

Item #11:
Village Clerk Schultheis
Legislative Update

David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 3:07 PM
Subject: IML Statehouse Briefing - May 17, 2012

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

May 17, 2012

Just over two weeks remain before the scheduled May 31 adjournment date and legislative activity is beginning to intensify. Even so, both the House and Senate have cancelled session days for this weekend.

The IML Legislative Team focused like a laser on protecting CPPRT revenues during this past week. Considerable resources were allocated toward mobilizing local leaders to engage in this critical fight. Devastating financial diversions have been staved off for now, but communities need to maintain their vigilance against any forthcoming efforts to divert state-collected local government revenues.

Major political fault lines are expected to open next week as the General Assembly begins to move forward with controversial Medicaid cuts and pension reforms. Labor unions are [beginning to mobilize](#) against legislation that would reduce pension benefit levels for existing employees. The Governor's Office is countering this effort with a "[Save Our State](#)" campaign. The IML is joining municipal leaders and organizations around the state to push for the inclusion of municipal pension funds within a broader pension reform bill. Gambling expansion is once again being discussed as a revenue and jobs generator, and a state budget still needs to be cobbled together and approved for the forthcoming fiscal year. Legislative Leaders desire to resolve these very difficult issues by May 31. There is no doubt that things are about to get epic.

IML TV: The IML has [four videos available](#) with mayors discussing how CPPRT diversions would impact their communities. Mayors Spring (Quincy), Houston (Springfield), Ardis (Peoria), and Eisenhower (Danville) describe the disastrous financial consequences that would befall their communities if CPPRT revenue was reduced or eliminated.

CPPRT: Amendments to divert CPPRT revenue from local governments were [not called for a committee vote](#) on Wednesday, May 16. Local governments must continue to oppose the amendments to [HB 3637](#) (Speaker Madigan, D-Chicago) in anticipation of a possible vote at a later date. The amendments could potentially be called on Tuesday, May 22. The financially devastating amendments have [received considerable media attention](#). **The IML Legislative Team thanks the mayors and other local leaders who came to Springfield on Wednesday prepared to testify against CPPRT diversions. IML OPPOSES**

Responsible Bidder: [SB 2643](#) (Rep. Lilly, D-Chicago) would insert the "responsible bidder" provision of the state's Procurement Code into the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act. The bill was moved to Third Reading, but another amendment has been filed by the sponsor. The amendment requires that contractors include the number of hours worked by minorities and females in their estimate of the total number of straight-time work hours for a project. The amendment does not change the IML's opposition to the "responsible bidder"

provision within the bill. The bill would need to be returned to Second Reading for the adoption of the amendment. **IML OPPOSES**

Charitable Solicitations: [SB 3518](#) (Rep. Moffitt, R-Galesburg) requires municipalities and counties to allow charitable solicitation in the roadways if the individuals engaged in the solicitation are police, firefighter, or other public-safety employees. The bill sets certain conditions regarding the groups involved, applications and liability insurance. Obviously, the IML has concerns about public safety and the efficient administration of traffic. But the overriding concern is that this bill would require municipalities to violate the First Amendment by mandating that they give preferential treatment concerning free speech to certain individuals. The resulting constitutional violation could open up communities to civil-rights liability. The bill is presently on Second Reading in the House. **IML OPPOSES**

Debt Collections: [HB 5434](#) (Sen. Haine, D-Alton) sets additional requirements for collecting a debt after a civil judgment has been entered. This bill, as originally drafted, would have interfered with the ability of municipalities to collect fines for ordinance violations. This would have made it more difficult for municipalities to enforce their ordinances. The IML was able to negotiate an amendment with the bill's sponsor and with the Attorney General's Office that exempts municipal ordinance prosecution judgments from the new requirements. The amendment passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously and is presently on Third Reading in the Senate.

Minimum Wage: [SB 1565](#) (Sen. Lightford, D-Westchester) would increase the minimum wage to \$10.55 per hour by 2015 and then index it to CPI for subsequent years. The Illinois minimum wage is currently \$8.25 per hour. The bill was approved in the Senate Executive Committee by a vote of 9-5 and is presently on Second Reading in the Senate. The sponsor desires for negotiations to continue with business interests. Few believe that the bill will be approved by both chambers.

