

Miscellaneous Issues

HB 233 CRIM ID-SEALING RECORDS

House Sponsor Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

Amends the Criminal Identification Act. Provides that records of conviction for any non-violent offense or any criminal offense that did not result in bodily harm or death to another person may be sealed 10 years after the termination of the petitioner's last sentence. Defines "non-violent offense".

HB 258 CRIM CD-PHONE REPLICIA FIREARM

House Sponsor Rep. Anthony DeLuca

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Provides that it is a petty offense for which a fine of not less than \$250 and not more than \$750 for a first offense, \$500 to \$1,000 for a second offense, and \$1,000 to \$2,500 for a third or subsequent offense shall be imposed, for a person to purchase, possess, conceal, use, sell, give away, or otherwise transfer, or to engage in the business of selling or to exhibit for sale, a replica firearm in the State. Defines "replica firearm" as any mobile phone case made of plastic, wood, metal, or any other material, that a person could reasonably perceive as an actual firearm but that is incapable of being fired or discharged. Provides exceptions. Provides that each purchase, use, sale, gift, or transfer of any replica firearm in violation of this provision shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense, and each day a person unlawfully engages in the business of selling or exhibits for sale any replica firearm in violation of this provision is a separate and distinct offense. Effective June 1, 2017.

HB 271 CRIM CD-HANDGUN AMMO-SERIALIZE

House Sponsor Rep. Sonya M. Harper

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Provides that beginning January 1, 2019, all handgun ammunition that is manufactured, imported into the State for sale or personal use, kept for sale, offered or exposed for sale, sold, given, lent, or possessed shall be serialized. Provides that beginning January 1, 2019, any person who manufactures, causes to be manufactured, imports into the State for sale or personal use, keeps for sale, offers or exposes for sale, or who gives or lends any handgun ammunition that is not serialized is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Provides that beginning January 1, 2019, any person who possesses in any public place any handgun ammunition that is not serialized is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor. Provides exceptions. Provides that beginning January 1, 2019, the Department of State Police shall maintain a centralized registry of all reports of handgun ammunition transactions reported to the Department in a manner prescribed by the Department. Provides that information in the registry, upon proper application for that information, shall be furnished to

peace officers and authorized employees of the Department of State Police or to the person listed in the registry as the owner of the particular handgun ammunition. Provides that the Department of State Police shall adopt rules relating to the assessment and collection of end-user fees in an amount not to exceed \$0.005 per round of handgun ammunition or per bullet, in which the accumulated fee amount may not exceed the cost to pay for the infrastructure, implementation, operational, enforcement, and future development costs of these provisions. Effective January 1, 2019, except some provisions effective immediately.

HB 331 SCHOOLS-CALORIE TRANSPARENCY

House Sponsor Rep. Scott Drury

Amends the School Code. Requires the State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Public Health, to establish a calorie transparency program, to be implemented in the public schools of this State. Provides that the purpose of the program shall be to reduce obesity by educating students on healthy eating habits and the importance of being aware of the contents of the food they eat. Provides that a school board shall require each school to conspicuously display the nutritional information of all food items offered for sale to students on school property.

HB 411 WORKERS COMP-INJURY

House Sponsor Rep. David B. Reis

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Defines the terms "accident" and "injury". Provides that "injury" includes the aggravation of a pre-existing condition by an accident arising out of and in the course of the employment, but only for so long as the aggravation of the pre-existing condition continues to be the major contributing cause of the disability. Provides that an injury resulting directly or indirectly from idiopathic causes is not compensable.

HB 412 WORK COMP TRANSPARENCY

House Sponsor Rep. David B. Reis

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Creates the Workers' Compensation Transparency Task Force. Provides that the Task Force shall collect and review information and data on the effects of the changes in workers' compensation law enacted by the General Assembly and that the purpose of the collection and review of information is to make as transparent as possible all information relating to the medical treatment, legal representation, and benefits paid to injured workers in this State. Repeals the language creating the Task Force on January 1, 2022. Repeals certain requirements relating to reports and promulgation of rules concerning workers' compensation insurance by the Department of Insurance on January 1, 2022. Effective immediately..

HB 511 MUNI-NON HOME RULE POWERS

House Sponsor Rep. Peter Breen
Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Gives non-home rule municipalities the power to exercise all power provided to home rule units under Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution, except for the powers to tax, impose fees, and to incur debt. Effective immediately.

HB 535 ICC AND RAILROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY

House Sponsor Rep. Jay Hoffman
Amends the Counties Code and Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that the Illinois Commerce Commission (currently, a court of competent jurisdiction) will determine whether the installation, maintenance, repair, or removal of a community antenna would create a dangerous condition or interrupt service. Amends the Crossing of Railroad Right-of-way Act. Adds providers of broadband service to the definition of "utility". Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that cable operators, holders of State authorizations, and broadband service providers shall not be prevented by a railroad from entering onto railroad real estate or right of way for purposes of construction or installation of system or facilities if they have followed the procedures to enter the property as required by statute. Effective immediately.

HB 667 ALTERNATE FUELS ACT-REPEAL

House Sponsor Rep. Thomas Morrison
Repeals the Alternate Fuels Act. Amends the State Finance Act. Repeals a provision concerning the Alternate Fuels Fund. Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Deletes a provision concerning a rebate and grant program authorized by the Alternate Fuels Act. Effective immediately.

HB 683 VEH CD-LENGTH AND SIZE REQ

House Sponsor Rep. Daniel V. Beiser
Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the maximum length of a truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer may not exceed 65 feet (rather than 55 feet) overall dimension on all non-State highways. Removes the requirement that truck tractor-semitrailer combinations must have no more than a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base on Class III roadways and other non-designated State highways. Provides that the distance between the kingpin and the axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches, unless the trailer or semitrailer is used for the transport of livestock.

