

Item #12:
Village Clerk Schultheis
Legislative Update

David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2012 3:47 PM
Subject: IML Statehouse Briefing - May 3, 2012

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

May 3, 2012

The four biggest stories out of Springfield this week were the final passage of a proposed constitutional amendment to require a three-fifths supermajority to approve pension benefit increases (HJRCA 49), the advancement in the House of a bill to end the subsidy of state retiree health insurance benefits (SB 1313), a vote on state facility closures by legislators that serve on the Commission on Governmental Forecasting and Accountability, and the Senate passage of a bill to end legislative scholarships (HB 3810). While receiving far less media attention, developments also occurred on several other issues of interest to local governments.

IML TV: Today's video features IML President Ray Muñiz and Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey [calling upon state leaders to address the growing municipal police and firefighter pension crisis](#). Governor Quinn has proposed a series of reforms to the 5 state-funded pension systems. Since that time, Chicago representatives have been invited to discuss the City's pension crisis during a "subject matter only" hearing of the House Personnel and Pensions Committee. This meeting is scheduled for May 8. Despite months of repeated requests by municipal leaders throughout the state, the immense problems of the downstate and suburban municipal police and firefighter pension funds are being ignored as legislators turn their attention to addressing the state's pension problem, Medicaid obligations, and state retiree health insurance costs. **IF LEGISLATORS ARE GOING TO FIX THEIR PROBLEMS, THEY MUST FIX OURS! ALL ILLINOIS TAXPAYERS DESERVE TO BE TREATED FAIRLY! CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS AND DEMAND THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BE INCLUDED IN THE PENSION REFORM PROCESS!**

Pension Constitutional Amendment: [HJRCA 49](#) (President Cullerton, D-Chicago/Speaker Madigan, D-Chicago) was approved by the Senate by a vote of 51-2 on Thursday, May 3. [Having passed both chambers](#), the proposed constitutional amendment will go before the voters on the November ballot. **IML SUPPORTS**

Responsible Bidder: The House Labor Committee approved legislation [adding another requirement for public bodies and contractors](#) under the Prevailing Wage Act. [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 IML joined the contractors in opposing the bill during a May 2 Committee hearing. The bill is now on the House Floor. **IML OPPOSES**

PTELL Limitation: In what is good news for local governments, [SB 2862](#) (Sen. Sandoval, D-Cicero) was [not called for a vote in the Senate Revenue Committee](#) on Wednesday, May 2. The bill would limit local revenues in tax-capped jurisdictions. The bill has an extended deadline of May 11 and may be considered next week. **IML OPPOSES**

Meeting Agendas: [HB 4687](#) (Sen. Dillard, R-Westmont) amends the Open Meetings Act concerning agenda requirements. The IML originally opposed the bill, but we have [removed our opposition after the bill was amended](#) in the Senate. The bill is presently on Third Reading in the Senate and must be returned to the House.

News Coverage Round-Up:

[Constitutional Amendment on Pension Benefits Going to Illinois Voters](#) (SJ-R)
[Illinois Senate Passes Ban on Scandal Plagued Scholarship Program](#) (Tribune)
[Bill to Cut Free Health Insurance for State Retirees Advances](#) (SJ-R)
[Illinois Senate Votes Down Pension Measure](#) (Tribune)
[Legislative Panel: Don't Close Prisons, Mental Facilities in Illinois](#) (RR-S)

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David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: IML Statehouse Briefing - April 30, 2012

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

April 30, 2012

This week is the final week to move bills out of substantive committees. House Bills in Senate Committees and Senate Bills in House Committees must be advanced by Friday, May 4.

The battle over the state budget is beginning to heat up. Last Friday, an amendment was introduced to end state health insurance subsidies to retired state employees. [Amendment 6 to SB 1313](#) was initially sponsored by Representative Frank Mautino (D- Spring Valley). Primary sponsorship was changed to Speaker Madigan (D-Chicago) after strong opposition from labor unions surfaced. *Statehouse Briefing* readers are aware that Governor Quinn, [as part of his pension reform proposal](#), has suggested a linkage between the receipt of state health insurance subsidies and an employee's decision to participate in a less expensive pension plan. The state also needs to address growing employee health insurance costs. Ninety-one percent of state retirees have their health insurance premiums funded by the state. And two-thirds of these retirees are enrolled in the state's costliest health insurance option.

IML TV: In today's video, IML Sergeant-at-Arms and Quincy Mayor John Spring [discusses the value of using our LGDF late payment calculator](#) to determine how far behind in months and dollars the state is in making LGDF payments to communities. We strongly urge that you [utilize the calculator](#) and the automatically generated e-mail that can be sent to your legislators urging that they support timely LGDF payments. **Sending these e-mails is a great way to remind legislators of the importance of LGDF revenue to your community as their focus turns toward the state budget!**

PTELL Restriction: [SB 2862](#) (Sen. Sandoval, D-Cicero) would prevent local governments in tax-capped jurisdictions from collecting property tax revenue sufficient to cover their costs if assessed property values declined from the previous year. The bill is likely to be given a hearing in the Senate Revenue Committee on Wednesday, May 2. The IML has prepared a [Fact Sheet](#) about the issue. **The IML Legislative Team needs your help!** Please [contact the legislators that sit on the Senate Revenue Committee](#) and urge that SB 2862 not be advanced. **IML OPPOSES**

