



## **ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS’ PENSION INVESTMENT FUND Veto Session Summary Report**

The Fall legislative veto session produced a significant number of winners and losers. For additional information please find a summary of legislation below. The Illinois General Assembly passed 21 pieces of legislation over its two-week veto session this fall and approved one amendatory veto from the governor. The following is a summary of some of the major bills passed by both chambers:

### [HB351 \(Tarver\) – Corruption in Office](#)

The bill, which the House originally passed in May 2023, bars an individual convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or misuse of public funds while serving in a public office from ever holding public office in Illinois again. The bill also creates a task force to examine eligibility to hold public office.

Senate amendments to the legislation tweaked who exactly can sit on that task force and made changes to the requirements for public notaries. Under the bill, public notaries of election paperwork are no longer required to journalize their activities. The bill changes the law to no longer require notaries of election paperwork to journalize their activities. The bill passed the Senate unanimously and received just 18 'no' votes from Republicans in the House.

### [HB1358 \(Burke\) - Sunset Omnibus Bill](#)

This bill extends the sunset dates for numerous programs, task forces, reports, and studies. Perhaps notably absent from this and other sunset extension bills was an extension of the Invest in Kids tax credit scholarship program, which provided publicly backed scholarships to low- and middle-income students to attend private schools of their choice.

### [HB2104 \(Delgado\) – Drowning Prevention](#)

The bill adds instruction on water safety and drowning prevention to the safety instruction that students in grades Pre-K through sixth grade receive in Illinois public schools. The materials and resources must come from the American Red Cross, the Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project, or another district-approved source. The bill came as a result of an uptick in drowning deaths of young people. The bill received unanimous support in both the House and Senate.

### [HB2394 \(Morgan\) – Professional Licensing](#)

This bill attempts to address the backlog of occupational license renewals and registrations at the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) by creating a

competitive bid process to procure new software for the department. Individuals from occupations all over the state have been reporting delays of up to six months when trying to obtain, renew, or reinstate a professional license. IDFPR Secretary Mario Treto Jr. recently reported that a long process of attempting to procure new licensing software for the department fell through. This legislation aims to expedite that procurement process.

It also requires the department to extend the expiration date and renewal periods for professional licenses if the agency's secretary finds it necessary. The goal is to ensure that individuals in high-need professions, such as nursing and social workers, can continue to work despite delays in the professional licensing system.

#### [HB2473 \(Yednock\) – Ending Nuclear Moratorium](#)

This bill ends the long-standing moratorium on the development of new nuclear power generation facilities in Illinois. Earlier this year, Gov. J.B. Pritzker vetoed similar legislation in SB76 (Rezin), saying that the bill was overly broad, allowing for large-scale nuclear reactors that rely heavily on public subsidies.

Instead of overturning that veto, Sen. Sue Rezin (R-Morris) and Rep. Lance Yednock (R-Ottawa) opted to introduce new legislation that tightened the scope of the bill, focusing it on small, modular nuclear reactors that rely on still-emerging technologies. The new legislation also tasks the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security with oversight, environmental monitoring, and disaster preparedness protocols to address Pritzker's public health and safety concerns. The bill received bipartisan support in both chambers, with some Chicago Democrats continuing to oppose further nuclear development.

#### [HB2878 \(Hoffman\) – Public-Private Partnerships](#)

The House and Senate voted to accept an amendatory veto by the governor. The governor rejected a provision of the bill that allowed any unit of local government to enter public-private partnerships without any oversight with regard to ethical, campaign finance, or best practice concerns. The veto was accepted unanimously in the Senate, and just four voted against the motion to accept in the House.

#### [HB3641 \(Burke\) – Omnibus Regulatory/Labor Bill](#)

This omnibus bill contains various changes that clean up and tweak existing legislation and programs. Notably, a sunset extension was also removed from the bill relating to penalty enhancements for firearm-related offenses to be dealt with as a piece of legislation. Republicans on the floor supported the bill but also said they support those enhancements that may improve public safety.

The bill also delays the implementation of provisions of the Illinois Day & Temporary Labor Services Act until 2024. Business groups have expressed concern with parts of this law passed on Aug. 4, 2023, as HB2862 (Gonzalez). It requires staffing firms to provide temporary workers equal pay and benefits as workers employed directly by the client employer after 90 days of work. HB3641 delays the calculation of those 90 days until after

Apr. 1, 2024, providing employers and staffing agencies more time to comply with the law.

