



Legislative Tracking Chart

Jason Keller, Legislative Director

Last Update: June 21, 2010 at 3pm

HB 537 – Consumer Protections

Rep. Lang (D – Skokie)/Sen. Lightford (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Sets rates for all payday and consumer installment loans. Prevents the cycle of debt caused by frequent refinancing. Re-establishes lending based on a borrower's ability to repay. Provides commonsense protections to all borrowers, regardless of which loan store they walk into. Creates a fully amortizing payday product, with no balloon payment, to meet the needs of credit-challenged borrowers. Keeps loans repayable by limiting monthly payments to 22.5% or 25% of a borrower's gross monthly income. Eliminates additional fees such as post-default interest, court costs, and attorney's fees. Sets reasonable rates of 36% to 99% for longer-term consumer installment loans. Sets a minimum loan term to ensure that borrowers have enough time to repay the loan. Keeps loans repayable by limiting monthly payments to 22.5% of a borrower's gross monthly income. Eliminates balloon payments. Ends the current practice of penalizing borrowers for paying loans off early.

5/5/10 – Passed Senate 58-1-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House 108-1-1. Passed both chambers.

6/17/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 859 – FY 2011 Budget

Rep. Hannig (D – Gillespie)/Sen. Trotter (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Contained re-appropriations from last year's capital projects bills. It also contains the operating budget for FY11. Effective July 1, 2010, reduces state government operations spending by 5%. Appropriates \$26 billion GRF and \$30.8 billion Operating State Funds/Federal Funds; combined with HB 991, makes no reductions to P-20 education funding.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 31-26-0.

5/25/10 – Passed House 66-50-0. Passed both chambers.

HB 4644 – Pensions

Rep. Poe (R – Springfield)/Sen. Bomke (R – Springfield)

SUPPORT

Amends the IMRF Article of the Illinois Pension Code. Allows a sheriff's law enforcement employee or elected county officer to establish creditable service and earnings credit for periods of furlough beginning on or after July 1, 2009 and ending on or before June 30, 2010.

3/3/10 – Passed House 115-0-1.

5/5/10 – Passed Senate 53-0-0.

5/24/10 – Passed House on concurrence 81-28-2. Passed both chambers.

HB 4649 – Alternative Method for ICC Approval of Electric Transmission Lines

Rep. Reitz (D – Sparta)/Sen. Haine (D – Alton)

SUPPORT

Under current law, public utilities must obtain approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) to construct any transmission line that has a voltage rating of 100kV or more and is longer than one mile. This legislation will retain the traditional transmission line approval process, but would also provide an alternative procedure for transmission line approval that would require:

- the ICC to expedite its decision within 150 days of the filing, with the possibility of a 75 day extension;
- the public utility seeking approval of a transmission line to pay a \$100,000 application fee with each filing to fund additional ICC resources needed to implement the expedited process;
- the public utility to satisfy the same criteria for obtaining approval of a transmission line that exists under the state's current laws and regulations; and
- require the public utility to pay to each county in which the transmission line is constructed a one-time construction fee of \$20,000 per mile of transmission line constructed in that county.

2/24/10 – Passed House 108-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-0.

5/4/10 – House concurs 115-0-0.

6/2/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4658 – Credit History/Employment

Rep. Franks (D – Woodstock)/Sen. Harmon (D – Oak Park)

SUPPORT

Prohibits employers from checking a potential employee's credit history and further outlaws denying employment to those with poor credit histories. Provides for a civil action remedy in circuit court for job seekers or current employees that are discriminated against because of their credit history. Allows certain financial institutions and state agencies to perform extensive background checks, including credit checks, in certain circumstances.

3/25/10 – Passed House 89-24-0.

5/4/10 – Passed Senate 41-12-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House 101-10-0. Passed both chambers.

HB 4673 – Fees for Unmarked Trucks

Rep. D'Amico (D – Chicago)/Sen. Munoz (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Provides that a construction contractor or subcontractor operating second division vehicle commercially in this State that fails to display on the side of the vehicle or its trailer the name of the company for which it is employed is guilty of a petty offense with a fine of not less than \$500 (instead of a petty offense with a fine not to exceed \$100).

2/16/10 – Passed House 70-38-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 32-20-1. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 4782 – Insurance Coverage for Dependents

Rep. Mautino (D – Spring Valley)/Sen. Haine (D – Alton)

Monitor

Provides that the provisions of the code concerning dependent coverage do not apply to short-term travel, disability income, long-term care, accident only, or limited or specified disease policies.

2/18/10 – Passed the House 112-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 4797 – Wind Farms

Rep. Mautino (D – Spring Valley)/Sen. Harmon (D – Oak Park)

SUPPORT

Extends the method of tax assessment on wind farms to 2016 (currently 2011).

3/18/10 – Passed House 114-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 4818 – Upper Mississippi International Port District

Rep. Sacia (R – Freeport)/Sen. Bivins (R – Dixon)

Monitor

Allows registered voters of a county included in the Upper Mississippi International Port District to petition the local election authority (now, State Board of Elections) requesting the question of whether the county should be disconnected from the District to be placed on a ballot. Effective immediately.

