to make publicly available the immunization data that is submitted to the State Board of Education



## *Elections*

HB 2009	Prohibits a candidate from switching political parties during an election cycle
HB 5203	Provides that 2 or more petitions for elected office filed within the last hour of the filing deadline shall be deemed filed simultaneously and subject to a lottery for last place on the ballot
HB 5207	Eliminates a defunct provision in the election code
SB 3722	Election omnibus legislation that makes voting more accessible and voter friendly while also addressing the influence of Super PACs

## *Environment & Energy*

HB 1261	Prohibits the sale of button cell batteries that have unnecessary mercury added
HB 3888	Prohibits boats and seaplanes from having plants or animals attached to their exteriors
HB 4119	Bans ownership of shark fins, which are harvested from living sharks before being used to make soup
HB 4496	Provides that the Plumbing Code Advisory Council shall recommend amendments to the existing minimum code of standards for plumbing and the fixtures, materials, design, and installation methods of plumbing systems
HB 4526	Starting 1/1/2013, dry-cleaning machines that use perchloroethylene ("perc") are required to have both primary and secondary control systems; current machines in use are grandfathered in; also requires licensees to officially certify that they properly store and transport hazardous waste properly
HB 4753	Redefines "renewable energy facilities" to include landfill gas concepts and waste-to-energy concepts; also provides that all areas within the boundaries of single county may be incorporated as a single Renewable Energy Special District
HB 4761	Provides that all consultants working on municipal aggregation for units of local government shall disclose all direct and indirect relationships that may result in commissions
HB 4986	Creates the Task Force on the Advancement of Materials Recycling to review the status of recycling and solid waste management planning in Illinois
HB 5071	Ensures that any place that sells electricity for the purpose of charging electric vehicles should not be considered a public utility or an alternative retail electric supplier and continues the process of setting guidelines for certification for electric vehicle charging stations
HB 5195	Amends the definition of "energy conservation project" to include a project connected with any school district or community college district project
SB 2526	Requires gas and electric utilities regulated under the ICC to submit annual reports on spending and procurement goals for protected-category business contracts for regulated utilities with at least 100,000 customers and changes the date the annual report on minority/women/veteran owned small businesses is due





SB 2867	Makes a variety of changes regarding environmental protection, including changes to carbon sequestration and substitute natural gas plants and trash hauling
SB 2947	Clarifies that the liability for landfill operations extends to owners as well as operators; prevents loss of federal funding
SB 3170	Allows a township board to adopt an ordinance to spread out the electrical load of residences or small commercial businesses
SB 3442	Requires manufacturers of plastic carryout bags to register with the Environmental Protection Agency; prohibits manufacturers from selling plastic bags without their names printed on them; requires manufacturers to devise recycling plans
SB 3453	Creates a special fund for the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to improve energy efficiency
SB 3591	Allows utility companies to supply information relating to the environment online rather than in print form
SB 3672	Requires the Illinois Pollution Control Board to approve same ambient air quality standards as the national ambient air quality standards issued by the federal EPA
SB 3724	Sets one year as the timeline for adopting energy efficient building guidelines
SB 3766	Reauthorizes the construction of the Leucadia plant on the Southside of Chicago
SB 3811	Ensures that customers who generate electricity to offset their load shall only be charged taxes, fees and utility delivery charges for the net amount of electricity used and ensures that customers who participate in net metering be charged non-discriminatory rates
SR 0437	Calls on a variety of state and federal officials to support relaxing coal mining and use restrictions
SR 0585	Requests the Illinois Commerce Commission to rehear Chicago Clean Energy Project

## *Ethics*

HB 0222	Provides that the Illinois Transparency and Accountability Portal must also include a searchable database of all county, township, and municipal employees
HB 3188	Cuts General Assembly members' salaries and per diems and freezes the governor's budgeted pay raises
HB 3810	Eliminates General Assembly Scholarships and creates a task force on tuition waivers
HB 3923	Prohibits closed meetings related to the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Trust Fund
HB 3934	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to post on its website the terms of each EDGE Tax Credit Agreement
HB 4116	Requires members of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's investment advisory panel to file statements of economic interest
HB 4687	Requires public bodies to provide notice and agendas to the public for the 48 hours preceding the meeting; specifies that such agendas must include the general subject matters of any resolutions ordinances on the agendas
HB 5650	Requires each state agency to designate a vehicle use officer who shall assist the State



	agency in drafting a vehicle use policy; sets out various requirements for the policy; also establishes that new vehicles must meet a "break-even" standard
HJRCA 0049	Requires the General Assembly to pass pension enhancements by a 3/5ths majority
SB 2492	Allows people who serve on juries to voluntarily give up their jury-related reimbursement
SB 3324	Prohibits township officers from being paid in advance

## *Family*

HB 3887	Requires higher ed personnel, athletics program personnel, and early intervention providers to report child abuse
HB 3960	Specifies that court-ordered life insurance cannot be used to reduce child support payments
HB 4029	Allows school boards to consider factors like safety in addition to the lowest cost when considering school bus contracts for all students
HB 4129	Allows administrative child support orders to be registered by the court, making them easier to enforce
HB 4566	Requires DCFS to conduct a developmental and social-emotional screening within 45 days after the Department is granted temporary custody of a child
HB 5592	Mandates that when children are removed from their families and placed in the child welfare system, the Department of Children and Family Services shall place them with their siblings whenever it is possible and beneficial
HB 4606	Requires licensed day cares must submit a the results of their radon test every three years or when they submit an initial or renewal application
HB 4966	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services' reports in cases of the death or serious life-threatening injury of a child to include a copy of any documents, files, records, books, and papers created or used in connection with their investigation
HB 4968	Requires hospitals that have birthing services to create infant feeding policies that encourages breast feeding
SB 0820	Makes changes to the Early Intervention Service System Act because of new federal rules
SB 2569	Allows courts to unilaterally change child support levels based on education costs
SB 2849	Expands the definition of child neglect to include intentionally putting a child in a dangerous environment like a meth lab or place a crime is taking place
SB 3544	Requires DCFS to keep records of "unfounded" child abuse and neglect reports for individuals under current investigation until the investigation is complete or 12 months pass, whichever is later
SB 3549	Creates safeguards so the courts can collect child support payments from those who "own a business" or are "self-employed"
SB 3601	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to report back to the General Assembly on a number of items relating to child care



SR 0043	Designates the third full week of April in 2011 as "Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week" in the State of Illinois
SR 0545	Designates March 2012 Illinois Whole Child Month

## Gaming

HB 3779	Extends advance deposit wagering at horse racing tracks and makes other related changes
SB 1849	Gaming expansion
SB 3450	Grants police powers to investigators appointed by the Gaming Board for the purpose of conducting investigations, searches, seizures and arrests in enforcement of the Video Gaming Act
SB 3497	Adds Powerball to the list of lottery games that the Department of Revenue can sell online through its pilot program

## Health

HB 1577	Creates a system of arbitration for payment disputes between physicians and health insurers and makes necessary changes to the Insurance Code to bring Illinois statutes in line with the federal guidelines
HB 3443	States that religious organizations that have Medical Sharing Trusts do not have to follow all state insurance laws if they meet certain criteria
HB 4003	Allows the Department of Human Services to supply court forms used for admitting people to mental health and developmental disabilities centers online rather than in print
HB 4037	Allows facility directors of mental health or developmental disability centers to designate clinical professional counselors in situations where they need official designees
HB 4453	Requires the Departments of Public Health and Corrections to work together to find a way to notify the sexual partners of inmates diagnosed with sexually transmitted diseases without violating the inmates' privacy
HB 4563	Requires facilities licensed under the Intellectual Disability/Developmental Disability Community Care Act to provide 30 days' written notice of their intent to reduce the number of beds at a facility or their intent to close a facility
HB 5003	Designates November 14 Diabetes Awareness Day
HB 5050	Allows post-surgical recovery care centers to discharge patients in less than 24 hours, administer blood products, and offer sleep laboratories
HB 5104	Allows physicians to supervise up to 5 physician's assistants and allows physician's assistants some additional privileges to work without written supervision agreements
HB 5109	Makes changes to the Dental Service Plan Act, including eliminating the provision that trustees must be residents of Illinois
HB 5142	Changes the Freestanding Emergency Center rules in Iroquois, Kankakee, Will, and Monroe Counties



