



DuPage County

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Summer 2010

End of Session Report 2010

DU PAGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



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During this year's spring legislative session, thousands of bills were introduced. In the end, over 600 pieces of legislation were adopted by the House and Senate and sent to the Governor for his signature.

Major highlights of the session include adoption of: a two-tiered pension system for certain public employees as of January 1st; a complete overhaul of the management of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (agency that runs McCormick Place and Navy Pier); the rewrite of the Telecommunications Act; passage of nursing home reform legislation focused on the improper placement of mentally ill patients in long-term care facilities; and legislation to reform the DuPage Water Commission and repeal the commission's 1/4 cent countywide sales tax as of 6/1/2016.

This report summarizes legislation of interest to county government. To view the actual text of bills, please visit the General Assembly's Website at www.ilga.gov.

State Budget

The final Fiscal Year 2011 budget package adopted by the General Assembly authorizes spending at essentially the same level as Fiscal Year 2010 with a 5% reduction in State Agency operations and also grants broad powers to the Governor to manage State appropriations. The Governor is empowered to transfer funds, sell future tobacco litigation settlement proceeds, and exercise emergency powers to make programmatic changes that can save the State money. Lapse period spending for the current fiscal year was also extended from two to six months, basically permitting the State to withhold payments for up to six months after the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2011).

Two original key provisions of the overall budget however failed to pass. Legislation to increase the State tax on cigarettes by \$1 per pack passed the Senate but not the House and a borrowing plan to pay State pension obligations passed the House but stalled in the Senate. Without these two measures, the State budget as adopted has a \$4 billion operating deficit on top of the \$6 billion in vendor services that the State expects to receive in Fiscal Year 2011 but will not pay until Fiscal Year 2012. Local governments were successful in defeating the Governor's proposal to take 30% of the 1/10 local share of income tax proceeds that would have translated into a \$2.5 million annual revenue loss for DuPage County.

County Issues

Major accomplishments for this legislative session include: the defeat of legislation that would permit the state to assume all local government Recovery Zone Bond allocations as of July 1 (\$115 million for DuPage); elimination of a significant bed tax increase from inclusion under the nursing home reform legislation that would have cost the DuPage Convalescent Center almost \$1 million annually in lost revenues; a partial restoration of probation funding; and the defeat of numerous and costly unfunded state mandates including pension enhancements.

Summer 2010

Bills Adopted by Both Chambers

Bill **HB 2369**

Title **Recovery Zone Bond Allocations**

House Sponsors

Rep. Frank Mautino – Rep. John Bradley – Rep. Donald Moffitt – Rep. Karen Yarbrough

Senate Sponsors

Sen. A. J. Wilhelmi – Sen. David Koehler – Sen. Pamela Althoff – Sen. Rickey Hendon

Synopsis

Authorizes the Illinois Finance Authority to re-allocate Recovery Zone Bond allocations and qualified Energy Bond allocations received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Under ARRA, DuPage County received \$64 million for private development and \$46 million for public infrastructure bonds. The legislation as amended/adopted provides for the re-allocation of only those allocations **voluntarily waived by counties and municipalities**. The original bill permitted the State/Illinois Finance Authority to take ALL allocations as of July 1.

Public Act 96-1020

Bill **HB 4644**

Title **Pension Credit for Unpaid Stipends**

House Sponsors

Rep. Raymond Poe – Rep. Rich Brauer – Rep. Donald Moffitt

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Larry Bomke – Sen. John Jones

Synopsis

Provides that any elected county officer entitled to receive a stipend from the State on or after July 1, 2009 and on or before June 30, 2010, may establish earnings credit for the amount of stipend not received.