3/17/10 – Passed House 115-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4820 – School Bus Driver Records

Rep. William Davis (D – Chicago)/Sen. Sandoval (D – Cicero)

Monitor

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code and Criminal Code of 1961. Provides that in addition to existing requirements, applicants for a school bus driver permit must not have been convicted of aggravated reckless driving or driving while under the influence of alcohol, other drugs, intoxicating compounds or any combination thereof (current law contains a denial of school bus permit for driving while intoxicated).

3/4/10 – Passed House 110-1-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4842 – Primary Election Voter Guide

Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)/Sen. Sandoval (D – Cicero)

SUPPORT

Requires (now, permits) the State Board of Elections to publish an Internet voters' guide before each general primary in the same manner that the board does before each general election.

2/17/10 – Passed House 108-0-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 49-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4873 – School and Commercial Bus Permits

Rep. William Davis (D – Chicago)/Sen. Hutchinson (D – Chicago Heights)

Monitor

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Adds luring of a minor, solicitation of a sex act, aggravated battery of a senior citizen, cyberstalking, arson, use of a weapon, and meth use offenses to the list of existing offenses that disqualify a person for a school bus driver permit or a commercial driver's license. Effective immediately.

3/4/10 – Passed House 111-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4927 – Video Gaming at Truck Stops

Rep. Lang (D – Skokie)/Sen. Link (D – Lake Bluff)

Monitor

Video machines at truck stops and Limited Liability Company (not defined in the bill) is already in place, this bill would license and tax places that have such machines. This would allow those machines to pay out one, five, ten, and 25 cents. Revenues dedicated to capital projects.

5/5/10 – Passed Senate 42-11-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House on concurrence 81-26-5. Passed both chambers.

6/17/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 4987 – Rail Safety

Rep. Holbrook (D – Belleville)/Sen. Haine (D – Alton)

SUPPORT

Increases the penalty to a Class 4 felony for willfully placing an object or objects on active railroad tracks or railroad right of way which would adversely affect safe railroad operations.

3/11/10 – Passed House 112-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 5120 – School Bus Drivers

Rep. Rose (R – Charleston)/Sen. DeLeo (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Provides that a school bus must contain either an operating cellular radio telecommunication device (cell phone) or two-way radio (rather than just a two-way radio) while the school bus driver is in possession of a school bus and provides that the cell phone or two-way radio must be turned on and adjusted in a manner that would alert the school bus driver of an incoming communication request.

2/25/10 – Passed House 108-0-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 52-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5154 - FOIA Trailer Bill

Rep. ChapaLaVia (D - Aurora)/Sen. Lightford (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Amends the Personnel Record Review Act. Prohibits the disclosure of public employee performance evaluations under the Freedom of Information Act.

3/11/10 – Passed House 70-39-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 45-9-1. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5262 – Pensions

Rep. Hatcher (R – Yorkville)/Sen. Bomke (R – Springfield)

SUPPORT

Allows state employees who were laid off the ability to purchase back the time spent on layoff once they are called back to work.

3/4/10 – Passed House 79-32-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 53-0-1. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5513 – Sprinklerfitters

Rep. Rita (D – Blue Island)/Sen. Martinez (D – Chicago)

Neutral

Amends the Criminal Code of 1961. Provides that a person is guilty of identity theft when applying for a building permit and uses a license number of a fire sprinkler contractor that the applicant knows will not be doing work on the project. Class 4 felony.

3/24/10 – Passed House 115-0-0.

5/4/10 – Passed Senate 59-0-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House 111-0-0. Passed both chambers.

HB 5514 – Roofing Contractors

Rep. Rita (D – Blue Island)

SUPPORT (Roofers, AFL-CIO)

Amends the Illinois Roofing Industry Licensing Act. Adds that a person is guilty of identity theft, if in the course of applying for a building permit, they provide a license number of a roofing contractor who will not do the work on the project. Class 4 felony. Effective Immediately.

3/26/10 – Passed House 86-7-0.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0.

5/4/10 – Motion to concur passed House 114-2-0. Passed both chambers.

6/2/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5664 – Fraternity/Sorority Housing Fire Safety

Rep. Burke (D – Chicago)/Sen. Frerichs (D – Champaign)

SUPPORT

Creates the Greek Housing Fire Safety Act. Fire sprinklers are required in the construction of new fraternity or sorority houses on an university/college campus after January 1, 2011, and all fraternity and sorority houses in the state by January 1, 2019.

3/12/10 – Passed House 97-4-2.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 39-12-0. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5668 – Firefighters

Rep. Dugan (D – Kankakee)/Sen. Hutchinson (D – Chicago Heights)

SUPPORT

Amends the Firemen's Disciplinary Act. Adds to the definition of "fireman" a person who is a paramedic employed in a unit of local government and an EMT employed in a unit of local government. Effective immediately.