HB 5586	Provides residents of mental health facilities under state contract the same rights as those provided to residents of State-operated mental health facilities
HB 5752	Makes several changes to the Illinois Dental Practice Act
SB 0174	Changes the timeline the Department of Public Health has to present the State Health Improvement Plan to the General Assembly and governor
SB 0679	Requires that an individual diagnosed as having an autism spectrum disorder must remain eligible for insurance coverage under this Act even if subsequent changes to diagnostic criteria are adopted
SB 0680	Sets rules for the safe lifting of people in nursing homes
SB 2578	Requires the Director of the Department of Public Health to either be a doctor or to have administrative experience in public health work
SB 2840	Reduces Medicaid costs by \$1.6 billion by making a number of changes to eligibility, provided programs and services, waste reduction, and more
SB 2876	Allows certain religious groups who participate in not-for-profit medical sharing arrangements to waive certain insurance regulations
SB 2885	Changes the Health Care Purchasing Group Act by adding definitions, increasing the max number of employees an employer can have to participate, and requiring the use of a licensed insurance producer to negotiate on behalf of its members
SB 2934	Changes the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board permitting process
SB 3171	Makes technical changes to bring a healthcare information law in line with federal law
SB 3240	Allows state employees to designate health insurance payments to be made directly to specified doctors and hospitals
SB 3242	Prohibits insurance contracts from setting dental fees unless the insurance company covers the cost of the applicable procedures
SB 3261	Requires hospitals to provide free charity care to uninsured patients who meet poverty guidelines
SB 3420	Under the Nursing Home Care Act defines who a Resident's representative can be
SB 3484	Increases the State Board of Health from 19 to 20 by adding an optometrist
SB 3513	Allows pharmacists to administer certain immunizations to people at least 10 years old; currently they are limited to people age 14 and older
SB 3514	Provides that the Illinois Medical District Commission is no longer subject to the State Personnel or Procurement Code, which will allow it more flexibility to better manage its development and financial affairs
SB 3718	Prohibits the Department of Healthcare and Family Services from denying payments to non-emergency ambulance services except as defined by rule
SR 0516	Declares April 1-7, 2012 MRSA Testing Week
SR 0546	Declares June 2012 Prescription Drug Safety Awareness Month
SR 0580	Designates March 2012 Illinois Poison Prevention Month
SR 0702	Designates the week of April 22-28, 2012 as "Medical Laboratory Professionals Week"
SR 0714	Designates the month of November as COPD Awareness Month in the State of Illinois



## Higher Education

HB 4757	Provides dormitories more time to comply with the Fire Sprinkler Dormitory Act if they file a compliance plan with the Office of the State Fire Marshal
HB 5914	Prohibits universities from using outside search firms except when recruiting a new president or when they can prove that they have a genuine need
SB 0758	Allows culinary students between the age of 18 and 21 to taste, but not swallow, alcohol as part of their educational program
SB 2818	Makes Department of Children and Family Services scholarships and fee waiver available to more students, including home-schooled children, children who attended school using an online program, and children who aged out of foster care at 18
SB 2929	Allows community colleges to give preference points to American-made products in the procurement process
SB 2949	Requires non-religious universities to allow students to reschedule exams, classes, etc. if they must miss a day for religious observance; provides exceptions when rescheduling, etc. creates unreasonable hardship
SB 3428	Establishes that one of the 11 members of the Illinois Community College Board appointed by the governor must be the president of a public community college or executive of one of the community college systems
SB 3635	Allows community colleges to award contracts to bidders other than the lowest responsible bidder when it must do so to comply with the terms and conditions of a grant, gift, or donation
SB 3800	Allows the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to garnish wages for the recovery of a student loan debt owned or serviced by the Commission
SR 0742	Recognizes the members of the Illinois Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc., on the occasion of the organization's 3rd Annual Divine Nine African-American Greek Action Day at the Illinois State Capitol

## Human Services

HB 1645	Creates the Live Adult Entertainment Facility Surcharge Act, imposing either a \$3 fee for each patron or a yearly surcharge; money would go to fund sexual assault organizations
HB 3826	Allows miniature horses to be used as service animals by people with disabilities
HB 3893	Includes uniform screenings, assessments, and evaluation processes in definitions relating to substance use and mental health
HB 5134	Amends the Nursing Home Care Act by creating a provision that concerns informal dispute resolutions for facilities under the Act
HB 5480	Makes it easier for charitable organizations to receive donations from state employees and retirees by payroll deduction
HB 5679	Requires the Department of Human Services to inform the General Assembly within 30 days of making the decision to reduce the population at a state developmental disability facility





SB 0278	Makes the Human Services Commission permanent
SB 0770	Reinstates the requirement that the Department of Human Services fully review and process all Temporary Assistance for Needy Families applications
SB 1351	Allows the Home Services Program to operate more like the Community Care Program
SB 2897	Allows for the creation of benefit corporations--corporations that act for the public good
SB 3499	Makes it easier for nursing homes that have been fined by both the state and federal government to waive their right to appeal in exchange for a slightly reduced fine
SB 3614	Requires the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board's Long-Term Care Facility Advisory Subcommittee to examine and make recommendations to the Board concerning the buying, selling and exchange of beds between nursing homes within a designated geographic area or drive time

## *Labor*

HB 3782	Prohibits employers from asking job applicants to give them access to the applicants' social networking accounts, like Facebook
HB 4022	Requires Class II railroad companies to provide counseling or trauma programs to workers involved in accidents resulting in fatalities
HB 4545	Allows State Fire Marshal employees to receive credentials necessary to obtain further training without being affiliated with local fire departments
HB 4715	Changes the minimum scoring requirements of firefighters physical and written examinations
HB 4983	Allows certain military members (who meet certain requirements) to use their military experience to satisfy collegiate educational requirements to become a Conservation Police Officer
HB 5111	Employees who work at least 35 hours each week are considered a full-time employee
HB 5212	Makes it easier for public bodies and other entities to notify contractors and subcontractors about the prevailing wage
HB 5548	Allows current members of hospitals' medical staff to be represented by private attorneys at clinical privilege determination hearings, which determine their scope of practice
SR 0596	Urges the President and Congress to pass the \$5 billion Pathways Back to Work legislation to create an employment program throughout the year, with a particular emphasis on the creation of summer employment for 500,000 youth and adults.