Public Act 96-0961

Bill **HB 4836**

Title **Sunshine Commission Act**

House Sponsors

Rep. David Reis – Rep. Tom Cross – Rep. Darlene Senger – Rep. Dennis Reboletti

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Matt Murphy – Sen. Kyle McCarter – Sen. Dan Duffy – Sen. Randall Hultgren

Synopsis

Provides for the appointment by the legislative leaders of a Sunshine Commission, consisting of 4 legislators and 4 public members, to conduct a thorough review of the relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness of each "State executive branch program." Requires the Commission to report its recommendations to the General Assembly within 6 months after the Act's effective date. Requires the General Assembly, by joint resolution, to approve or reject the report within 60 session days after the report is filed. Repeals the Act 2 years after its effective date. Effective immediately.

Governor Amendatory Veto - Adds language authorizing the Governor to appoint 4 members; adds specific qualifications and requires public meetings.

Bill **HB 4945**

Title **Local Government – Joint Investments Support**

House Sponsors

Rep. Sidney Mathias – Rep. Renée Kosel – Rep. Donald Moffitt – Rep. Al Riley

Senate Sponsors

Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi – Sen. David Koehler

Synopsis

Amends the Local Government Debt Reform Act. Permits governmental units to authorize the treasurer of the governmental unit to join with the treasurers of other governmental units for the purpose of jointly investing the funds of which the treasurer has custody. Effective immediately.

Public Act 96-0964

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Bill **HB 5055**

Title **Foreclosure Notification & Rights**

House Sponsor

Rep. Lou Lang

Senate Sponsor

Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi

Synopsis

The bill requires that a foreclosure notice be sent to the municipality or county in which the residential property is located but more importantly, the legislation attempts to remove the rights of defendants in foreclosure cases and transfer those rights to plaintiffs (typically mortgage companies), that could designate the entity to conduct the mortgage foreclosure sale. Typically the courts designate the County Sheriff's Office to conduct these sales as their staffs counsel homeowners as to their rights, options, alternate housing and assist them through a very trying and emotional process, something a private company is unlikely to do.

Governor Amendatory Veto - The Governor delayed the effective date until January 1, 2011.

Bill **HB 5154**

Title **Personnel Record-Evaluation Exempt FOIA**

House Sponsors

Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia – Rep. Paul Froehlich – Rep. William Burns – Rep. Monique Davis

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Kimberly Lightford – Sen. David Koehler – Sen. Emil Jones, III – Sen. A. J. Wilhelmi

Synopsis

Amends the Personnel Record Review Act. Provides that disclosure of performance evaluations of public employees under the Freedom of Information Act shall be prohibited.

Governor Amendatory Veto - Provides that only performance evaluations of state and local peace officers be prohibited from disclosure under FOIA.

Bill **HB 5214**

Title **Veterans & Service Members Court**

House Sponsors

Rep. Michael W. Tryon – Rep. Patricia R. Bellock – Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia – Rep. Thomas Holbrook

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Pamela Althoff – Sen. Maggie Crotty

Synopsis

Authorizes the Chief Judge of each judicial circuit to establish a Veterans and Service Members Court program as a separate court or as a program of a Drug Court within the Circuit. Provides that a defendant may be admitted into a Veterans and Service Members Court program only upon the agreement of the prosecutor and the defendant and with the approval of the Court. Provides for substance abuse treatment of eligible members and provides that a \$10 fee be paid by the defendant on a judgment of guilty or a grant of supervision to be placed in the county general fund to be used to finance the Veterans and Service Members Court.

Public Act 96-0924

Bill **HB 5295**

Title **Municipal Prosecution Fee**

House Sponsors

Rep. William Black – Rep. Al Riley

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Pamela Althoff

Synopsis

Amends the Counties Code. Provides that, in counties under 3,000,000 population, a municipality is entitled to a \$25 fee (now \$10) for each conviction for a violation of the Illinois Vehicle Code or a municipal vehicle ordinance prosecuted by the municipal attorney.