3/12/10 – Passed House 86-15-1.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/10/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0922

HB 5712 – Railroad Track Equipment

Rep. Nekritz (D – Des Plaines)/Sen. Sandoval (D – Cicero)

SUPPORT

Requires vehicles and pedestrians to yield at rail crossings for approaching railroad track equipment in the same manner as the law requires for approaching trains.

3/2/10 – Passed House 102-0-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 57-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5820 – Election Nomination

Rep. Lang (D – Skokie)/Sen. Raoul (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor must run as a team for nomination in a General Primary election.

3/12/10 – Passed House 90-5-3.

4/27/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/26/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 5854 – Illinois Finance Authority

Rep. Colvin (D – Chicago)/Sen. Clayborne (D – East St. Louis)

SUPPORT

Allows multistate financing of non-profit federally tax exempt projects. Will not use state resources or state debt. Helps keep the IFA as a self-funded agency and ensure state policies are being followed in IFA funded projects.

3/12/10 – Passed House 69-26-0.

4/28/10 – Passed Senate 32-15-2. Passed both chambers.

5/27/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 5873 – Fire and Police Pensions

Rep. Flider (D – Decatur)/Sen. Link (D – Lake Bluff)

Monitor

As written and amended, HB5873 would allow local governments to defer the employer share of pension payments according to a “rolling amortization” formula. In the process these cities and villages would save taxpayers millions of dollars while still helping public safety employees maintain the integrity of pension funds. A key component of HB5873 is an amendment, strongly supported by the AFFI, that simply builds an enforcement mechanism into the process. Beginning in 2015, local governments that continue to fail funding firefighter pensions at equitable levels could have state funding withheld. That funding would be commensurate to the shortfall amount not paid into the fund by the local government.

Inexplicably, the coalition of local governments that originally drafted House Bill 5873 announced they would oppose their own measure if the funding guarantee was included in the legislation. To be clear, paying an obligation is not a penalty. Paying an obligation is the way responsible people live their lives.

5/7/10 – Third reading in Senate. Amendments for pension not yet adopted.

HB 5956 – Line of Duty Processing

Rep. Dugan (D – Kankakee)/Sen. Hutchinson (D – Chicago Heights)

SUPPORT

Provides that the person filing a claim for compensation under the Line of Duty Compensation Act, for a firefighter killed, shall have access, on a timely basis and in an efficient manner, to all information related to the court's consideration, processing, or adjudication of the claim.

3/16/10 – Passed House 113-0-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 57-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/10/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0923

HB 6017 – Chicago Schools

Rep. Colvin (D – Chicago)/Sen. Hendon (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Provides that each local school council shall consist of the 12 (instead of 11) voting members, which shall include one member who is an employee of the school district employed and assigned to perform the majority of his or her employment duties at the attendance center who is not a teacher. Provides that in each secondary attendance center, the local school council shall consist of 13 (instead of 12) voting members, which shall be 12 (instead of 11) voting members and one full-time student member. Specifies the manner in which the non-teacher employee member is appointed to a local school council.

3/17/10 – Passed House 116-0-0.

5/4/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/2/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 6065 – School Nurse/Insulin Injections

Rep. Cross (R – Oswego)/Sen. Steans (D – Chicago)

OPPOSE

Allows an unlicensed person, without liability in schools to care for diabetic students including administering insulin, in essence alters state statute to replace the need for a school nurse.

3/26/10 – Passed the House 104-1-2.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 34-8-3.

5/3/10 - Motion to concur in House passes 109-2-2.

6/1/10 – Sent to Governor

HB 6077 – Election Code

Rep. Nekritz (D – Des Plaines)

Monitor

Authorizes use of the Special Write-in Absentee Voter's Blank Ballot with respect to any election at which federal officers are nominated or elected (now, only at a general election at which federal officers are elected). With respect to absentee voting by military, overseas, and non-resident voters, (i) provides that military dependents need not have lived in Illinois, (ii) permits all categories of voters to apply for ballots by facsimile or electronic transmission (now, only military voters), (iii) requires election authorities to deliver ballots in person, by mail, or by facsimile or electronic transmission as requested by the voter if the election authority has the capability (now, delivered in person or by mail), (iv) defines "electronic transmission" to include electronic mail and the Internet, and (v) authorizes the Governor or the executive director of the State Board of Elections to modify registration and voting procedures during a military deployment or an emergency declared by the Governor or the U.S. President.

3/17/10 – Passed House 115-0-0.

4/29/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-1. Passed both chambers.

5/28/10 – Sent to Governor.

HB 6112 – Prevailing Wage

Rep. Flider (D – Decatur)/Sen. Haine (D – Alton)

SUPPORT (Teamster initiative, AFL-CIO)

Requires payment of prevailing wage to and from (currently just to work site) a work site when hauling aggregate materials.

3/18/10 – Passed House 71-43-0.

5/7/10 – Referred to Senate Assignments.