HB 732 ROOFING WORK/REPAIR

House Sponsor Rep. Daniel J. Burke
Amends the Illinois Roofing Industry Licensing Act. Provides that nothing in the Act shall be construed to require an employee who performs roofing or waterproofing work to his or her employer's residential property, where there exists an employee-employer relationship or for no consideration, to be licensed as a roofing contractor. Provides that nothing in the Act shall be construed to

require a person who performs roof repair (rather than roofing) or waterproofing work to his or her employer's commercial or industrial property (rather than his or her employer's property) to be licensed as a roofing contractor, where there exists an employer-employee relationship. Defines "roof repair". Effective immediately.

HB 736 DHS-SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PGRAM

House Sponsor Rep. Mary E. Flowers

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Requires the Department of Human Services to establish a small business grant program for public aid recipients who are interested in developing a new start-up business. Requires grant applicants to submit an initial business plan or proposal to the Department that clearly articulates the viability of the new start-up business and how the grant money will be used to develop the business. Provides that the Department shall use such application materials to determine an applicant's eligibility under the program, the grant amount to be awarded, if applicable, and the number of grants an eligible applicant will receive under the program. Provides that if an applicant is determined by the Department to be eligible for a small business grant, the applicant must submit to the Department every year that he or she participates in the program or applies for a new grant an updated business plan or proposal that demonstrates the continued viability or progress of the new start-up business. Requires the Department to adopt any rules necessary to implement the program, including rules on the minimum and maximum grant amounts awarded under the program, the number of grants an applicant may apply for or receive during a specified period of time, and application requirements.

HB 791 VEH CD-ORDINANCE-AUTONOMOS VEH

House Sponsor Rep. Tom Demmer

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a unit of local government, including a home rule unit, may not enact an ordinance prohibiting the use of autonomous vehicles on its roadways. Limits the concurrent exercise of home rule powers. Defines "autonomous vehicle".

HB 795 NORTH AMERICAN-MADE VEHICLES

House Sponsor Rep. Jerry Costello

Amends the Procurement of Domestic Products Act. Provides that all motor vehicles purchased or leased for one year or more by a State agency shall have a Vehicle Identification Number that begins with the number one, the number 2, the number 4, or the number 5. Effective July 1, 2017.

HB 2411 BIOMETRIC DATA-COMMERCIAL USE

House Sponsor Rep. Sam Yingling

Amends the Biometric Information Privacy Act. Provides that except to the extent necessary for an employer to conduct background checks or implement employee security protocols, a private entity may not require a person or

customer to provide his or her biometric identifier or biometric information as a condition for the provision of goods or services. Provides that the new provisions do not apply to: (i) companies that provide medical services; (ii) law enforcement agencies; or (iii) governmental entities.

HB 2459 LOCATION-BASED GAME - REMOVAL

House Sponsor Rep. Kelly M. Cassidy

Creates the Location-based Video Game Protection Act. Provides that within 4 business days of receiving a request from the real property owner, manager, or custodian, the developer of a location-based video game shall remove from its location-based video game an ecologically sensitive site or location, historically significant site or location, site or location on private property, or site or location otherwise deemed as dangerous by the real property owner, manager, or custodian. Requires the developer of a location-based video game to provide an easily accessible procedure for removal of ecologically sensitive sites or locations, historically significant sites or locations, sites or locations on private property, or sites or locations otherwise deemed as dangerous by the real property owner, manager, or custodian from its location-based video game. Allows for civil enforcement of the Act by a real property owner, manager, or custodian, and a civil fine of up to \$100 for each day a developer of a location-based video game is in violation of the Act. Defines terms. Effective immediately.

HB 2470 SCH CD-TECHNICAL EDUCATOR TEST

House Sponsor Rep. Lawrence Walsh, Jr.

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Provides that a career and technical educator or a part-time provisional career and technical educator endorsement may be issued to an applicant who, among other requirements, has a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or an accredited trade and technical institution (rather than just a regionally accredited institution of higher education). Allows individuals seeking these endorsements to pass a test of basic skills or a test of work proficiency. Allows individuals holding a provisional career and technical educator endorsement to renew their endorsement more than one time. Reduces the semester hour requirement for a provisional career and technical educator endorsement from 20 to 15. Effective July 1, 2017.

HB 2598 ALCOHOL W/OUT LIQUID MACHINES

House Sponsor Rep. Sam Yingling

Amends the Liquor Control Act of 1934. In a provision that prohibits a person from bringing into this State an alcohol without liquid machine, makes changes to the definition of "alcohol without liquid machine". Provides that "alcohol without liquid machine" does not include certain medical devices or alternative nicotine products.

HB 2691 TELECOMS-IP-BASED SERVICES

House Sponsor Rep. Brandon W. Phelps

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Adds provisions to the Telecommunications Article concerning the transition of Large Electing Providers to Internet Protocol-based networks and service. Provides that beginning July 1, 2017, a Large Electing Provider may cease to offer and provide a telecommunications service to an identifiable class or group of customers, other than voice telecommunications service to residential customers, upon 60 days' notice to the Commission and affected customers. Provides that beginning July 1, 2017, a Large Electing Provider, may cease to offer and provide voice telecommunications service to an identifiable class or group of residential customers subject to compliance with specified requirements. Repeals language that provides for the repeal of the Telecommunications Article of the Public Utilities Act on July 1, 2017. Removes the December 31, 2020 expiration date for an Illinois Commerce Commission-issued authorization to offer or provide cable or video service. Repeals language that provides for the repeal of specified Sections of the Cable and Video Competition Article of the Illinois Public Utilities Act on July 1, 2017. Defines terms and makes other changes. