

# ILLINOIS AFL - CIO

NEWS UPDATE - 02/10/17

*Senate President Cullerton was recklessly determined to call legislation this week without regard to the negative consequences that it would cause to working people. He worked on SB 1 - 13 with Senate Republican leader Christine Radogno, with no input from labor. The negotiations on this legislation took priority in the Senate all week. The deadline to introduce bills in both chambers is today. Governor Rauner will present his budget address to a joint session of the General Assembly on Wednesday, February 15th.*

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Senate Democrats Move Portions of Anti-Worker Bills

*Urge your State Senator to oppose this package that includes workers' comp cuts, pension cuts & Privatization*

The Senate began voting on bills that were put together with no input from working people. The Senate passed three bills, but filed a procedural motion to keep them from going to the House.

**Union members need to contact their state senators now. Tell them to oppose Senate Bills 1 through 13 because they are connected to Rauner anti-worker proposals.**

Each bill has to be signed into law for the others to take effect. We are fundamentally opposed to these bills being connected, each bill should be considered on its own merit. The budget should be the first priority so that stability can be returned to our state.

The bills include:

- **SB 1** (SP Cullerton) – Education Reform.
- **SB 2** (Lightford) – \$11 minimum Wage statewide, freezes Chicago & Cook County wage at \$13.
- **SB 3** (T Cullerton) – Local Government Consolidation (passed Senate 36-14-7 this week).
- **SB 4** (Trotter) - \$7 billion in bonding to pay down state debts.

- **SB 5** (SP Cullerton) - Chicago Teacher Pension Funding.
- **SB 6** (SP Cullerton) - Appropriations/budget bill.
- **SB 7** (Link) - Six new gaming licenses.
- **SB 8** (Harmon) – Procurement changes (passed the Senate 34-14-11).
- **SB 9** (Hutchinson) – Revenue, including income tax increase.
- **SB 10** (SP Cullerton) – Local government debt consolidation (passed Senate 36-13-10).
- **SB 11** (SP Cullerton) – Unconstitutional pension Reform (Failed in the Senate 18-29-10).
- **SB 12** (Radogno) – Cuts injured worker benefits.
- **SB 13** (Radogno) – Privatizes public services, freezes local revenue.

**The Senators that voted for the unconstitutional pension cuts in SB 11 this week include: Clayborne, Haine, Harmon, Hunter, Jones, Koehler, Link, Martinez, McGuire, Morrison, Munoz, Raoul, Sandoval, Silverstein, Steans, Trotter, Van Pelt, and Senate President Cullerton.**

### Presidents Carrigan and Ramirez Address Senate Democrat Caucus

Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan and Chicago Federation of Labor President Jorge Ramirez requested to speak with the entire Senate Democrat caucus regarding labor's opposition to SBs 1-13. On Tuesday, prior to the Senate convening for the week, these two labor leaders addressed a closed door meeting with nearly all members present. Both leaders stated that cuts to injured workers and pension benefits are not the path for the state to return to financial stability. They further pressed Senate members to join labor in working on a progressive budget solution.

## Union Members Respond To Opposing Senate Budget Deal

*More than 1,300 Members Call Senate Offices*

Bolstering the efforts of union leaders and lobbyists in opposing the Senate leadership budget deal, union members in targeted Senate districts responded with a strong grassroots effort by calling senate district offices over the last two weeks.

The Illinois AFL-CIO sent a patch-through call to union households in 37 districts – both Republican and Democrat – and more than 1,300 members responded by sending the message to oppose connected Senate Bills 1 through 13 because the package includes Rauner anti-worker proposals.

“We want to thank all the members and leaders that have responded to the call to action on stopping this misguided effort,” said Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael T. Carrigan. “We need to keep the pressure on. Working families should not be ignored and have to be part of the solution.”

## Trump Appointments Send Strong Anti-Worker Message

*DOL Pick CEO Puzder Opposes Worker Protections*

Andrew Puzder, the CEO of the parent company of Hardee’s and Carl’s Jr., was appointed by President Donald Trump Secretary of Labor. Problem is, the DOL head is supposed to be an advocate of workers, something Puzder’s track record shows he is not.

Puzder’s confirmation hearing, which has been postponed four times, is scheduled for Feb. 16 before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Like many of Trump’s cabinet picks, Puzder’s record shows a disdain for the people he will be tasked to protect, including his opposition of hiking the minimum wage and

overtime protections, as well a suspect workplace practices at the restaurants he owns.

Please contact U.S. Senators Richard Durbin and Tammy Duckworth and tell them labor opposes Andrew Puzder for Secretary of Labor.

Sen. Richard Durbin 312-353-4952

Sen. Tammy Duckworth 312-886-3506

Go to AFL-CIO Action Center to sign a petition urging the Senate to oppose Puzder:

<http://www.aflcio.org/Get-Involved/Action-Center>

## Trump Supreme Court Nominee Gorsuch Has Long Record Of Anti-Worker Bias

*(Reprinted in part from the aflcio.org)*

Judge Neil Gorsuch was nominated to fill the current vacancy on the Supreme Court. Soon the U.S. Senate will hold hearings on his nomination. In taking a deeper look at Gorsuch’s record, there are quite a few rulings and writings that should concern working people. As a private lawyer and as a judge, he has aligned himself with the interests of Big Business, not the concerns of working families. He has ruled against protecting the health and safety of workers, made it harder to have discrimination-free workplaces and argued for corporations’ misconduct to be protected from correction by investors and consumers.

**PLEASE JOIN THE ILLINOIS AFL-CIO  
IN CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

## Missouri Passes Right To Work

### Latest GOP-Controlled State To Target Unions; Illinois Chamber Cheers Missouri Effort

On Monday, Missouri Republican Gov. Eric Greitens signed into law a bill passed by its GOP-majority legislature to make it the 28th Right To Work state in the country. The Missouri AFL-CIO is planning a 2018 ballot initiative to reverse the law.

In a press conference this week, the Illinois Chamber cheered the passage, saying Illinois should follow suit with a more pro-corporate climate. From a Chamber press release:

Illinois Chamber of Commerce President Todd Maisch says as of today Illinois is surrounded by states that have right to work laws as Missouri's Right To Work legislation was signed into law Monday. He says, "It doesn't mean Illinois should adopt right-to-work laws but it does mean Illinois needs to take strong action on pro-growth policies to help us compete. Other states are becoming more attractive for employers, and Illinois should respond on behalf of our economy."

Data supports the fact that Right To Work laws hurt working families. Wages are lower, people are less likely to have health insurance and the necessary resources for a quality education, poverty levels are higher as are workplace fatality rates.

Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner supports Right To Work. In a RTW bill voted on in the Illinois House in 2015, all Republican representatives – except one who is not in the House anymore – refused to oppose the measure.

"It's pretty easy to see what will happen in Illinois if union households don't vote against Rauner and his allies in the General Assembly," said Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael T. Carrigan.

## Kennedy Announces Bid For Governor

Chicago businessman Chris Kennedy announced Wednesday that he will run for Illinois Governor in 2018.

Kennedy, the former chairman of Merchandise Mart in Chicago and son of the late U.S. Sen. Robert Kennedy, made the announcement via YouTube video. He is currently the chairman of Joseph P. Kennedy Enterprises, Inc.

Kennedy joins Chicago Alderman Ameya Pawar – who announced last month – as the first high-profile Democrats to join the race to take on incumbent Gov. Bruce Rauner. Rauner is seen as one of the most vulnerable Republican Governors in the country due to his anti-worker policies and lack of leadership on the state's financial woes.

Other Democrats considering a bid to run for Governor include businessman J.B. Pritzker, U.S. Rep. Cheri Bustos, State Sen. Andy Manar, State Sen. Daniel Biss and Madison County Regional Superintendent of Schools Robert Daiber.

## Action in Committees this Week:

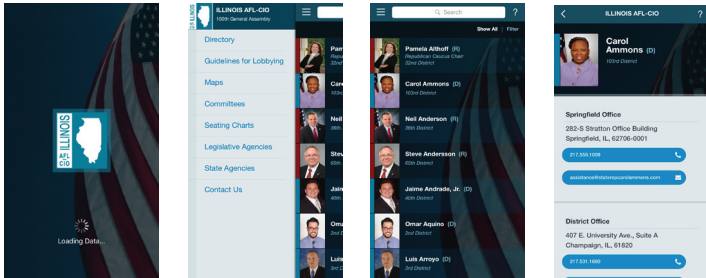
- State Employee Pay (HB 1798 – Scherer) – Labor supported appropriations to provide for state employee pay. Governor has already threatened to veto bill. Passed House State Government 4-0.
- Bed Bug Notification (HB 369 – Andrade) – Labor supported bill that requires employers to notify employees of bedbug infestation. Passed House Labor 24-5.
- Public Employee Contract Waiting Period (HB 447 – Ives) – Labor opposed bill that would require public employee contract agreements to have a 14-day waiting period before ratification. Failed in House Labor Committee 12-17.
- John Hartnett appointment to ILRB (AM 99-391) – Labor opposed appointment of John Hartnett to Illinois Labor Relations Board. Passed Senate Executive Appointments 5-2.

# Illinois AFL-CIO

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## Illinois AFL-CIO Hosts Financial Reporting Seminars

The Illinois AFL-CIO is hosting a one day seminar for local union officials and their accountants on preparing financial reports and conducting union officer elections.

The seminar will take place at 8:15 AM on Thursday, February 16 at the State House Inn in Springfield and will feature speakers from the U. S. Department of Labor Office of Labor Management Standards, to provide participants with detailed information on how to complete and file annual financial reports (LM-2, LM-3, LM-4). In addition, they will provide relevant information on the procedures for electing union officers. Presentations will also be given by the Illinois State Board of Elections on Political Action Committee (PAC) reporting and by Legacy Professionals, LLP, on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reporting.

There is a registration fee of \$60 per person. Contact Amy Rueff at 217-492-2633 for more information.

## Union Sportsmen Alliance Holds Illinois Events

*Stands in solidarity with laid off AFSCME members in Sparta*

For the past several years, the Union Sportsmen Alliance (USA) has used the state owned World Shooting and Recreational Complex in downstate Sparta for its Annual Sporting Clays Shoot. USA had scheduled this year's shoot, the 7th Annual, on March 4th at the Shooting Complex. However, on January 31st AFSCME members at the Complex were laid off and replaced with contract labor.

The USA will not hold an event at a facility that replaces hardworking union brothers and sisters with non-union labor and promptly moved the event to the Joker's Wild Shooting Clays in Chesterfield IL on **March 11th**. In addition, the USA will use a portion of each sponsorship to invite a laid-off AFSCME member to participate in the event at no charge.

For more information please visit [http://www.unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-events/2017/Event\\_Invite\\_Southern\\_Illinois\\_Shoot\\_2017.pdf](http://www.unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-events/2017/Event_Invite_Southern_Illinois_Shoot_2017.pdf)

On Monday, **March 6th**, the Chicago Federation of Labor, the Chicago & Cook County Building and Construction Trades Council and the Illinois AFL-CIO will host the **5th Annual Illinois Unions Sportsmen's Alliance Conservation Dinner**. The Dinner will be held at SMART Local 73 in Hillside, IL. Funds raised at the event are combined with the skills of union volunteers to complete conservation projects in local communities. Last year two \$10,000 grants were awarded at the dinner for projects in Northern and Central Illinois.

For more information, please contact Amy Rueff at 217/492-2633 or visit [http://unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-events/2017/Illinois\\_Dinner\\_2017.pdf](http://unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-events/2017/Illinois_Dinner_2017.pdf)