## *Local Government*

HB 0735	Allows mayors, village presidents, and county board presidents to participate in liquor-related business as long as the local government has a separate local liquor control commissioner
HB 1390	Prohibits municipalities from regulating the placement, screening, or height of antennas or support structures for amateur radio communications
HB 1981	Eliminates Township Collectors in Cook County



HB 3859	Requires local governments to submit specified information about sales tax rebate agreements to the Department of Revenue, some of which will be posted on the Department's website
HB 3881	Prohibits any new or expanded landfills in Cook County
HB 3892	Allows certain downstate forest preserve districts to sell or auction structures and excess property located on land owned by the district
HB 3948	Clarifies that police emergency vehicles are not commercial vehicles under the Vehicle Code
HB 4239	Provides that the chief county assessment officer may require certain disclosure conditions to be met when granting a General Homestead Exemption to a leased property
HB 4445	Expands the membership of the Southeastern Illinois Economic Development Authority from 10 members to 27
HB 4500	Allows the director of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to appoint an intergovernmental affairs officer
HB 4514	Allows county recorders in counties with less than 500,000 inhabitants to store records electronically and on microfilm without permission from the county board
HB 4562	Allows park districts to appoint assistant secretaries and assistant treasurers
HB 4937	Allows a local government to retain a portion of the money or property seized within its borders if it does not have its own law enforcement agencies (which normally receive such money and property)
HB 4962	Provides that if a county board determines members shall be elected by districts, then each district shall be "substantially" equal in population to each other district
HB 4988	Allows municipalities to establish a program for vehicle immobilization to facilitate enforcement of municipal vehicle tax liability
HB 4991	Provides that the newly created 23rd judicial circuit (Kendall and DeKalb counties) shall have no at large circuit judgeships
HB 5236	Changes the composition of the Jackson-Union Counties Regional Port District
HB 5319	Allows the board of trustees of a sanitary district to sell treated wastewater to any public or private entity located either within or outside of the sanitary district's boundaries
HB 5362	Extends the timeline that non-home rule municipalities can use proceeds of a sales tax for expenditure on municipal operations from 2015 to 2020
HB 5780	Exempts vehicles operated by or for any police department from any fee for the transfer of registration from one vehicle to another vehicle
HB 5899	Allows counties to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with any forest preserve district that exempts the district from compliance with county zoning ordinances
SB 0549	Creates the Metro East Police District within St. Clair County
SB 1047	Allows counties to use probation and court services funds to pay probation officers and court personnel when the state shorts them money owed; also establishes operating fees to accompany automation fees
SB 1900	Requires assessors to turn their assessment books in to the supervisor of assessments by July 15 in certain counties
SB 2536	Makes records retention policies changes for Cook County



SB 2946	Allows forest preserve districts created under the Cook County Forest Preserve Act to establish procedures regarding affirmative action and the use of small businesses owned by minorities and/or women for construction projects
SB 2993	Changes the qualifications for being the executive director of the Fox Waterway Agency to being a person of recognized ability in business or waterway management
SB 3047	Allows any municipality with a population of more than 15 in any county not under township organization but in two or more road districts to organize a separate road district
SB 3101	Allows property tax bills to be mailed to a homeowner's new address if they register the change of address with the USPS and allows tax collectors to email tax bills to property owners if they request it
SB 3184	Removes certain limitations related to bonds issued by the Carol Stream Park District, approved by referendum at the February 2, 2010
SB 3386	Authorizes the Cook County Board of Review to send electronic notices of assessment changes to attorneys
SB 3406	Provides that if there is a sanitation and/or building code violation, the inspector must include in the notice the title and citation of the code and a description of the circumstances present that make up the violation
SB 3508	Strengthens the annual financial reporting requirements for local governments
SB 3518	Prohibits local governments from prohibiting roadside charitable donations
SB 3576	Addresses how municipalities should make redistricting decisions following a decennial census
SB 3591	Allows utility companies to supply information relating to the environment online rather than in print form
SB 3607	Establishes that assessment complaints must be filed 30 days after the assessment is published in counties other than Cook
SB 3629	Puts the Chicago Park District Pension Fund on a January to December fiscal year schedule
SB 3631	Increases the number of board members on the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau Board from 25 to 35
SB 3809	Establishes that criminal history background checks for park district employees includes both adult and juvenile court convictions; also expands the list of crimes that prevent employment to include stalking, aggravated stalking, and cyberstalking