Public Act 96-1186

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Bill **HB 5483**
Title **Open Meetings Minutes**

House Sponsors

Rep. Renée Kosel – Rep. Sandra Pihos – Rep. Jack Franks

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Susan Garrett

Synopsis

Requires that a public body approve minutes of its open meetings within 30 days or at the public body's second subsequent regular meeting. Also requires that a public body make its approved open meeting minutes available for public inspection and on the body's website within 10 days of approval.

Public Act 96-1473

Bill **HB 6178**
Title **County Jail – Medical Expenses**

House Sponsor

Rep. Rich Brauer

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Larry Bomke – Sen. Pamela Althoff

Synopsis

Amends the County Jail Act. Provides that an arresting authority shall be responsible for any qualified (rather than incurred) medical expenses relating to the arrestee until such time as the arrestee is placed in the custody of the sheriff. Effective immediately.

Public Act 96-1280

Bill **HB 6239**
Title **Administrative Adjudication**

House Sponsor

Rep. Robert Rita

Senate Sponsors

Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi – Sen. Louis S. Viverito

Synopsis

Amends the Counties Code to provide that the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will (now home rule counties and counties with a population of 750,000 or more) may provide for an expanded system of administrative adjudication of violations of certain county ordinances.

Public Act 96-1386

Bill **SB 0107**
Title **AT&T Rewrite**

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Michael Bond – Sen. Randall Hultgren – Sen. Mike Jacobs – Sen. Dan Kotowski

House Sponsors

Rep. Kevin McCarthy – Rep. Mike Bost – Rep. William Black – Rep. Marlow Colvin

Synopsis

The Illinois Telecommunications Act was updated after twenty five years in order to address demand for increased access to broadband and new technologies.

Public Act 96-0927

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Bill SB 0326

Title Nursing Home Reform

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Heather Steans – Sen. Jacqueline Collins – Sen. William Delgado – Sen. Iris Martinez

House Sponsors

Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Mary Flowers – Rep. Sara Feigenholtz – Rep. Lou Lang

Synopsis

In response to a Tribune series on the placement of mentally ill patients in nursing homes, legislation was adopted to increase the regulation of these placements and provide for the eventual transfer of many mentally ill individuals from nursing homes to more appropriate community settings. The bill mandates however increased staffing levels for all nursing homes including the Convalescent Center over a four year period (effective January 1, 2011). **The previously discussed issue of a substantial increase in the bed tax (from \$1.50 per day vs. \$6.87 per day) was removed (for now).** The issue of a provider tax will remain on the table however as the bill requires that a working group be convened this summer to recommend to the General Assembly for action during the veto session in November a proposal that will include a comprehensive rate review and the development of a provider assessment.

Public Act 96-1372

Bill SB 0374

Title Affordability Index Act

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Kwame Raoul

House Sponsors

Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Karen May – Rep. Dave Winters – Rep. William Black

Synopsis

Creates the H+T Affordability Index Act. Adopts the Index as the State standard for measuring housing and transportation affordability. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Department of Transportation, and the Illinois Housing Development Authority shall use the Index as a development tool and a consideration in funding allocations, the distribution of incentives, and facility siting in Metropolitan Planning Organization areas. Provides that the Act does not reduce or divert funding away from areas not located in a Metropolitan Planning Organization Area.

Public Act 96-1255

Bill SB 0580

Title DuPage Water Commission

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Dan Cronin – Sen. William Delgado

House Sponsors

Rep. Randy Ramey, Jr. – Rep. Joseph Lyons – Rep. Jack Franks – Rep. Bob Biggins

Synopsis

Legislation was adopted to reconstitute the present Water Commission Board as of January 1, 2011; repeal the ¼ cent countywide sales tax as of June 1, 2016 (unless voters act to extend it); requires that the Water Commission implement a number of financial reporting and accountability standards; requires the approval by the County Board of the hiring of the positions of general manager, financial administrator, and treasurer, among other provisions.