HB 6202 – Renewable Energy

Rep. Burns (D – Chicago)/Sen. Harmon (D – Oak Park)

SUPPORT

Amends the Illinois Power Agency Act. Provides that, of the renewable energy resources procured using moneys in the Illinois Power Agency Renewable Energy Resources Fund and those renewable energy resources procured to meet the renewable portfolio standard, at least the following specified percentages shall come from photovoltaics on the following schedule: 0.5% by June 1, 2012; 1.5% by June 1, 2013; 3% by June 1, 2014; and 6% by June 1, 2015 and thereafter.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House on concurrence 94-19-0. Passed both chambers.

HB 6349 – Illinois Preference Act

Rep. Beiser (D – Alton)

SUPPORT

The Illinois AFL-CIO has been part of a working coalition for the past four months regarding upgrading the Illinois Preference Act. There are two laws in the Illinois Legislative Compiled Statutes regarding high unemployment for workers on public work projects. One has been ruled unconstitutional and the other has been rendered unenforceable by the Illinois Supreme Court, holding employees of the Illinois Department of Labor personally liable if mistakes are made. This legislation would state that whenever unemployment in the State of Illinois has exceeded 5% as measured by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, public works projects must employ at least 90% Illinois workers on the project. Creates a private right of action for enforcement, with up to \$500 per day for a violation. Provides any interested party may file a complaint. Illinois Laborer is defined as an individual who has resided in Illinois for at least 30 days. Each violation is liable for a penalty of \$1,000 per person per day, \$5,000 for a second violation and \$15,000 for a third or subsequent violation.

3/25/10 – Passed House 107-5-0.

5/4/10 – Passed Senate 54-0-0.

5/26/10 – Passed House on concurrence 112-1-0. Passed both chambers.

6/16/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0929.

HJR 83 - State Financial Crisis

Rep. Ford (D - Chicago)

Monitor

Creates the 2010 State Financial Crisis Task Force. Provides that the State Financial Crisis Task Force is established within the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to address means of cutting costs and obtaining more revenue.

3/17/10 – Passed House 110-4-1.

HJR 101 – McPier Exposition Task Force

Speaker Madigan (D – Chicago)/President Cullerton (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Creates the Joint Committee on the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority to examine and recommend ways to improve the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority's operational stability and profitability. The task force will consist of sixteen General Assembly members, chaired by Speaker Madigan and Senate President Cullerton.

2/24/10 – Passed House 113-0-0.

3/3/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-1.

HJRCA 50 – Abolish Office of Lieutenant Governor

Speaker Madigan (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Proposes to amend the Executive Article of the Illinois Constitution. Eliminates the office of Lieutenant Governor, beginning with the term of office otherwise commencing in 2015. Effective upon being declared adopted.

5/2/10 – Passed House Executive Committee 8-0-3. Second Reading. TABLED

HR 551 - Federal Assistance

Rep. Ford (D - Chicago)

SUPPORT

Urges Congress to provide financial assistance to states so that state governments will be able to address budget deficits.

3/17/10 – Resolution Adopted by Voice vote.

HR 569 - Healthcare Reform

Rep. Ford (D - Chicago)

SUPPORT

Urges the President and Congress to enact comprehensive health care reform.

3/17/10 – Passed House 62-51-1.

HR 720 – Collective Bargaining

Rep. Jim Durkin (R – Countryside)

OPPOSE

Urges the repeal of the Executive Order 2009-15, which allows collective bargaining rights by individual providers of home-based support services. The Home-Based Services Program provides services to individuals with sever disabilities who need to help with daily living activities in order to remain in their communities and live as independently as possible.

4/28/10 – Failed in House State Government 4-8-0.

HR 1046 – Worker Memorial Resolution

Rep. D'Amico

SUPPORT

Declares April 28, 2010 as worker memorial day in Illinois. Recognizes all those workers who have died on the job.

4/28/10 – Passed House 111-0-0.

HR 1129 – Production of C-17 Globemaster Planes

Rep. Hoffman (D – Collinsville)

SUPPORT (Machinists, AFL-CIO)

Urges Congress to pass federal legislation to procure additional C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.

5/27/10 – Resolution Adopted by House.

SB 28 – McPier/McCormick Place

President Cullerton (D – Chicago)/Speaker Madigan (D – Chicago)

OPPOSE

Democratic Leaders pushed legislation to severely restrict work rules, jurisdiction and overtime at Chicago's McCormick Place Convention Center. The legislation superseded collective bargaining agreements and will allow convention exhibitors to do work that has historically belonged to the five unions at McCormick Place (IBEW, Steelworkers, Iron Workers, Carpenters and Teamsters). The Illinois AFL-CIO was opposed to this legislation, because work rules should be negotiated, not legislated. The men and women who work at McPier take great pride in making it one of America's great convention destinations, and this legislation will undermine the quality of work performed.

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5/6/10 – Passed House 93-25-0.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 51-6-1. Passed both chambers.

5/27/10 – Governor Amendatorily Vetoed

5/28/10 – Both chambers override, PA 96-0898.

