



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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*The General Assembly continues its action in Springfield at press time. The Senate will leave Springfield today and return 2 p.m. Monday. The Senate passed a FY13 budget outline (SB 2404, SB 2455, & SB 2461) on Wednesday, however, changes will be forthcoming from the House. Labor remains to be engaged in the Capitol on public employee pensions and responsible bidder provisions under the Prevailing Wage Act. The General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn the spring session on Thursday.*

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Pension Fight Looming

#### Labor-Opposed Bill Likely To Be Called Next Week

The Illinois AFL-CIO and all public employee unions are fully engaged in lobbying House and Senate members regarding public employee pensions. However, neither the legislative leaders nor the Governor will guarantee adequate state contributions into the pensions - the reason the pensions became underfunded in the first place. Labor has proposed solutions, with little success. All of labor remains committed to fair, constitutional and cooperative solutions to the pension funding crisis.

**CALL TO ACTION:** *We urge all union members to immediately contact House and Senate members and urge them to continue negotiating for a fair solution to ensure the solvency of the retirement systems.* It is becoming apparent that the legislative leaders and Governor will run a bill next week that could cut pension benefits for current retirees, most of whom don't receive social security. We will continue to update you as more information becomes available. In other news this week:

**HB 404 (Mautino/Sullivan)** – Eliminates some state mandates on DNR. Expected savings of \$200 million a year. DNR faces a \$22 million shortfall in FY14, and has seen their budget go from \$100 million to \$45 million in recent years, while having additional mandates placed on it. *Monitor - Passed Senate 54-0-0. Back to Senate on concurrence.*

**HB 411 (Madigan/Raoul)** – IDOL initiative to grant authority to apply for federal grant money for other funding opportunities during tough budget times. Allows the Department to utilize college interns to assist with outreach activities to boards and commission staffing. *Monitor – Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.*

**HB 3782 (Ford/Radogno)** - Unlawful for any employer to ask any employee or prospective employee to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to a social networking website where that person maintains an account. *SUPPORT – Passed Senate 55-0-2. Passed both chambers.*

**HB 4022 (Nekritz/Hutchinson)** - Each Class I (UP & BN) and Class II (small carriers) rail carrier must review and update its accident counseling or trauma program filing every three years. *SUPPORT – Passed Senate 53-0-0. Passed both chambers.*

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**AFSCME,  
IBT, SEIU  
Members  
Mobilize**

**WE  
ARE  
ONE  
ILLINOIS**

AFSCME, Teamsters and SEIU members mobilized in Springfield this week to fight for fair pension reform. Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael T. Carrigan addressed AFSCME Council 31 on Monday.

### Illinois Steps Up In Walker Recall Effort

Illinois union members have been pitching in for the Wisconsin recall election and will send even more help in the crucial final days before the June 5 election. Most of the Illinois union members are working Racine and Beloit. Unions such as IBEW, AFGE, ATU, IAMAW, BCTGM, USW, SEIU, UFCW and UAW, as well as labor councils the Chicago Federation of Labor, Northeastern Federation of Labor and Rockford United Labor are all providing volunteers for this important effort. Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett won the primary in early May, setting up a showdown with anti-union Governor Scott Walker.



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## General Assembly... from front page

**HB 4029 (Chapa LaVia/Mulroe)** - Restores current law with respect to the power of a school board to award contracts for work to the lowest responsible bidder. Provides that at no time shall a cause of action lie against a school board for awarding a pupil transportation contract per the standards set forth in the provisions of the School Code concerning the award of contracts to the lowest responsible bidder unless the cause of action is based on fraudulent conduct. Allows for contracts for transportation of pupils to and from school on a year to year basis. *SUPPORT – Passed House 71-46-0. Passed both chambers.*

**HB 4177 (Bradley/Hunter)** - Preserves the collective bargaining rights for DHS's home care and home health workers who function as personal care attendants, personal assistants, and individual maintenance home health workers and who work under the Home Services Program under Section 3 of the Disabled Persons Rehabilitation Act. *SUPPORT – Passed Senate 37-15-0. Back to House for concurrence.*

**HB 5212 (Krezwick/Crotty)** - Public body may notify contractors of revisions in the prevailing wage passing and publishing an ordinance to post a link on their website with the revised rate schedule. Requires notification in contract. *SUPPORT - Passed Senate 56-0-0. Passed both chambers.*

**SB 1849 (Link/Lang)** – Creates a Chicago casino with 4,000 gambling positions such as slot machines or seats at blackjack tables and adds riverboat casinos in Danville, Park City, Rockford, and in Chicago's south suburbs. Each of the new boats and the ten existing ones could have 1,600 positions (was 1,200). Horse racing tracks also will be able to operate slot machines. *SUPPORT - Passed House 69-47-2. To Senate on Concurrence.*

**SB 3318 (Hutchinson/DeLuca)** Grants IDOT the authority to acquire property through quick-take power for the Illiana Expressway. Passage of this legislation is vital to the timely completion of the project. *SUPPORT – Passed House 61-57-0. Passed both chambers.*

**SB 3695 (Frerichs/Hernandez)** - Requires contractors to use the Illinois Department of Labor form when submitting PWA certified payroll records and requires amongst other information, the inclusion of the worker's hours worked, wage rate, overtime wage rate, fringe benefit rates, name and address of each fringe benefit rates. Also requires contractors to submit the annual costs of any fringe benefit provided to their employees. Additionally, it will change the date that contractors file certified payroll forms from the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. *SUPPORT – Passed Senate 30-27-0. To House.*

## Medicaid Overhaul Passes; Cigarette Tax Follows

On Thursday, the House and Senate approved, with bipartisan majorities, the Medicaid eligibility reform and utilization control bill – with the House approving 94-22-1 and the Senate concurring shortly afterward by a vote of 44-13-2.

SB 2840 contains nearly \$1.4 billion in reductions through a mix of enhanced eligibility oversight, benefit reductions, utilization controls, and waste/fraud prevention measures and an additional \$240 million in rate reductions to providers. It potentially removes hundreds of thousands of clients and it will mean less coverage for prescriptions, dental care and eyeglasses, and no coverage for chiropractic or podiatric coverage.

Late Friday afternoon, the House passed the dollar per pack cigarette tax to close the gap along with an enhanced hospital assessment program that will generate an additional \$100 million (including federal match). The final \$300 million is met by the state paying off old FY 2012 bills.

The House also took action on HB 5007, which authorizes Cook County to apply for a federal waiver to collect federal match for adults 133% of FPL in the Medicaid program. HB 5007 passed out of the House by a vote of 62-55-0 and now goes to the Governor.

## Chicago Teachers, IFT Hold Huge Rally

Thousands packed Chicago's Auditorium Theatre inside and out, as the Chicago Teachers Union showed its solidarity and power in a rally and march on the Chicago Board of Education.

CTU President Karen Lewis led the rally and Illinois Federation of Teachers President (and Illinois AFL-CIO Executive Board Member) Dan Montgomery also spoke to the gathering before the march.

“Educators across the country are facing the same corporate-driven policies; educators across the country are fighting for the resources they need and the respect they deserve. But people are paying attention to Chicago, because the CTU is standing up. We have become the epicenter of this struggle,” Lewis said.

### Central Labor Council & Community Services Conference – June 27-29

For more information please visit or contact Amy Nixon at 217-492-2633.

**COPE GOLF OUTING - MONDAY, JUNE 11**

**CONTACT TERRI PAYNE (217) 492-2622**

Call 217.544.4014 For More Information On These And Other Legislative Issues Important To Working People - [www.ilaf-cio.org](http://www.ilaf-cio.org)



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