Ham Radio Antennas: [HB 1390](#) (Sen. Luechtefeld, R-Okawville) places restrictions on how municipalities regulate ham radio antennas. The bill requires that local ordinances include language that has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health or safety objective and represents the minimum practical regulation necessary to accommodate ham radio operators. These restrictions are similar to current restrictions found in Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules. According to bill proponents, the FCC rules supersede more restrictive local ordinances. The IML believes the legislation to be unnecessary considering that the FCC rules already establish how a municipality may regulate ham radio antennas. The bill is presently on Second Reading in the Senate. **IML OPPOSES**

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From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]
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May 11, 2012

Mayor Rahm Emanuel managed to put municipal pension reform front-and-center this week. This was no small task, as recent headlines had been dominated by state pension reform issues, the passage of a constitutional amendment to increase the vote threshold for pension enhancements, the ongoing search for \$2.7 billion in Medicaid cuts, efforts to cut state retiree health insurance costs, and movement toward eliminating a program that allows state legislators to award legislative scholarships.

Lawmakers are expected to begin the budget process next week. **At this time there are no known proposals to reduce LGDF revenue.** The IML is proceeding, however, with the assumption that all revenue sources are on the table. Be prepared to act quickly if a threat to local revenues materializes!

Pension Reform Press Conference: Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel was flanked by 30 mayors from across the state during a press conference calling on the General Assembly to advance further municipal pension reforms. [Read our story](#), watch the press conference on IML TV, and [view the pictures](#) on our Facebook Page. Then join the conversation on Twitter under the hashtag #pensionreformnow.

Emanuel Testimony: In case you [missed our story](#) in last Tuesday's Statehouse Briefing, Mayor Emanuel was in Springfield to testify in support of reform for Chicago's pension funds. Following his testimony, the IML [participated in a radio interview](#) on the need for statewide municipal pension reforms.

Responsible Bidder: [SB 2643](#) (Rep. Lilly, D-Chicago) was [approved by the House Labor Committee last week](#) and would apply the responsible bidder provision of the Illinois Procurement Code to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act. The bill would place financial burdens on smaller contractors that would render many of them ineligible to bid on public projects. The consequence would be fewer contractors bidding on projects, less competition, and higher costs to local governments and their taxpayers. The bill is currently on the House Floor. **The Legislative team needs your help to defeat this bill!** Please [send our model letter](#) to House members immediately. **IML OPPOSES**

Charitable Solicitations: [SB 3518](#) (Rep. Moffitt, R-Galesburg) would require counties and municipalities to allow police or firefighters to collect charitable contributions on any street provided that the police or firefighters provide a certificate of insurance. Although many municipalities allow firefighters to collect charitable contributions for their "fill the boot" campaign, it is important that communities are able to maintain safe traffic conditions. **This legislation removes municipal control over municipal streets.** Even if an intersection is declared dangerous, municipalities will not be able to prohibit police or firefighters from standing in the street to collect contributions. **IML OPPOSES**

State Retiree Health Insurance: Both chambers approved a bill to end the free health insurance benefit

for retired state employees. [SB 1313](#) (Speaker Madigan, D-Chicago/Senator Schoenberg, D-Evanston) passed out of the House by a vote of [74-43](#) on Wednesday, and the Senate followed suit on Thursday by a vote of [31-20](#). The bill, which is intended to reduce a state financial obligation that has reached \$880 billion per year, will next be considered by the Governor. Governor Quinn indicated that he intends to sign the bill. If enacted into law, state retirees would be required to pay health insurance premiums that will be established by the Department of Central Management Services and approved by a bi-partisan panel of lawmakers. SB 1313 is viewed as an important component of a broader effort to align state spending with actual revenues. Speculation exists that the roll call in each chamber is predictive of how a pension reform vote will ultimately play out.

Regional Superintendents: [SB 2706](#) (Sen. Haine, D-Alton) would reduce the number of regional superintendents of education from 44 to 35. The bill, which was unanimously approved by the Senate, reflects the work of a panel of lawmakers tasked with recommending reductions and a funding source for the regional superintendents. The panel was created by legislation passed during last years' veto session that also diverted Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT) revenue away from local governments in order to fund the regional superintendents after Governor Quinn cut their funding. The IML opposed last year's CPPRT diversion. While the panel of legislators did not recommend the continued use of CPPRT revenue to fund regional superintendents, the IML will monitor the issue in case a proposal to use CPPRT surfaces.

Tracked Bills: All [bills being tracked](#) by the Legislative Team can be viewed on our website at any time. The page is updated daily to reflect bill status changes.

Social Media: The IML Legislative Team is increasing our usage of Facebook and Twitter to keep our members informed of legislative activity as it happens. We strongly encourage that you follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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