SB 43 – Retiree Healthcare for Chicago Transit Authority Workers

Rep. Fritchey (D – Chicago)/Sen. Raoul (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Provides that the Retiree Health Care Trust shall be solely responsible for providing health care benefits to eligible retirees and their dependents and survivors upon the exhaustion of the account established by the Retirement Plan for Chicago Transit Authority Employees. Allows CTA retirees to be offered an HMO option at a lower cost than current 90/70% PPO coverage. Clarifies that the actions to balance long-term projected income and expenses must be implemented within 10 years of the measurement of the imbalance. Allows RHCT to provide benefits to individuals with at least 25 years of service who were hired on or before September 5, 2001. Retirees would have to be at least age 55 and have over 10 years of service to be eligible.

5/6/10 – Passed House 74-43-0.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 30-18-0. Passed both chambers.

6/4/10 – Sent to Governor.

SB 49 – Pension Bonding

Sen. Forby (D – Benton)/Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Removes approximately \$35 million from a fund designated for a Baldwin Power Plant in Randolph County where the funding is no longer needed. The \$35 million appropriation will be used by the Clean Coal Development Department to assist in development of clean coal gasification facilities.

5/26/10 – Passed the House 110-1-0.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate 51-1-2. Passed both chambers.

SB 107 – Telecom Re-write

Sen. Bond (D – Grayslake)/Rep. McCarthy (D – Orland Park)

SUPPORT

Legislation seeking to update Illinois' laws to reflect changes in broadband and mobile phone technology. The law dates back to 1985, and was last updated in 2001. AT&T stated that they were having to invest money into antiquated lines under the current law. IBEW #21 sat in negotiations throughout the crafting of this bill. It is labor's hope that with the passage of this bill, more union jobs will be created and maintained in Illinois.

5/5/10 – Passed House 118-0-0.

5/6/10 – Passed Senate 59-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/15/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0927.

SB 326 – Nursing Home Reform

Sen. Steans (D – Chicago)/Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Legislation is designed to overhaul nursing home regulations to ensure great safety and quality of care in nursing homes to provide opportunities for patients to receive care in community and home based settings. The legislation:

- Expands the pre-admission screening process and adds a re-screening component for nursing home residents with serious mental illness to ensure individuals are provided with community options;
- Tightens criminal background checks and screenings of patients with serious mental illness;
- Requires facilities to obtain a new psychiatric rehabilitation certificate before serving residents with serious mental illness and a new behavioral management unit certificate before serving residents who pose a risk to others;
- Raises required staffing ratio to 3.8 hours of skilled care per resident per day (from 2.5 hours) and 2.5 hours of intermediate care (from 1.7) over 4 years;
- Strengthens penalties and fines to nursing homes for failing to meet standards and expands the Department of Public's Health authority to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a facility's license;
- Doubles license fees and mandates surveyor ratios to ensure the Department of Public Health has sufficient resources for needed oversight; and
- Creates a workgroup of advocates, providers, state agencies and the Governor's office to submit a plan for a new provider assessment by November 1, 2010.

5/6/10 – Passed House 118-0-0.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 46-8-0. Passed both chambers.

6/4/10 – Sent to Governor.

SB 355 – Primary Election Date Change

Sen. Demuzio (D – Carlinville)/Rep. Nekritz (D – Des Plaines)

Monitor

Changes the general primary election from the first Tuesday in February of even-numbered years to the third Tuesday in March of even-numbered years.

2/24/10 – Passed the Senate 54-0-0.

3/10/10 – Passed House 114-1-1.

3/17/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0886

SB 375 – Reforms to State Contracting

Sen. Kotowski (D – Park Ridge)/Rep. Walker (D – Arlington Heights)

Monitor

Prohibits the automatic renewal of contracts over \$249,999 and requires that these contracts must be competitively bid upon expiration of the contract.

5/25/10 – Passed House amendment #2 becomes bill 117-0-0.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.

SB 377 – Tax Amnesty/Debt Settlement

Sen. Kotowski (D – Park Ridge)/Rep. Lang (D – Skokie)

Monitor

To generate new FY11 revenues for GRF, creates a Tax Amnesty program; authorizes state agencies to settle, sell, or enter into a deferred payment plan for all past due debt; authorizes the Department of revenue to sell state debt that has been certified as “uncollectible” under current law to one or more outside vendors. Estimated FY11 revenue of \$250 million.

3/18/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-0.

5/25/10 – Passed House 102-14-0, as amended.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate on concurrence 53-1-0. Passed both chambers.

SB 575 – Alexander/Cairo Port District

Sen. Forby (D – Benton)/Rep. Phelps (D – Harrisburg)

Monitor

Creates the Alexander-Cairo Port District Act. Provides that the District shall be governed by a 7-member Board. Governor to appoint 4 members, and local officials to appoint the other 3. Sets forth the appointment and terms of the Board members. Sets forth the powers and duties of the District, including the power to issue certain permits, the power to locate, establish, and maintain a public airport, the power of eminent domain, and the power to issue bonds.

3/12/10 – Passed Senate 41-7-0.

4/29/10 – Passed House 77-39-0.

5/3/10 – Senate concurs 47-1-0.

