

Item #11:
Village Clerk Schultheis
Legislative Update

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From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]
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IML STATEHOUSE BRIEFING
“On the ground news and insider information!”
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The General Assembly is back in session this week. It is unusual for legislators to return to Springfield so soon after the holidays. The dire state budget situation has put many issues in play as the 96th General Assembly seeks solutions to begin closing a budget deficit that is nearing \$15 billion. Legislative leaders believe that an expanded “lame duck” session of the 96th General Assembly offers a unique opportunity to convince legislators to make difficult votes on critical legislation. These issues potentially include: revenue enhancements, workers’ compensation reform, education reform, Medicaid reform, gaming expansion, prevailing wage, and a taxpayers’ bill of rights. The House is scheduled to convene on January 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 11. The Senate is presently scheduled to convene on January 4, 5, 6, and 11. The 97th General Assembly convenes on January 12.

Pension Reform Enacted: Governor Quinn signed much-needed public safety pension reform legislation into law on Thursday, December 30. The new law became effective on January 1, 2011 as P.A. 96-1495. [Click here](#) for more information about the new law.

LGDF: The General Assembly will be considering legislation to raise revenues for the State. The potential loss of critical LGDF dollars is always an issue of concern for municipal governments when the State is seeking to bolster its revenues. Municipal leaders must remind legislators how important the full share of LGDF revenue is to Illinois communities. [Click here](#) to read more about the potential threat to LGDF revenues.

Workers’ Compensation: The House and Senate have held hearings around the state in advance of taking up workers’ compensation reform. The IML has advocated for municipal governments during these hearings. Legislation has not yet been introduced. [Click here](#) to learn more about the hearings and to access a model letter in support of reform that can be sent to legislators.

TABOR: The House State Government Administration Committee approved [HJRCA 61](#) (Representative Farnham, D-Elgin) by a vote of 10-4 on January 3, 2011. This constitutional amendment would impose spending caps on state government. Known as the Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights (TABOR), the constitutional amendment would limit state spending to the spending level established during the previous year plus the average percentage increase (or decrease) of per capita personal income over the previous five years. A declaration of fiscal emergency by the Governor and a three-fifths vote in both chambers of the General Assembly would be required to exceed the spending limitation. The current proposals would only limit state spending and do not affect local governments. TABOR was adopted by voters in Colorado and applies to all levels of government. The IML will monitor the proposals in the event that changes are made.

Prevailing Wage: The IML is carefully monitoring legislation that would expand the prevailing wage to include truckers involved in the transportation of aggregate materials. HB 6112 (Senator Haine, D-Alton) has been assigned to the Senate Labor Committee, but there is uncertainty if the legislation will be called. More information about HB 6112 can be [read here](#).

New 2011 Laws: The General Assembly and Governor enacted a multitude of new laws that are effective in 2011. [Click here](#) to view these laws. The IML will update this list upon the final adjournment of the 96th General Assembly. A summary of the 2010 legislative year can be [read here](#). This summary will also be updated to reflect final actions taken by the 96th General Assembly.

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