Public Act 96-1389

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Bill SB 0935

Title Red Light Cameras

Senate Sponsors

Sen. John Cullerton – Sen. Rickey Hendon – Sen. John Millner – Sen. William Delgado

House Sponsors

Rep. John D'Amico – Rep. Paul Froehlich – Rep. Darlene Senger

Synopsis

Modifies existing law to require that all violations be reviewed and approved by a law enforcement officer; provides that no additional fee shall be charged to an alleged violator for requesting an administrative hearing; requires that recorded images of a violation be accessible to the alleged violator through a website address; prohibits the issuance of violations if the vehicle comes to a complete stop before entering the intersection even if the vehicle stops past a stop line or crosswalk, among other provisions.

Public Act 96-1016

Bill SB 1946

Title Two-Tier Pension Program

Senate Sponsors

Sen. John Cullerton – Sen. Christine Radogno – Sen. Michael Noland – Sen. Heather Steans

House Sponsors

Rep. Michael Madigan – Rep. Kevin McCarthy – Rep. Barbara Currie

Synopsis

Makes significant changes to the State's 13 pension systems (including IMRF minus SLEP) for new hires as of January 1, 2011. Raises the retirement age from 60 to 67, increases the vesting period from 8 to 10 years, caps the final rate of earnings at \$106,800, and calculates the final rate of earnings to the highest of 96 months of the last 10 years (instead of 48 months) among other provisions.

Public Act 96-0889

Bill SB 2529

Title Increased County Coroner's Fees

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Gary Forby – Sen. Pamela Althoff – Sen. Antonio Muñoz

House Sponsors

Rep. Brandon Phelps – Rep. John D'Amico – Rep. Dan Reitz – Rep. Dan Brady

Synopsis

Increases specific Coroner's fees for the first time in twenty years for autopsy reports, cremation permits, transcripts, toxicology reports and for miscellaneous reports. Requires that coroner's fees be deposited into a special account in the county treasury and shall be used solely for the purchase of electronic and forensic identification equipment, related supplies, and the operating expenses of the Coroner's Office. Over \$100,000 annually in revenue will be generated in DuPage County.

Public Act 96-1161

Bill SB 3085

Title Juvenile Justice Task Force

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Kwame Raoul

House Sponsor

Rep. William Burns

Synopsis

Requires the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission to study the impact of, develop timelines, and propose a funding structure, to accommodate the expansion of the jurisdiction of the Illinois Juvenile Court to include youth age 17. Provides that the Commission shall submit a report by December 31, 2011 to the General Assembly with recommendations on extending juvenile court jurisdiction to youth age 17 charged with a felony.

Public Act 96-1199

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Bill SB 3089

Title Navistar EDGE Tax Credit

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Kwame Raoul – Sen. Michael Noland – Sen. John Millner

House Sponsors

Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Lou Lang – Rep. Thomas Holbrook

Synopsis

Extends the Economic Development for a Growing Economy Tax Credit Act (EDGE) to support the proposed Navistar Project located in Lisle.

Public Act 96-0905

Bill SB 3183

Title Electronic Filing of Economic Interest Statements

Senate Sponsor

Sen. William Haine

House Sponsors

Rep. Sidney Mathias – Rep. Mike Fortner

Synopsis

Amends the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act to permit the county clerk to send required notices electronically to those who must file statements of economic interest with the county clerk (now, notices can only be sent by U.S. mail). Also authorizes each county clerk to institute a mandatory Internet-based system for (i) the filing of statements of economic interests and (ii) the reporting by units of local government of the names of persons required to file statements with that county clerk.

Public Act 96-1336

Bill SB 3215

Title McCormick Place

Senate Sponsor

Sen. John Cullerton

House Sponsors

Rep. Michael Madigan – Rep. Kenneth Dunkin

Synopsis

Provides for a complete overhaul of the management of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (agency that runs McCormick Place and Navy Pier) with the goal of reducing exhibitor costs and red tape in order to boost Chicago's convention and tourism industry. The bill also doubles the tax rate for taxi and bus operators serving Chicago's airports with 75% of the revenues supporting marketing for McCormick Place and 25% supporting the Rosemont Convention Center.