6/1/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 642 – Public University Borrowing

Sen. Haine (D – Alton)/Rep. Bradley (D – Marion)

SUPPORT

SB 642 provides authorization for the governing boards of each public university to borrow money in anticipation of receiving payments from the State of Illinois. Requires these monies to be repaid within 12 months and provides maximum limits.

3/3/10 – Passed Senate 43-14-1.

5/6/10 – Passed House 87-28-2.

5/6/10 – Motion to concur passes the Senate 43-11-1. Passed both chambers.

6/8/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-909.

SB 1215 – Appropriations Bill/Power Plants

Sen. Trotter (D – Chicago)/Speaker Madigan (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Part of a larger appropriations bill, this legislation includes funding for additional power plants in Illinois. It appropriates \$5 million for a Sangamon County Power Plant, \$1.5 million for a Williamson County Plant, \$5 million to clean up ash ponds in Randolph County, and \$5 million for a plant in Washington County.

5/26/10 – Passed House 68-44-0.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate 35-20-0. Passed both chambers.

SB 1425 – Medicaid Borrowing

Sen. Trotter (D – Chicago)/Rep. ChapaLaVia (D – Aurora)

Monitor

Allows the state to borrow \$250 million to pay Medicaid expenses, which will allow the State to become eligible for \$400 million in federal matching reimbursement funds.

3/4/10 – Passed Senate 36-20-0. Passed both Chambers.

3/11/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0885.

SB 1526 – Lobbyist Registration

Sen. Schoenberg (D – Evanston)/Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Amends the Lobbyist Registration Act by adding to the definition of "official" - members of **any** board, commission, authority, or task force of the state authorized or created by state law or by executive order of the Governor. Requires any person or entity who employs or compensates another person for lobbying to Register under the Act. Sets the registration fee at \$300 annually for each person and entity (was \$1,000 under PA 96-555). For 2010, reports will need to be filed by July 15, 2010 (reporting period of January 1 - June 30, 2010 and by January 15, 2011 (reporting period of July 1 to December 31, 2010). Beginning in 2011 reports will need to be filed semi-monthly. Every 20th day of the month (reporting period of 1st-15th) and every 5th day of the month (reporting period prior month from 16th to the last day of the month).

5/6/10 – Passed the House 116-1-0.

5/7/10 – Passed the Senate 55-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/4/10 – Sent to Governor.

SB 1946 – Two-tier Public Pensions

Senate President Cullerton (D – Chicago)/Speaker Madigan (D – Chicago)

OPPOSE

The pension reform bill (SB 1946) will affect new hires who participate in all public pension systems, with the exception of local police and fire pension funds. It will raise the retirement age to 67 for teachers, raise the vesting period to 10 years, cost of living adjustment (COLA) would be reduced to 3% or half of CPI, whichever is less, at simple interest, not allow retirees to take another state job while collecting retirement benefits from another public pension system, and implement a final salary cap. Police and fire fighter unions continue negotiations with legislators to protect their benefit levels. However, Speaker Madigan stated in his testimony that he would anticipate further legislation looking at their benefits in the near future. Effective January 1, 2011.

3/24/10 – Passed House 92-17-7. Passed Senate 48-6-3.

4/14/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0889.

SB 2093 – STAR Bonds

Sen. Forby (D – Benton)/Rep. Bradley (D – Marion)

Neutral

Would help fund a Marion project using \$120 million in Sales Tax and Revenue Bonds to build a 400 acre, \$380 million entertainment, retail, and restaurant facility. This would redirect sales taxes generated by the stores at the proposed development and use them to pay off bonds for the projects infrastructure. According to the Franklin County Economic Development Corporation, this development would create 6,000 jobs during construction, 5,685 full time jobs upon completion and pump \$756 million into the region.

5/7/10 – Passed House 79-36-1.

5/27/10 – Motion to concur passes Senate 34-17-3. Passed both chambers.

6/3/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 2494 – Tuition Vouchers

Sen. Meeks (D – Chicago)/Rep. Will Davis (D – Chicago)

OPPOSE

Allows parents to obtain public tax vouchers paid for with tax payer money to cover the cost of private schooling. The Illinois Federation of Teachers and AFL-CIO support parental rights to send their children to private or religious schools, however, they oppose the use of public tax funds through

vouchers to do so. The Illinois Constitution forbids the use of public funds for religious education. There is little to no accountability to the taxpayers in the use of voucher money.

3/25/10 – Passed Senate 33-20-3.

5/5/10 – Failed in House 48-66-2. Calendar order of consideration postponed. Referred to Rules.

SB 2534 – Peoria Development

Sen. Koehler (D – Peoria)/Rep. Gordon (D – Peoria)

SUPPORT

Senate Bill 2534 creates a pilot program for historic rehabilitation. The pilot project will be a hotel in the City of Peoria. Under the program, the owner of the property will qualify for income tax credits, based on the amount of expenditures made in the rehabilitation of the property. Peoria is home to the historic Hotel Pere Marquette—a downtown hotel that is part of a larger plan to create a convention and trade show destination in the Heart of Illinois. The planned rehabilitation of the Pere Marquette is one piece of a \$102 million plan to build a world-class hotel, improve parking and enhance our convention center. The plan is expected to create \$160 million in economic activity in the Peoria area and create over 1,000 construction or permanent jobs.