#### [SB384 \(Feigenholtz\) - EV Chargers at Residences](#)

This bill corrected a drafting error in previously passed legislation on electric vehicle chargers. It clarifies that single-family homes and multi-family residential buildings that have parking spaces constructed after the law's effective date are required to be EV-capable, meaning they have the electrical infrastructure necessary to support an EV charger. The original version of the bill conflated requirements for new structures and existing structures. This bill received Republican opposition in both the House and Senate.

#### [SB385 \(Belt\) - Springfield Schools Eminent Domain](#)

This bill authorizes a "quick-take" exercise of the state's eminent domain powers to secure land for redeveloping Springfield High School. The school district has been offering roughly \$69,000 for the parcel which is appraised at approximately \$60,000, but the landowner has been asking for more than \$200,000. Some Republicans opposed this measure on the floor, arguing it constituted government overreach.

#### [SB584 \(Cunningham\) - Gaming Omnibus](#)

The bill makes four changes within the state's gaming law. It allows funds to be transferred between different accounts for lottery scratch-off games that benefit specific charities. It extends the timeframe that a temporary casino can be open to address a concern in Lake County. It halves the \$10 million in community tax revenue the Rivers Casino in Des Plaines must forward yearly to the state. It finally extends the sunset provision for in-person sports gambling on Illinois-based college games.

#### [SB765 \(Harris\) - Farmer's Reinsurance](#)

This bill addresses changes to the reinsurance market for farmers. Insurance companies traditionally hold reinsurance policies to shore up their financial security in case of an unexpected spike in insurance claims. The bill changes the law to require farm mutual insurance companies to maintain "adequate" catastrophic reinsurance rather than "unlimited" reinsurance. Lawmakers said that up to 50,000 Illinois farmers would likely lose their insurance coverage at the end of the year if not for this change.

#### [SB1559 \(Lightford\) – Cannabis Transporter License Moratorium](#)

This bill places a two-year moratorium on new cannabis transporter licenses at the request of the Illinois Department of Agriculture and creates a two-year fee holiday for existing transporters. The goal is to allow existing smaller, independent transporters to secure contracts and grow their businesses without additional competition and the burden of state fees. In a statement, Gov. J.B. Pritzker said he supports the bill and said it will contribute to creating an equitable legal cannabis system in the state that acknowledges the impact of the war on drugs.

### [SB1699](#) (Cunningham) – Energy Omnibus Sans ROFF

This bill contains the provisions of energy omnibus bill HB3445 (Walsh) except those dealing with giving Ameren the right of first refusal on downstate energy transmission line construction, for which Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued an amendatory veto in August 2023. In lieu of accepting that amendatory veto, the House and Senate passed this bill, which contains various provisions expanding solar energy at public schools, authorizing the Illinois Power Agency to conduct several studies, and directing the Illinois Commerce Commission to hold workshops on thermal energy, among others.

### [SB1769](#) (Ventura) – IDOT EV Requirements

This bill exempts vehicles obtained through the Illinois Department of Transportation's consolidated procurement program from the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act requirement that all government vehicles in Illinois be zero-emission by 2030. That requirement still applies to all passenger vehicles procured by the state, except for law enforcement, emergency vehicles, and those obtained through the IDOT program. Republicans on the floor opposed the bill as part of continued opposition to zero-emission requirements, arguing the standards will make Illinois more dependent on foreign-produced batteries and equipment.

### [SB1956](#) (Martwick) Chicago Police COLAs

This change to pension law brings Chicago Police Officer cost of living adjustments (COLA) into parity with the law for Chicago firefighters and eliminates a confusing bifurcated COLA system for officers that resulted in unfunded liabilities for the city of Chicago. The result, Sen. Robert Martwick (D-Chicago) said on the floor, will bring transparency to the pension system for the city of Chicago and make the actual cost of the pension liability more real and manageable. Changing the system, Martwick explained, was opposed by the city of Chicago's prior administration but is supported by Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration.

