



TO: Law & Government/Liquor Committee
FROM: Alicia Schueller, Director of Public Affairs
RE: Legislative Report
DATE: March 22, 2024

MEMORANDUM

DEADLINES AND PROCEDURAL ITEMS

The House deadline for bills to leave committee is April 5, and the third reading deadline is April 19. The Senate third reading deadline is April 12.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

According to Congressman Schneider's office, Community Funding and Congressionally Directed Spending request opportunities will open "imminently." I have been working closely with the Sheriff's Office to prepare for our Community Funding Project request for the development of the Police Social Work headquarters in the Old Cary Village Hall. Following advice from Senator's Duckworth's Office in Washington, we are also exploring Department of Justice grant opportunities before making our ask. The Division of Transportation intends to submit Community Funding Project requests to Congressman Schneider for the Midwest Interstate Trail and to Congressman Foster for the Lakewood Road project.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

On March 22, Rep. Ness convinced the Police & Fire Committee to approve HB 5444, the bill adding the McHenry County Sheriff's Office to the State's Co-Responder Pilot Program and acquiring funding for the program. The bill acquired 7 co-sponsors on that same day- Ugaste, Kelly, Benton, Gill, Canty, Stuart and Hanson. It is now ready for second reading. The Illinois Sheriff's Association, Chairman Buehler, Member Althoff, Sheriff Tadelman and Chalen Daigle all filed witness slips in support of the bill.

IML is weighing three options regarding the Governor's 1% grocery tax elimination proposal. The first, which is IML's preference is leave the tax in place. The second is Senator DeWitte's Bill, SB 3725. The third option will enable local governments to implement their own tax. Options 1 and 3 have been discussed the most. The Councils of Government are asking legislators not to eliminate the tax. Other bills of interest are included below.

- **SB 3725: USE/OCC TX-GROCERIES (DeWitte) 2/9/2024 Referred to Assignments**
18 out of 19 Republican Senators support this bill.
Amends the Use Tax Act, the Service Use Tax Act, the Service Occupation Tax Act, and the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act. Provides that, beginning on July 1, 2024, certain food, drugs, and medical appliances that were taxed at the rate of 1% shall be exempt from the taxes

under those Acts. Provides that certain amounts shall be transferred from the General Revenue Fund to certain local tax funds. Effective immediately.

- **HB 4455:** Inc TX-LGDF Transfers (DeLuca) 3/8/2024 To Revenue-Income Tax Subcommittee
Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Increases the amount transferred from the General Revenue Fund to the Local Government Distributive Fund. Effective immediately.
- **HB 5146:** Short-Term Rental Tax Act (Evans) 3/8/24 To Sales & Other Taxes Subcommittee
Creates the Short-Term Rental Occupation Tax Act. Imposes taxes upon short-term rental transactions facilitated by a hosting platform. Provides that one tax is imposed at the rate of 5% of 94% of the gross rental receipts from the transaction. Provides that an additional tax is imposed at the rate of 1% of 94% of the gross rental receipts from the transaction. Provides that operators of short-term rentals shall obtain a business license from the Department of Revenue. Amends the Counties Code and the Illinois Municipal Code to make conforming changes. Effective immediately.
- **HB 5190:** HWY CD-Lapsed Funds (Hammond) 2/9/2024 Referred to House Rules
Amends the Illinois Highway Code. Provides that the allocation to road districts shall be made in the same manner and be subject to the same conditions and qualifications as are provided by Section 8 of the Motor Vehicle Tax Law with respect to the allocation to road districts of the amount allotted from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund for apportionment to counties for the use of road districts, but no allocation shall be made to any road district that has not levied taxes for road and bridge purposes in such a manner that is eligible for allotment of Motor Fuel Tax funding pursuant to the Motor Fuel Tax Law. Provides that any funds allocated to a county that are not obligated within 48 months shall be considered lapsed funds and reappropriated in the same fund. Provides that the lapsed funds shall be used to provide additional monetary assistance to townships and road districts that have insufficient funding for construction of bridges that are 20 feet or more in length under the Code. Requires the Department of Transportation to adopt rules to implement the provisions.

Wind and Solar Bills:

The next Wind and Solar Facility Taskforce meeting through ISACo will be at 2:00 p.m. on April 4. Legislation that has moved beyond the Rules and Assignments Committees is listed below.

- **HB 4037:** Counties CD Solar & Wind Energy (Miller) 3/22/2024 To Clean Energy Subcommittee
Provides that a commercial wind energy facility owner or solar energy facility owner must file a land reclamation plan and a recycling plan with the Department of Agriculture prior to the required public hearing on the siting of a facility. Provides that the land reclamation plan must outline how the property on which a facility has been constructed will be returned to the state the property existed prior to the construction of the facility upon removal of the facility. Provides that the recycling plan must outline how the material used to construct the facility will be recycled. Provides that a commercial solar energy facility may not be sited on property where the property's soil's crop productivity index is greater than 110. Effective immediately.
- **HB 4135:** County-Solar Facility Setbacks (DeLuca) 2/7/2024 Placed on Calendar 2nd Reading
Provides that a county may require a commercial solar energy facility to be sited 500 feet (rather than 50 feet) to the nearest point on the property line of a nonparticipating property and 500 feet (rather than 150 feet) from the nearest point on the outside wall of an occupied community building or dwelling on nonparticipating properties.
- **HB 4551:** CNTY CD-Wind & Solar Facilities (Yednock) 2/28/2024 Assigned to Labor & Commerce
Provides that a county may deny a permit for a commercial solar energy facility or commercial wind energy facility, including the modification or improvement to an existing facility, if the work requested to be performed under the permit is not being performed under a project labor agreement with building trades located in the area where construction, modification, or improvements are to be made.