5/25/10 – Passed House 111-4-1.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate 46-7-1. Passed both chambers.

6/19/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0933.

SB 2540 – Home Repair Injuries

Sen. Wilhelmi (D – Crest Hill)/Rep. Thapedi (D – Chicago)

Neutral

Provides that any person who suffers actual damage as a result of a violation of the Home Repair and Remodeling Act may bring a court action under the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. (was over \$1,000)

3/9/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0.

4/15/10 – Passed House 112-0-0.

5/14/10 – Sent To Governor’s desk.

SB 2615 - Community College Borrowing Authorization

Sen. Forby (D - Benton)/Rep. Eddy (D – Hutsonville)

SUPPORT

Amends the Public Community College Act. Provides that for a period of 3 years after the effective date, in order to create, maintain or increase a working cash fund, a community college board may borrow money to fund its day to day operations.

3/10/10 – Passed Senate 50-4-0.

4/21/10 - Passed House 91-24-0.

6/9/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0912.

SB 2630 - Electronic Records

Sen. Steans (D - Chicago)/Rep. Holbrook (D – Belleville)

Monitor

Creates the Government Electronic Records Act. Authorizes and encourages the use of electronic records in the executive branch, rather than hard copy, if appropriate. Creates the Electronic Records Advisory Board, and requires the Board recommend policies, guidelines, and best practices concerning electronic records. Requires State agencies to review the recommendations and take steps consistent with them. Effective immediately.

3/12/10 – Passed Senate 51-0-0.

4/27/10 – Passed House 109-0-0.

5/3/10 – Passed the Senate on Concurrence 48-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/1/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 3004 – Continuation Coverage of Illinois COBRA

Sen. Garret (D – Highwood)/Rep. Osmond (R – Antioch)

SUPPORT

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, passed by Congress in February 2009, set a time frame by which continuation and notice concerning continuing medical coverage (federal COBRA) must be granted for unemployed workers (September 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009). This bill simply tracks with legislation regarding federal COBRA and requires that Illinois shall honor the federal date as well for the state continuation coverage (Illinois COBRA). Federal COBRA requires employers with 20 or more employees to offer continuation packages, while Illinois COBRA covers all employers regardless of size.

3/12/10 – Passed Senate 51-0-0.

4/13/10 – Passed House 112-0-0.

5/17/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0894

SB 3047 – Health Care Implementation Task Force

Sen. Koehler (D – Peoria)/Rep. Flowers (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Amends the Health Care Justice Act. Changes the short title to the Health Care Justice Implementation Act of 2010. Provides that the mission goals of the Health Care Justice Implementation Task Force are to monitor the implementation of the federal health care reforms and make recommendations, to report regarding additional reforms needed to ensure affordable health care, and to assess current programs. Contains provisions concerning reports, public hearings, and research assessments. Effective July 1, 2010.

3/18/10 – Passed Senate 33-21-1.

4/29/10 – Passed House 76-41-0.

5/4/10 - Motion to concur in Senate passes 37-16-0. Passed both chambers.

6/2/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 3089 – Navistar EDGE Tax Credit

Sen. Raoul (D – Chicago)/Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Senate Bill 3089 amends the Economic Development for a Growing Economy (“EDGE”) Tax Credit to allow automobile and truck manufacturing companies to maintain and increase their jobs in Illinois. The EDGE tax credit allows employers that create or retain jobs, under certain criteria, to claim a credit against their corporate income tax liability Navistar (formerly International Harvester), one of the world’s largest manufacturers of trucks and truck engines, intends to consolidate its mid-west research and engineering operations with its international headquarters in a new facility in Lisle, Illinois. In the process, Navistar will create at least 400 new, head-of-household jobs (average salary \$80,000).

5/6/10 – Passed House 117-0-0.

5/6/10 – Passed Senate 57-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/4/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0905.

SB 3146 – Racino/Slots at Tracks

Sen. Trotter (D – Chicago)/Rep. Burns (D – Chicago)

NEUTRAL

Allows Illinois horsemen and racetracks to add electronic gaming, such as slot machines at six Illinois tracks with tax revenue dedicated to capital construction.

5/7/10 – Passed House Executive 11-0-0. Third Reading. Re-referred to House Rules.

SB 3249 – Female/Minority Hiring (CDB Version is SB 3228)

Sen. Sandoval (D – Cicero)/Sen. Burns (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Amends the State Finance Act. Prohibits the granting of State funds for capital purposes unless the grantee has certified that he or she shall comply with the business enterprise program practices of the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act and the equal

employment practices of the Illinois Human Rights Act (applies to grants or loans above \$250,000). Requires that State grantees submit their business enterprise program plans with their grant agreements.

3/17/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0.

4/28/10 – Passed House 111-0-0.