Pension Constitutional Amendment: [HJRCA 49](#) (Senate President Cullerton, D-Chicago) would require a supermajority vote before a pension benefit increase could pass the House or Senate. This week presents the final opportunity for the Senate to approve HJRCA 49 ahead of the May 6 deadline for getting the proposed constitutional amendment on the November ballot. The IML has prepared an [Issue Brief](#) on HJRCA 49. **IML SUPPORTS**

Budget Officers: An amendment is being added to [HB 5078](#) (Sen. Althoff, R-McHenry). This amendment would provide that a municipal employee who also serves in the capacity of budget officer can only receive compensation for the highest of the two salaried positions. The IML is asking our members to [review our](#)

[explanation of the issue](#) and inform us of your position.

Internet Sales Tax: A 2011 law requiring internet sales tax collections from online sellers with Illinois-based affiliates is in doubt after a Cook County judge [found the law unconstitutional](#). The State may appeal the decision.

Bills in Committee: The IML Legislative Team is [tracking several bills in committee](#) this week.

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David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [Legislation@iml.org]

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 11:55 AM

Subject: IML Statehouse Briefing - April 27, 2012

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

April 27, 2012

Municipal officials from throughout the state participated in legislative activities on Wednesday, April 25 in conjunction with the IML's Lobby Day.

The General Assembly continued committee and floor action this past week. The deadline for moving bills out of committee is Friday, May 4. Please [consult our Legislative Calendar](#) for important dates and deadlines. Following this week, five scheduled weeks of session remain. At this point in the session, there are no known threats to state-collected local government revenues.

Lobby Day: Based upon the comments we have received, the IML Lobby Day was a resounding success! Attendees believed their time in meetings with legislators as well as networking among their peers was well spent. Pictures from [Wednesday's Legislative Briefing](#) have been posted to our Facebook page. The IML thanks State Representative Elaine Nekritz and State Senator Bill Haine for speaking at the Briefing about pension reform, PSEBA reform, and how to lobby effectively in Springfield.

Pensions: A [proposed constitutional amendment](#) to make it more difficult for the General Assembly to approve pension increases is another step closer to reality. [HJRCA 49](#) (Senate President Cullerton) was approved by the Senate Executive Committee and will next be considered by the full Senate. **IML SUPPORTS**

PTELL Limitation: [SB 2862](#) (Sen. Sandoval, D-Cicero) would prevent local governments in tax-capped jurisdictions from collecting property tax revenue sufficient to cover their costs if assessed property values declined from the previous year. The bill is likely to be given a hearing in the Senate Revenue Committee next week. The IML has prepared a [Fact Sheet](#) about the issue. The IML asks that our members [contact the legislators that sit on the Senate Revenue Committee](#) and urge that SB 2862 not be advanced. **IML OPPOSES**

Responsible Bidders: A bill to add [even more compliance requirements](#) to the Prevailing Wage Act was assigned to a sub-committee. [SB 2643](#) (Rep. Lilly, D-Chicago) would apply the provisions of the "responsible bidder" law found within the state's Procurement Code to local public works projects. The IML urges our members to **contact Representative Lilly at (217) 782-6400** and ask that SB 2643 not be advanced. **IML OPPOSES**

Sales Tax: [HB 5362](#) (Sen. Althoff, R-McHenry) would allow non-home rule municipalities to use non-home rule sales tax proceeds for expenditure on general municipal operations

through 2020. This applies only to taxes approved by a referendum after July 14, 2010. Currently, this additional spending flexibility expires after 2015. HB 5362 was approved by the Senate Revenue Committee on Wednesday, April 25 and will next be considered by the full Senate. **IML SUPPORTS**

Enterprise Zones: Legislation to extend Illinois' Enterprise Zones was [approved by the Senate](#). SB 3688 (Rep. Sullivan, R-Mundelein) is supported by the IML and will next be considered by the House. In the coming weeks, [SB 3688](#) will compete against an alternative proposal for changes to the Enterprise Zone law. **IML SUPPORTS**

Video Gaming: The Video Gaming Act went into effect in 2009. The Illinois Gaming Board is [beginning to make progress](#) in implementing the Act.

Plastic Bag Recycling: [SB 3442](#) (Rep. Tryon, R-Crystal Lake) creates a registration process for manufacturers of plastic bags. After July 1, 2013, all plastic carry-out bags must be labeled with the manufacturer's identity. The bill preempts home rule and specifically prohibits a home rule community from banning plastic bags, regulating the collection and recycling of plastic bags and taxing the collection of plastic bags. SB 3442 was approved by the House Environmental Health Committee on Wednesday, April 25 and will next be considered by the full House. **IML OPPOSES**

Tracked Bills: The Legislative Team is following approximately 100 bills at this time. We want to remind our members that all IML-tracked bills are available for viewing at any time by clicking on the ["Tracked Bills" button](#) on the sidebar of the Legislative Page.

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