Additional bills that passed:

- SB382 (Edly-Allen/Gong-Gershowitz): Trailer bill to clarify definitions in the Civil Remedies for Nonconsensual Dissemination of Private Sexual Images Act
- SB384 (Feigenholtz/Moeller): Trailer bill to the Electric Vehicle Charging Act, which requires EV-capable parking spaces in all new homes and multi-residential buildings, to clarify the law applies to rental units and condo properties.
- SB385 (Belt/Hoffman): Land conveyance in Venice
- SB584 (Cunningham/Didech): Gaming bill that makes technical changes to the process for funding special cause scratch-off games, allows the Gaming Board to extend temporary casino in Waukegan, and changes the timeline for payments to Des Plaines.
- SB690 (Castro/Didech): Validates certain tax levies for community mental health boards to ensure that local referenda previously passed are effective; more [here](#)

- SB696 (Aquino/Huynh): Extends the authority of several tax increment financing districts
- SB765 (Harris/Jones): Changes concerning farm mutual insurance
- SB767 (Fine/Manley): Amends the Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act to require a 30-day return on hearing instruments
- SB950 (Bryant/Friess): Land conveyance in Chester
- SB1559 (Lightford/Ford): Imposes a moratorium on additional cannabis transporter licenses until 2027, and waives fees paid by existing transporters until 2027
- SB1629 (Martwick/Kifowit): Firefighter pension bill
- SB1699 (Cunningham/Walsh): This contains the language of the energy omnibus bill that was amendatorily vetoed by the Governor without the controversial right of first refusal for Ameren. The bill requires the ICC to hold stakeholder workshops and requires Illinois Power Agency to conduct studies on offshore wind projects, energy storage systems, and underground transmission lines. It also clarifies that solar projects by school districts can be on any school property (not just the building).
- SB1769 (Ventura/Hoffman): Requires vehicles owned by a governmental unit must either be a manufactured zero-emission vehicle or converted into a zero-emission vehicle
- SB 1956 (Martwick/Slaughter): Chicago police pension bill; more [here](#)
- SB1988 (Castro/Burke): Clarifies the process for property tax appeal if a change is made by the assessor absent a complaint by the property owner
- HB351 (Tarver/Harmon): Creates a Task Force to Review Eligibility to Hold Public Office and clarifies provisions concerning notaries and what information must be retain for purposes of petitions
- HB1358 (Burke/Glowiak Hilton): Omnibus bill extending dozens of laws scheduled to sunset or reporting deadlines.
- HB2104 (Delgado/Villivalam): Safety education for K-6 must include evidence-based water safety instructional materials and resources
- HB2394 (Morgan/Glowiak Hilton): Allows for an alternative procurement process for the provision of licensing system for IDFPR and allows IDFPR to issue extensions of licenses and waive fees
- HB2473 (Yednock/Resin): Lifts Illinois' moratorium on nuclear plants; this is language similar to SB76, which was vetoed by the Governor, with changes agreed to by the Governor
- HB2878 (Hoffman/Castro): Procurement omnibus; the General Assembly accepted the Governor's amendatory veto limiting authorization of public-private partnerships for local transportation projects
- HB3641 (Burke/Cunningham): Omnibus bill making changes to numerous state laws, including a provision related to equal pay for temporary workers

Despite a fairly large number of winners, there were some issues that did not pass both chambers. Each chamber passed their own version of a Chicago school board map, but could not agree on a final version. The Senate passed two bills related to vetoes that were not considered by the House: (i) prohibits employers from voluntarily using E-Verify program (SB508), and (ii) requires ISBE to procure a contract for Halal/Kosher food (SB457). The Senate also passed a new regulatory framework for pawnbrokers, but it

wasn't considered by the House. The House passed a few bills that weren't considered by the Senate, including Speaker Welch's bill authorizing legislative staff to unionize, a property tax omnibus intended to address the veto of HB2507, and legislation to clarify that grants from DECO are not taxable events.

**103<sup>rd</sup> 2024 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY IMPORTANT SESSION DATES**

- I. January 16<sup>th</sup> Spring Session Convenes
- II. January 19<sup>th</sup> House & Senate LRB Requests
- III. February 9<sup>th</sup> House & Senate Bill Introduction Deadline
- IV. February 9<sup>th</sup> LRB Amendment Request Deadline Convenes
- V. February 21<sup>st</sup> Governor's Budget & State of the State Address