

Item #14:
Village Clerk Schultheis
Legislative Updates

David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [IMLLegislation@iml.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 10:21 AM
Subject: Illinois Municipal League Statehouse Briefing - April 16, 2013

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

April 16, 2013

The deadline for moving House Bills out of the House is Friday, April 19. The Senate deadline is Thursday, April 25.

IML Statehouse Preview for the Week of April 15

Watch this [short video](#) summarizing some of the legislative issues that we will be working on this week.

Senator Urges Support for Crime Free Housing Legislation

Senator Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) [participated in an IML TV video](#) to urge municipalities to support his efforts to win passage of legislation permitting non-home rule municipalities to install the same crime free housing program already utilized successfully by home rule municipalities to combat crime. The IML is a strong supporter of Senator Cullerton's continuing efforts on behalf of SB 1155.

ACTION ALERT!

The IML needs your **IMMEDIATE** help with the following three bills. **Let's make a strong and unified push to achieve favorable outcomes for cities, villages, and towns!**

Arbitration Reform: [HB 1490](#) (Rep. Kay, R-Belleville) would require that arbitrators consider the actual revenues collected by a municipality when making binding decisions concerning employee wage and benefit increases. Under current law, arbitrators are permitted to identify where a municipality has additional unused taxing authority. The arbitrator can then award higher wages and benefits based upon this "available" revenue. This results in either **tax increases or service reductions**. The bill is currently on the House Floor and we need a **very strong push** from our members to pass it out of the chamber!!!

Please review our [fact sheet](#) and [call your state representatives](#) today at their **Springfield office** and urge that they support HB 1490. **IML SUPPORTS**

Responsible Bidder: [HB 924](#) (Rep. Hoffman, D-Belleville) would **increase the cost of public works projects**. Fewer contractors would be eligible to bid on public works projects under the Prevailing Wage Act because eligible bidders would be required to demonstrate participation within a United States Department of Labor approved apprentice and training program. Not all contractors participate in such a program. The result would be fewer contractors eligible to bid, less competition, and therefore **HIGHER COSTS** to taxpayers for local projects. If your community is smaller, there may not

even be a local contractor eligible to bid as a result of HB 924. The bill therefore discourages the use of local community businesses. HB 924 is currently on the House Floor. **IML OPPOSES**

[Call your state representative today](#) at their **Springfield office**! We have also prepared a [model letter](#) that you can **e-mail or fax** to your state representative's office.

Police Holding Office: SB 1680 (Sen. Link, D-Waukegan) would allow police officers and sheriff's deputies to hold public office in the same local government in which they are employed. IML opposes the bill because it is a conflict of interest to be both the employer and employee with the same public body. The conflict becomes especially apparent with votes involving collective bargaining, wages and benefits, and police department resources and staffing. The bill is presently on the Senate Floor. **IML OPPOSES**

[Call your state senators](#) at their **Springfield office** and urge that they oppose SB 1680.

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David Lothspeich

From: IML Legislation [IMLLegislation@iml.org]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2013 4:00 PM
Subject: Illinois Municipal League Statehouse Briefing - April 12, 2013

IML Statehouse Briefing



On the ground news and insider information!

April 12, 2013

Both the House and Senate are actively engaged in floor action ahead of their respective deadlines for moving legislation to the other chamber. The deadline for passing bills out of the House is April 19. The Senate deadline is April 25. Committees continue to meet to consider amendments to bills that are on the House and Senate Floors, but not with the same frequency as prior to the March 22 deadline to initially approve bills out of committee.

The IML continues to lobby aggressively on behalf of our members. We are pleased to report that there were **two significant victories** for local governments this week.

House Approves LGDF Direct Deposit

The House approved IML's legislation to require the direct deposit of the local income tax share into the Local Government Distributive Fund for prompt distribution to cities and counties. IML has pursued this bill for several years. We redoubled our efforts this year and saw [HB 961](#) pass with a vote of [109-2-0](#) on Tuesday, April 9.

We would like to thank our sponsor, Representative DeLuca (D-Chicago Heights) for his leadership and determination in helping us to build support for the bill. We also greatly appreciate our members who reached out to their legislators to support the bill. This overall effort resulted in over 60 co-sponsors. HB 961 is a key provision of our "Save Our Cities" agenda. The bill is now in the Senate and has been picked up for sponsorship by Senate President John Cullerton (D-Chicago). We need our membership to begin talking to their state senators to urge that they support HB 961 to end the practice where the state holds back local income tax revenue for several months before finally making the distribution.

PTELL Limitation Defeated in House

The House validated the responsible funding of local government with the defeat of [HB 89](#) (Rep. Franks, D-Woodstock) on Friday, April 12. This legislation would have prevented local governments from automatically collecting basic inflationary increases through property taxes when the assessed valuation of properties remained flat or declined over the previous year. The IML provided information explaining the harmful impact of this legislation to each House member. A broad coalition of local government groups partnered to defeat this bill. The final vote for HB 89 was [43-65-1](#). IML is particularly appreciative of the House members that spoke out against the bill during Floor debate. A similar bill, HB 3041 (Rep. Kifowit, D-Aurora), is on Third Reading in the House. We would anticipate a similar outcome if the bill is called.

The General Assembly took action on several other bills that affect municipal government prior to

adjourning for the week on Friday afternoon.

Responsible Bidder: On Tuesday, April 9, the House Labor and Commerce Committee amended and approved [HB 924](#) on a 12-8 party-line vote. The bill will next be considered by the full House. The [bill as amended](#) by Representative Hoffman (D-Belleville) would require that contractors adhere to the "responsible bidder" requirements of the Illinois Procurement Code. The amendment would result in fewer contractors being eligible to bid on public works projects under the Prevailing Wage Act because eligible bidders would have to demonstrate participation within a United States Department of Labor approved apprentice and training program. The result would be fewer contractors eligible to bid and **HIGHER COSTS** to taxpayers for local projects. If your community is smaller, there may not even be a local contractor eligible to bid as a result of HB 924. IML issued an [Action Alert](#) earlier this week. Please urge your state representatives to oppose HB 924 if you have not yet done so! **IML OPPOSES**

Firefighter Pension Increase: [HB 1375](#) (Rep. Beiser, D-Alton) amends the downstate and suburban firefighter pension statute to increase the survivor benefit for children being taken care of by a guardian. The bill would increase the benefit from 12 percent of the firefighter's monthly salary to 20 percent of the monthly salary. This bill is expected to have a very small cost impact for those municipalities with eligible recipients. The bill was approved by the House on a vote of [111-0](#) on Tuesday, April 9. The bill is being sponsored in the Senate by Senator Kotowski (D-Park Ridge). **IML OPPOSES ALL PENSION INCREASES**

Police Holding Office: [SB 1680](#) (Sen. Link, D-Waukegan) would allow police officers and sheriff's deputies to hold public office in the same local government in which they are employed. IML opposes the bill because it is a conflict of interest to be both the employer and employee with the same public body. The bill was approved by the Senate Executive Committee on Thursday, April 11 by a vote of 10-3. Senator Link stated that he intends to amend the bill. **IML OPPOSES**

Police Hiring Qualifications: [SB 1908](#) (Sen. Barickman, R-Bloomington) would authorize police departments to substitute college education requirements with certain active duty military service. The bill would allow 24 months of active duty service to replace an Associate's Degree and 36 months of service to replace a Bachelor's Degree. SB 1908 was approved by the Senate on a vote of [55-0](#) on Thursday, April 11. Representative Harms (R-Watseka) is sponsoring the bill in the House.

Alternate Bonds: The [House approved HB 983](#) (Rep. McSweeney, R-Cary) by a vote of [101-6-2](#) on Tuesday, April 9. The bill generally reduces the number of signatures needed and increases the number of days over which the signatures can be collected in order to trigger a backdoor referendum on the use of alternate bonds. The bill now goes to the Senate and is being sponsored by Senator Althoff (R-McHenry).

Emerald Ash Borer: [SB 1589](#) (Sen. Frerichs, D-Champaign) provides that the Illinois Finance Authority may administer a program for both the treatment of standing trees and the replanting of trees on certain public lands. Under the bill, municipalities may provide for both the treatment and removal of elm trees infected with Dutch elm disease or ash trees infected with the emerald ash borer on private property if the property owners refuse, after receiving notice, to remove or treat the trees on their property. The Senate approved the bill by a vote of [55-0](#) on Wednesday, April 10. Representative Sacia (R-Freeport) is sponsoring the bill in the House. **IML SUPPORTS**

Tracked Bills: All bills being tracked by the IML are [available by issue category](#). We are currently tracking over 200 bills.

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