Public Act 96-0899

Bill SB 3638

Title 7% Solution & Taxpayer Boards

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Terry Link – Sen. Emil Jones, III – Sen. Kimberly Lightford – Sen. Kwame Raoul

House Sponsors

Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Mark Walker – Rep. Joseph Lyons – Rep. Greg Harris

Synopsis

The Governor's proposal announced during the final two weeks of the legislative session to extend the 7% Alternate General Homestead Exemption in Cook County (to be phased out over the next three years) was adopted. The bill also permits the collar counties to opt in under this plan within six months of the effective date of the bill and creates 7 Taxpayer Action Boards (for Cook and each of the collar counties) within the Department of Revenue to review county assessment procedures and conduct public hearings among other duties. The original bill, to establish Innovation Zones at the state's eight Technology Parks (a county initiative), was deleted in favor of the 7% proposal.

Public Act 96-1418

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Bill **SB 3658**

Title **Sales Tax Break**

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Deanna Demuzio – Sen. Toi Hutchinson – Sen. Michael Noland – Sen. Emil Jones, III

House Sponsors

Rep. Keith Farnham – Rep. Jack Franks – Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia – Rep. Fred Crespo

Synopsis

Provides that from August 6, 2010 through August 15, 2010 only, the sales tax on clothing and school supplies shall be at the rate of 1.25% instead of 6.25%.

Public Act 96-1012

Bill **SB 3695**

Title **Circuit Court Clerk Fees**

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Kimberly Lightford – Sen. Deanna Demuzio

House Sponsors

Rep. Susana Mendoza – Rep. Jim Sacia – Rep. Keith Farnham – Rep. Mark Walker

Synopsis

Creates the State Police Operations Assistance Fund and requires Circuit Court Clerks that currently impose an automated records fee to impose an equal amount to be deposited in this state fund. Monies used will prevent the state lay-off of 465 state troopers. Due to the fact that the state will take the new automated records fee (\$15 in DuPage County) "off the top," it will reduce the dollars received by municipalities, counties and the state under the present court fee/fine distribution formula, costing DuPage an estimated \$549,825 annually in revenues.

Public Act 96-1029

Summer 2010

Bills Not Adopted

Bill **HB 0551**
Title **911 Surcharge Monies**

House Sponsor
Rep. Daniel Burke

Synopsis

This bill would have extended the use of 911 surcharge dollars to include the costs of public safety personnel.

Bill **HB 2516**
Title **RTA Sales Tax Opt-out**

House Sponsors
Rep. Jack Franks – Rep. Randy Ramey, Jr. – Rep. Patrick Verschoore – Rep. Sidney Mathias

Senate Sponsor
Sen. Pamela Althoff

Synopsis

Would have authorized the collar counties to opt out of the ¼ cent local sales tax under Public Act 95-708 (2008 RTA Reform Legislation).

Bill **HB 3659**
Title **Bid Newspaper Publication Costs**

House Sponsor
Rep. Patrick Verschoore

Senate Sponsor
Sen. Dan Kotowski

Synopsis

Legislation to permit County Assessors to competitively bid publication costs for property tax assessment notices was adopted by the House but failed to move in the Senate. DuPage County currently has 326,000 taxable parcels and for the period from 2007 to 2010, spent an estimated \$758,000 in newspaper publication costs.

Bill **HB 3665**
Title **Mandated Sick Leave**

House Sponsors
Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez – Rep. John D'Amico – Rep. Greg Harris – Rep. Maria Berrios

Synopsis

Mandated that employers provide 7 sick days for full time employees per year (DuPage currently provides 6 sick days). The addition of one sick day and this unfunded mandate would have cost the county an estimated \$475,000 annually.