5/3/10 - Motion to concur in Senate passes 46-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/1/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 3291 – Agencies

Sen. Koehler (D – Peoria)/Rep. Colvin (D – Chicago)

SUPPORT

Beginning July 1, 2010, in order to attract and retain a stable, qualified, and healthy workforce, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Healthcare and Family services may reimburse individual community service providers serving individuals with developmental disabilities or an individual intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled for spending incurred to provide improved wages and benefits to its employees serving developmentally disabled individuals. In order to qualify for a reimbursement, a provider or facility must submit to the appropriate agency, before January 1 of each year, documentation of a legally binding commitment to increase spending for the purpose of providing improved wages and benefits to its eligible employees during the next year.

3/10/10 – Passed Senate 38-11-0.

4/23/10 – Passed House 113-0-0.

5/21/10 – Sent to Governor.

SB 3482 – Public-Private Partnerships

Sen. Steans (D – Chicago)

NEUTRAL

Creates the Public-Private Partnerships for Transportation Act. Provides that the Act is intended to promote public-private partnerships for transportation by authorizing the Illinois Department of Transportation (the Department) and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (the Authority) to enter into public-private agreements related to the development, operation, and financing of transportation facilities and to encourage the practice of congestion pricing in connection with toll highways, pursuant to which higher toll rates are charged during times or in locations of most congestion.

3/4/10 – Passed Senate Executive Committee 13-0-0. Third Reading. Deadline extended to 5/7

SB 3494 – Unemployment Insurance

Sen. J Jones (R – Mt. Vernon)/Rep. Phelps (D – Harrisburg)

SUPPORT

Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act. In provisions including certain service performed in agricultural labor in the definition of the term "employment", excludes service performed in agricultural labor by an individual who is an alien admitted to the United States to perform service in agricultural labor pursuant to Sections 214(c) and 101(a)(15)(H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

3/10/10 – Passed Senate 55-0-0.

4/28/10 – Passed House 113-0-0. Passed both chambers.

5/27/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 3568 – Wage Payment and Collection

Sen. Delgado (D – Chicago)/Rep. Hernandez (D – Cicero)

SUPPORT

Establishes procedures for an employee who has not been paid the wage the employee is entitled by the Act to recover by filing a claim with the Department or in a civil action, but not both.

3/18/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-0.

4/28/10 – Passed House 112-1-0.

5/3/10 – Motion to concur passes Senate 46-2-0. Passed both chambers.

6/1/10 – Sent to Governor

SB 3619 – TIF Extension

Sen. Syverson (R – Rockford)/Rep. Winters (R – Rockford)

OPPOSE

Amends the Industrial Jobs Recovery Law in the Illinois Municipal Code. Extends the authority granted to municipalities to establish redevelopment project areas and to adopt tax increment allocation financing to January 1, 2012. Effective immediately.

3/24/10 – Passed Senate 56-0-1.

5/5/10 – Passed House 117-0-0.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate on concurrence 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.

SB 3659 – Illiana

Sen. Hutchinson (D – Chicago Heights)/Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Creates the public private partnership to construct the Illiana Expressway. The expressway is a bi-state agreement to construct a multi-lane toll highway from I-57 to I-65 in Indiana. The expressway could eventually connect I-55 near Wilmington in Will County. This will create thousands of jobs and could impact the development of Peotone airport.

3/17/10 – Passed Senate 57-0-0.

5/6/10 – Passed House 116-1-0.

5/6/10 – Passed Senate 58-0-0. Passed both chambers.

6/9/10 – Signed by Governor, PA 96-0913.

SB 3660 – Emergency Budget

Rep. Currie (D – Chicago)/Sen. Cullerton (D – Chicago)

Monitor

Gives the Governor emergency budget powers to cut budgets and re-appropriate funds as needed.

5/25/10 – Passed House 67-50-0.

5/27/10 – Passed Senate 32-23-0. Passed both chambers.

SB 3683 – River Edge Development

Sen. Holmes (D – Aurora)/Rep. Chapa LaVia (D – Aurora)

SUPPORT

Provides incentives for utilities to partner with local governments and the DCEO to engage in smart growth activities and will greatly assist the renewal of the urban cores in four economically disadvantaged Illinois communities (Aurora, East Saint Louis, Elgin, and Rockford). Estimated to create 570 permanent jobs.

3/18/10 – Passed Senate 48-8-0.

5/6/10 – Passed House 98-19-0.

5/7/10 – Passed Senate 58-0-0. Passed both chambers.

SR 723 – Worker Memorial Resolution

Sen. Koehler (D – Peoria)

SUPPORT

Declares April 28, 2010 as Workers' Memorial Day in the State of Illinois, and honors all of those who have fallen on the job.

4/21/10 – Passed Senate Labor 9-0-0. Resolution adopted by senate.

SR 782 – C-17 Globemaster Planes

Sen. Demuzio (D – Carlinville)

SUPPORT

Urges Congress to pass federal legislation to procure additional C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.

5/27/10 – Resolution Adopted.