## *Pensions*

HB 3474	Clarifies that all non-teaching staff who work at the Philip J. Rock Center shall belong to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (which is already the case for support staff at other Illinois public schools)
HB 3969	Mandates that the employer, not the General Assembly Retirement System, shall pay the increased cost of any paid out proportional annuity created by taking a higher paid government job after the GA member leaves the GA, Amendment 2 will exempt GA members with two years of service credit before leaving the GA
HB 4513	Makes changes to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District by increasing required employee (and employer) contributions to the pension fund from people who were employed by the district before January 1, 2011 until the fund is at least 90% funded; also



	changes the manner in which the district calculates its required contribution
HB 4622	Allows members of the State Universities Retirement System to elect an optional benefit within 180 days rather than 90 days; makes various technical changes relating to SURS and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund
HB 4996	Creates a disincentive for universities to hire retired university personnel for extended periods of time at high salaries
SB 3597	Allows retired Chicago teachers and principals to teach up to 100 days and still collect their pensions, as long as they do not make more than \$30,000 for teachers or the equivalent amount for principals

## *Public Safety*

HB 3982	Allows local governments to request information relating to taxicab and cab driver vehicle code violations
HB 4063	Clarifies that people do not need a Firearm Owner ID card to purchase certain firearms (such as BB guns and paintball guns)
HB 4145	Allows law enforcement officers to impound "hazardous dilapidated motor vehicles"
HB 4479	Makes various changes to the Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulation Act of 2011 and strengthens the State Fire Marshall's disciplinary powers
HB 4673	Allows active law enforcement officers who have sought mental health treatment to be eligible to receive (or to continue possessing) Firearm Owner Identification cards
HB 4674	Extends the repeal date for the Elevator Safety and Regulation Act to January 1, 2023 (from January 1, 2013); Also mandates certain upgrade requirements for restricted openings of hoistway doors must be completed by January 1, 2014
HB 4691	Exempts ambulances from paying tolls
HB 4901	Allows people to own antique weapons that do not meet current standards for the purposes of historical re-enactment or if they hold Curios and Relics firearms licenses
HB 5009	Provides that when nursing home resident identification bracelets are required, they must identify the issuing facility's telephone number
HB 5283	Allows the fire truck revolving loan program to provide loans for the purchase of brush trucks by fire department
HB 5587	Requires law enforcement agencies to conduct training programs in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder for police officers
HB 5635	Provides that the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board shall conduct and approve a training program for coroners
HB 5682	Changes the eligibility requirements for licensed security contractors, private detectives, private alarm contractors, and more to carry firearms
HB 5880	Requires Emergency Medical Service first responders to be at least 18 years old unless they have been designated a Provisional First Responder
HB 5922	Allows sheriffs and other law enforcement officers to serve short form notification of civil and stalking no contact orders



SB 0555	Allows the Emergency Telephone System board to spend money on computer-aided dispatch and Smart 911 Services
SB 0681	Allows FOID card holders to purchase ammunition by mail within Illinois (purchasing outside of Illinois is already legal)
SB 1034	Ensures that Illinois firearm regulations comply with federal law concerning reporting requirements to the Illinois State Police so that individuals who are subject to restraining orders cannot obtain Firearm Owner Identification (FOID) cards
SB 2488	Expands the ban for cell phone use in construction zones to include areas without reduced speed
SB 2524	Retroactively extends the effective date of a law relating to school bus liability insurance and sets minimum liability coverage levels
SB 3533	Resolves a discrepancy between the Criminal Code and Wildlife Code relating to firearm carrying cases; uses the more lenient Criminal Code definition
SB 3727	Revises pool safety regulations

## Revenue

HB 4242	Creates a property tax exemption for residential properties destroyed by a natural disaster
HB 5192	Creates a neutral tax tribunal to review tax appeals, separate from the Department of Revenue
HB 5289	Creates the offense of sales tax evasion
SB 2194	Increases the cigarette tax by \$1, enhances the Hospital Assessment Program, and sets charity care standards for hospitals to pay for Medicaid services
SB 2761	Extends a law allowing the state to tax leased military housing
SB 3250	Establishes a procedure to ensure that property taxpayers aren't forced to pay interest because a local government sent out tax bills late
SB 3252	Amends the School Code, providing a maximum tax rate for dual districts that consolidate into unit districts of 0.75%; Provides a phase in for districts that currently have a higher tax rate than 0.75%
SB 3314	Recalculates the way PTELL tax extensions/increases are calculated to exclude property tax exemptions and changes how a referendum question is submitted when imposing a new or increased limiting rate
SB 3320	Extends the Quality of Life scratch-off lottery game; makes the Diabetes Research Income Tax Checkoff permanent; extends the Hunger Relief Income Tax Checkoff; and creates three new income tax checkoffs: Childhood Cancer Research, Children's Wellness Charities, and Housing for Families
SB 3507	Ensures that unemployed workers are not taxed by Illinois and another state on their unemployment benefits

## Senior Issues

HB 3986	Allows the Department on Aging to create a tool that allows people to report elder abuse online
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HB 4548	Amends the Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Act to update findings, terminology, and the functions of the Regional ADA Centers
HB 5098	Requires police officers training to include courses pertaining to the recognition of elder abuse, neglect and crimes against the elderly
HB 5266	Expands the list of persons and agencies that shall have access to all records generated as a result of a report of elder abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, or self-neglect to include law enforcement and fire departments
HB 5653	Expands the definition of "intimidation" relating to financial exploitation of the elderly and people with disabilities to include criminal intimidation
SB 3690	Requires the State to acknowledge and protect funding for those very frail elderly with complex health care needs that require "institutional care"

## State Government

HB 0196	Creates a new fund to be used to provide a cadet program for State Police personnel and to meet costs associated with the operations of the State Police Merit Board
HB 0411	Allows the Department of Labor to accept gifts related to its legislative duties
HB 1084	Corrects a drafting error in legislation relating to gubernatorial appointments
HB 2562	Adds a person from a statewide organization representing sheriffs to the Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board
HB 3129	Requires the Department of Revenue to transfer all money and penalties generated by E911 surcharges from home-rule municipalities with populations over 500,000 to the State Treasurer; also requires the Department to certify for the Comptroller the amount available to the Illinois Commerce Commission from various state funds
HB 3915	Changes the word "handicap" to "disability in a number of state laws
HB 4031	Extends the sunset of the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council from Dec. 2012 to Dec. 2015
HB 4468	Will allow more 10% of the annual proceeds of the Illinois Fire Fighters' Memorial Fund to be used on emergency repairs to the structural stability of the Illinois Fire Fighter Museum
HB 4492	Designates the Illinois Saint Andrew Society Tartan as the official tartan of the State of Illinois
HB 4510	Creates a state Asian-American Employment Plan
HB 4531	Changes name of the Disabled Person Identification Card and changes several definitions also revokes the free standard identification cards and allows SOS to issue id cards without photographs
HB 4568	Increases bond authorization for various road and transit projects already approved in the Illinois Jobs Now! capital construction plan, totaling \$1.6 billion
HB 4569	Creates an exemption for special agents of the inspector general
HB 4573	Clarifies that the federal government is responsible for inspecting and regulating carbon dioxide pipelines rather than the Illinois Commerce Commission
HB 4577	Creates state funds for the circuit clerk to deposit money into for violating DUI, reckless driving, or speeding in excess of 31 mph



HB 4596	Amends FOIA to exempt law enforcement record created for internal purposes
HB 4615	Codifies the Housing Development Authorities current practice relating to operating expenses for local administering agencies
HB 4665	Directs the Task Force on Radon-Resistant Building Codes to make recommendations
HB 4682	Changes who oversees administrative support of the Employment and Economic Opportunity for Persons with Disabilities Task Force from the Governor's Office to the Department of Employment Security
HB 4748	Changes the name of a fund within the Treasurer's portfolio
HB 5023	Eliminates all references to a defunct state program that was replaced in 1993
HB 5189	Provides that if employees want direct deposit payments into a secure checking account, the employee must submit a direct deposit form to the State agency for payroll or to the Comptroller
HB 5234	Eliminates the Illinois Register of Historic Places, which is duplicative of other services offered by the federal government and has been inactive for more than 20 years
HB 5321	Extends the sunset date for the Capital Development Board to charge contract administration fees until June 30, 2016; also mandates these fees, associated with projects by the Architect of the Capitol, are to be deposited into the Capitol Restoration Trust Fund
HB 5336	Codifies the transfer of the administration of the private sector portion of the Occupational Safety and Health Act from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to the Department of Labor
HB 5444	Creating an Economic Data Task Force to study the costs and benefits of giving the public access to the State employment data currently produced by the Illinois Department of Employment Security
HB 5450	Allows grant funding under the IL Housing Development Authority to be used to develop housing opportunities for persons with disabilities
HB 5540	Renames a building on the State Fair Grounds
HB 5632	Provides that if unemployment benefits are paid after a reversal of a determination, the payments should be treated as if the reversal did not occur
HB 5656	Allows all unused federal funds in the CDB Contributory Trust Fund to remain there and be used only for other capital projects
HJR 0051	Urges Congress to pass the Talent Act
HJR 0058	Designates February 9, 2012 as "Lech Walesa Day" in the State of Illinois
HJR 0068	Fiscal Year 13 House Revenue Estimates
HJR 0073	Urges the President and Congress to protect the Rock Island Arsenal from future budget reductions
HJR 0084	Appoints William G. Holland Auditor General
SB 0179	Requires the Auditor General to select a State Actuary
SB 0180	Allows the Comptroller to include the clerks of circuit courts in their Offset System; imposes a fee of \$75 on the collection of defaulted fines
SB 1338	Extends the deadline for a task force to return its findings
SB 2574	Department of Healthcare and Family Services code clean up



SB 2819	Eliminates various reports that the Department of Corrections must submit to the Governor and General Assembly and changes the requirements for reporting certain others
SB 2820	Allows Public Assistance Emergency Revolving Loan Fund money to be used to pay child support process fees for various government officials
SB 2824	Prevents the comptroller from intercepting child support payments for payments of debt owed to the state
SB 2844	Restricts IDOC to accepting bids from healthcare and food-service providers with irrevocable letters of credit or performance bonds issued by companies with investment grade or better bond ratings
SB 2944	Makes technical changes to replace outdated references to the Adult Division of the Department of Corrections and inserts language concerning salaries as set by the Compensation Review Board
SB 2958	Makes numerous changes to the Procurement Code that will streamline the process while still providing for a transparent and efficient process to procure goods and services for the state
SB 3325	Removes obsolete language from the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act
SB 3337	Removes obsolete language from the Family Support Demonstration Project Act
SB 3373	Allows the Illinois Finance Authority and the State Fire Marshall to jointly administer the fire truck revolving loan program
SB 3380	Adds an additional member to the Carnival Safety Board
SB 3621	Changes the name of the Illinois State Police Projects Trust Fund to the Illinois State Police Federal Projects Trust Fund and adds several other police-related funds to the list of funds in the state treasury
SB 3726	Eliminates a report previously required of the Supreme Court; makes it easier to have video cameras in courtrooms
SB 3746	Designate the third Thursday in May of each year as Volunteer Emergency Responder Appreciation Day
SB 3794	Creates the Financial Reporting Standards Board to assist the state in improving the timeliness, quality, and processing of financial reporting
SB 3798	Code clean up
SJR 0003	Creates the Illinois Great Migration Centennial Commission
SJR 0040	Designates a section of I-64 the Jessica and Kelli Uhl Memorial Highway
SJR 0046	Urges Congress to enact the federal Hepatitis Testing Act of 2011
SJR 0053	Supports Argonne National Laboratory's bid to be home of the national Energy Storage Hub
SJR 0054	Designates a bridge in Rosemoor and Roseland Heights the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Bridge
SJR 0056	Designates the third Thursday in May of 2012 as Volunteer Emergency Responder Appreciation Day in the State of Illinois
SR 0398	Designates Illinois Route 103 in Schuyler County the Trooper Floyd J. Farrar Memorial Highway
SR 0404	Urges Congress to fund Amtrak



SR 0544	Directs the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to create a Task Force on Police Office Suicide
SR 0559	Designates the first week of May 2012 Bungalow Appreciation Week
SR 0609	Honors the 126th anniversary of Father Augustus Tolton as the first African American Priest in America
SR 0610	Urges the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to take the necessary steps to join the Nursys national licensing database and to sign the Nursys participation agreement
SR 0620	Urges Congress to pass the Secure Travel and Counterterrorism Partnership Program Act of 2011 in an effort to improve our international diplomatic relationships, create jobs, stimulate the economy, and strengthen national security
SR 0624	Designates September 2012 as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month
SR 0628	Thanks Illinois State Senator Arthur "A.J." Wilhelmi for his years of service to the people of the 43rd Legislative District and the people of the State of Illinois
SR 0630	Designates November 2012 as Illinois Diabetes Month
SR 0631	Changes the rules regulating appointments
SR 0638	Urges the induction of Coach George Ireland and the 1963 Loyola Chicago basketball championship team into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame
SR 0642	Designates March 25-31 Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Week
SR 0643	Recognizes November as Native American History Month
SR 0659	Encourages DNR to use Asian Carp as food for poor people
SR 0661	Designates Shaken Baby Awareness Week in April
SR 0663	Declares A. Philip Randolph Day
SR 0664	Declares Pay Equity Day
SR 0665	Urges Congress to strengthen food and nutrition standards in the Farm Bill
SR 0681	Designates April 2012 Fair Housing Month

## *Transportation*

HB 0930	Prohibits state law enforcement agencies from accepting federal funds to establish motor-cycle only checkpoints
HB 3340	Amends several technical provisions of the Vehicle Code dealing with entities that are licensed and regulated by the Secretary of State
HB 3875	Extends the RTA's authority to sell Working Cash Notes to 2014
HB 4036	Allows PACE to issue \$100 million in bonds to finance four projects
HB 4078	Allows the Toll Highway Authority to construct railroads; prohibits Road Fund diversions
HB 4598	Sets penalties for the misuse of slow-moving vehicle emblems
HB 4692	Creates the Illinois Nurses Foundation special license plate; allows the Secretary of State to adopt rules about placing special information regarding health conditions on driver's licenses
HB 4862	Mandates owners of low-speed vehicles made after January 1, 2010 to apply for a title from the Secretary of State



HB 4982	Allows the Secretary of the Senate to issue special plates to the family of a police officer or firefighter who has died in the line of duty
HB 5073	Makes a number of small and/or technical changes to the Secretary of State Act and the Illinois Vehicle Code
HB 5099	No one can use a wireless telephone, take a picture or video while driving within 500 feet of an "emergency scene"
HB 5180	Requires the Illinois Department of Transportation to develop and publish a policy to notify the public prior to the commencement of construction projects
HB 5624	Mandates the SOS to create a separate and distinct parking decal or device for persons with disabilities to designate the qualifying individuals who will be exempt from the payment of parking meter fees
SB 0968	Allows commercial motor vehicle operators with vehicles that hold 9-15 passengers to travel less than 75 miles and still receive direct compensation
SB 2528	Allows motorcycle riders to proceed through weight-triggered red lights if they do not change for 2 minutes
SB 2579	Exempts livestock trailers from length limits between the kingpin and the center of the rear axle
SB 2822	The Department of Transportation's annual legislation to convey unused parcels and easements of land
SB 2839	Provides that certain flotation device rules apply to sailboards (not sailboats)
SB 2861	Allows the Department of Transportation to deposit funds into an escrow account for railroad maintenance
SB 2937	Creates the Northwest Metra Commuter Rail District in McHenry County
SB 3216	Makes a variety of changes to the Public-Private Partnerships for Transportation Act, including allowing the Toll Highway Authority to participate in the program, shifting profits to the Road Fund, and establishing hearing requirements
SB 3318	Grants IDOT the authority to acquire land for the Illiana Expressway; also requires Public-Private contractors that subcontract following a design-build model to follow the state's design-build procurement procedures
SB 3336	Allows inline skaters to travel with traffic on public roads as long as they meet certain conditions
SB 3409	Allows drivers involved in accidents to move their vehicles out of the way if no one was injured and the vehicles are still functional; does not eliminate the requirement to exchange information and/or contact the authorities
SB 3452	Makes relatively minor changes to a variety of laws relating to motorcycles
SB 3555	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Professional Sports Team License Plates to motorcyclists; makes a variety of other, small changes
SR 0690	Concerns the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission

## Veterans

HB 1151	Creates two categories of Disabled Veteran license plates, one with disabled persons parking privileges and one without
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HB 4442	Includes adopted parents as Gold Star Family members, meaning they were parents of a veteran killed in the line of duty
HB 4586	Changes the 'Illinois Youth and Young Adult Employment Act of 1986' to the 'Illinois Veteran, Youth, and Young Adult Conservation Jobs Act'; Limits the Illinois Young Adult Conservation Corps to citizens of IL who are 18 through 25 years of age and who are unemployed; Makes other changes
HB 4926	Makes changes to the laws governing drug courts, veterans courts, and mental health courts to facilitate information exchange, treatment, and planning
HB 5006	Allows veterans employed by the Secretary of State to visit veterans hospitals 4 days per year rather than 2 days per year
SB 0275	Will require any department that issues a professional or occupational license to expedite the license for a service member or spouses of active duty members if they hold a similar license from another state with similar licensing requirements
SB 2494	Allows siblings of people who lost their lives in the armed forces to be issued Gold Star license plates, in addition to parents
SB 2568	Allows charitable organizations to create decals for veterans' license plates
SB 2837	Requires the Secretary of State's office to ask if people are veterans when they apply for drivers' licenses for the purpose of adding a veterans' designations
SB 3241	Increases the veterans jobs tax credit, allows property tax abatements for the spouses of fallen soldiers, and exempts coal and aggregate mining equipment from the sales tax
SB 3287	Makes a variety of changes to stays and deadlines concerning the courts, leases, and repossessions for military service members
SB 3530	Requires former military vehicles to be licensed for a fee
SB 3670	Establishes that when Illinois National Guard members are in active service of the state they will receive the same pay as enlisted personnel of the same rank; allows the Adjutant General to sell National Guard facilities; makes a number of other largely technical changes
SB 3671	Allows the Department of Veterans Affairs to stop conducting annual reviews comparing Illinois veterans' benefits to those provided in other states; clarifies that the Department must only implement the PTSD Outpatient Counseling Program to the extent that funding is available
SB 3689	Allows money raised by the Illinois veterans scratch-off game to be used for veteran employment and job training