Bill **HB 4708**
Title **Open Meetings Act**

House Sponsor
Rep. Michael Connelly

Senate Sponsors
Sen. Dan Cronin – Sen. Pamela Althoff

Synopsis

A bill to close a loophole in statute with regard to public notice of special call County Board meetings was adopted by the House but failed to move forward in the Senate. HB 4708 would have amended the Counties Code with regard to counties under township organization and would have required that public notice of a special meeting of a county board be given as prescribed for other meetings under the Open Meetings Act (at least 48 hour notice among other provisions).

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Bill HB 4867

Title Gunshot Location System

House Sponsors

Rep. Susana Mendoza – Rep. André Thapedi – Rep. Dennis Reboletti – Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

Synopsis

Would have required the Sheriff's Office to install a one square mile gunshot locator system at a cost of \$200,000 plus approximately \$40,000 per year in maintenance costs. The bill failed to provide any exemptions from this unfunded mandate for those counties where gun violence is not a systemic problem.

Bill HB 4877

Title County Cell Tower

House Sponsors

Rep. JoAnn Osmond – Rep. Jack Franks – Rep. Lisa Dugan – Rep. Brandon Phelps

Synopsis

As introduced, the legislation provided counties with the same authority as municipalities in reviewing and approving the location of cell phone towers in unincorporated areas. The bill was "shelled" in committee and negotiations continued throughout the session with no resolution.

Bill HB 5154

Title Prepayment of Property Taxes

House Sponsor

Rep. Michael Connelly

Synopsis

A county initiative, the bill would have permitted county treasurers to accept the voluntary prepayment of property taxes by homeowners and businesses.

Bill HB 5233

Title ComEd - Trails

House Sponsors

Rep. Patricia Bellock – Rep. Sandra Pihos

Synopsis

Would have required that an electric public utility follow the sensible growth vegetation standards as developed by the Illinois Commerce Commission, specifically to replant trees removed by utilities along state, county, and municipally owned recreational trails.

Bill HB 5711

Title Campaign Finance

House Sponsors

Rep. Michael Connelly – Rep. Mike Fortner

Synopsis

A county initiative, the bill would have authorized counties to extend ethics provisions/campaign finance reform measures to candidates for County Board and County Chairman.

Bill HB 5873

Title SLEP Two-Tier Pension Program

House Sponsors

Rep. Robert Flider – Rep. William Black – Rep. Lisa Dugan

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Terry Link

Synopsis

Would have adopted a two-tier pension program for municipal police, firefighters, and employees under SLEP (County Sheriff). Language filed to HB 5873 would have increased the retirement age from 50 to 55 and decrease maximum earnings from 80% to 72%, but would raise survivor benefits from 50% to 66 2/3%.

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Bill **HB 6112**
Title **Prevailing Wage**

House Sponsors

Rep. Robert Flider – Rep. Harry Osterman – Rep. Angelo Saviano – Rep. John D'Amico

Senate Sponsors

Sen. William Haine – Sen. Emil Jones, III – Sen. Ira Silverstein – Sen. Mattie Hunter

Synopsis

Would have applied the prevailing wage to the delivery of excavated materials for maintenance and construction activities, resulting in increased costs for county projects.

Bill **HJRCA 0015**
Title **Size of County Boards**

House Sponsor

Rep. Mike Boland

Synopsis

Would have amended the Local Government Article of the Illinois Constitution to provide that if the number of members of a county board exceeds 17, then the number of members may be reduced to 17 upon approval of a countywide referendum initiated by petition of the county's voters as provided by law. The constitutional amendment was tabled by the sponsor.

Bill **HJRCA 0046**
Title **Redistricting**

House Sponsors

Rep. Mike Fortner – Rep. Sandra Pihos – Rep. Dave Winters

Synopsis

The Fair Map Constitutional Amendment supported by the Illinois League of Women Voters and the Illinois Reform Commission, among other groups, failed to advance in the General Assembly and failed to receive the requisite number of signatures to be placed on the November ballot.

Bill **SB 0044**
Title **Cigarette Tax**

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Jeffrey Schoenberg – Sen. John Cullerton – Sen. Jacqueline Collins – Sen. Terry Link

House Sponsors

Rep. Karen Yarbrough – Rep. Jack McGuire – Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Constance Howard

Synopsis

Legislation adopted by the Senate but failed to pass the full House would have raised the State's Cigarette tax by \$1 per pack (from 98 cents to \$1.98). The measure would have been phased-in over two years; a 50 cent increase effective September 1st and an additional 50 cents September 2011.

Bill **SB 0333**
Title **County Board Compensation**

Senate Sponsor

Sen. Mike Jacobs

House Sponsors

Rep. Mike Boland – Rep. Paul Froehlich

Synopsis

Would have amended the Counties Code to provide that the compensation of all county officers and county board members of Rock Island County be frozen at the amount those officers and members were actually receiving on May 1, 2010, and that any purported increases in compensation, including without limitation any additional compensation for serving as a committee chairperson, taking effect on or after May 1, 2010 be null and void. Although the legislation was not adopted, it sets a precedent for the General Assembly to consider setting the compensation of county officials.

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Bill **SB 2356**
Title **Expansion of SLEP**

Senate Sponsor
Sen. Kirk Dillard

Synopsis
Would have added roughly 20 employees from the State's Attorney's Office to the Sheriff's Law Enforcement (enhanced) Pension Plan.

Bill **SB 2494**
Title **School Vouchers**

Senate Sponsors
Sen. James Meeks – Sen. Dan Cronin – Sen. Rickey Hendon – Sen. Chris Lauzen

House Sponsors
Rep. Kevin Joyce – Rep. Edward Acevedo – Rep. Darlene Senger – Rep. Karen Yarbrough

Synopsis
Would have established a School Choice Voucher program for low-performing schools in Chicago. The legislation was adopted by the Senate but failed to garner enough votes in the House.

Bill **SB 2934**
Title **Forest Preserve Redistricting**

Senate Sponsors
Sen. Don Harmon – Sen. Susan Garrett – Sen. Ira Silverstein

Synopsis
Would have provided that by July 1, 2011 and each 10 years thereafter, the Board of Commissioners of the DuPage Forest Preserve District (rather than the County Board), would develop the reapportionment plan for the district.

Bill **SB 3001**
Title **Affordable Housing Trust Fund**

Senate Sponsors
Sen. Susan Garrett – Sen. Jacqueline Collins

Synopsis
Would have authorized counties to establish an affordable housing trust fund supported by a surcharge on the recordation of any real estate related document.

Bill **SB 3482**
Title **Public/Private Partnerships for Transportation Act**

Senate Sponsors
Sen. Heather Steans – Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi – Sen. Don Harmon – Sen. Kirk Dillard

Synopsis
As introduced, the bill authorized public-private partnerships for the construction of new transportation infrastructure projects and the lease of existing infrastructure assets, including those projects/assets under IDOT, the Tollway, and the Airport Authorities Act. As amended in the Senate, the bill deleted this language and provided that the net proceeds arising out of a transportation project or public-private agreement undertaken by the Toll Highway Authority be deposited into the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority Fund and be used only as authorized by the Toll Highway Act.

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Bill **SB 3660 – House Amendment #13**
Title **Eliminate Stipends for County Officials**

Senate Sponsors

Sen. John Cullerton – Sen. Kimberly Lightford – Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi – Sen. John Sullivan

House Sponsors

Rep. Barbara Currie – Rep. Kenneth Dunkin

Synopsis

This amendment to one of the appropriation bills would have eliminated the state stipend (on average \$6,500 annually) for countywide elected officials.