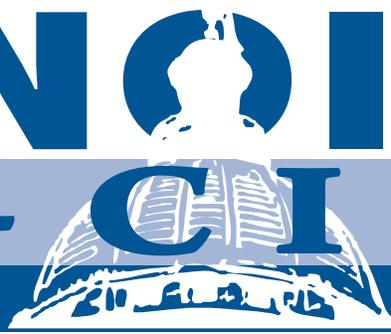


ILLINOIS AFL-CIO

NEWS UPDATE - 11/15/19



The General Assembly concluded its fall veto session on Thursday. Both Chambers released their calendars for the 2020 Spring Session. Session dates can be found at www.ilga.com under the “schedules” tab for each chamber.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Legislative Action this week:

SB 1784 (Harmon/Hoffman – passed both chambers). In response to the anti-worker Janus Supreme Court decision, SB 1784 protects public employees personal contact information, clarifies dues deduction and requires employers to provide collective bargaining representatives with up-to-date information on bargaining-unit employees.

SB 1300 – (Castro/Hoffman – passed both chambers) For purposes of investments, SB 1300 combines 649 separate downstate police and fire pension systems into one for police and one for firefighters. This consolidation will help the funds to achieve greater investment returns, and stabilize the finances of the pension funds while relieving pressure on local property taxes. The bill will continue to allow local governance on disability and eligibility issues.

SB 471 (Castro/Gordon-Booth) Paid sick leave was passed out of the House Labor Committee and placed on Third Reading. The bill currently allows for full and part-time employees to earn up to five sick days per year. The sponsor indicated the bill will be held on Third Reading for business and labor to negotiate an agreed bill.

SB 659 (Martwick/Willis – passed both chambers) Requires National Fire Sprinkler Association NICET III certified inspections (rather than NICET II) for automatic fire system sprinklers. The upgraded certification ensures automatic fire system inspections are conducted by more experienced inspectors.

SB 667 (Manar/Guzzardi – passed both chambers) Effective January 1, 2021, caps out-of-pocket insulin costs at \$100 for a 30-day supply for commercial health insurance plans regulated by the State of Illinois.

Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan was presented a gift from Secretary of State Jesse White at a retirement reception hosted by Gov. Pritzker on Wednesday evening. Carrigan’s planned retirement date is November 29, 2019.



Senate President Cullerton Announces Retirement

Following the final veto session day Thursday, Senate President John J. Cullerton (D-Chicago) announced he would be retiring from his Senate seat in January. Cullerton’s retirement will leave a vacancy for both the Senate President and the 6th Senate District positions.

Cullerton served in the General Assembly since 1979 – in the Senate since 1991. He was elected Senate President in 2009.

“President Cullerton has faced many challenges as the leader of the State Senate,” Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael T. Carrigan said. “He guided the Senate during some trying times for our state. He was always a steady hand and has always provided a sense of civility. Under his leadership, the labor movement was able to make significant progress on policy and legislation. We wish him a long and happy retirement.”

Cullerton did not detail a specific retirement date, however several senators’ names have been put forward by pundits as candidates to replace the President. When the vacancy exists, the Senate Democratic caucus members will convene to choose a new President – likely in January, then the full Senate will conduct a vote for President. The first day of session for the Senate is scheduled for January 28.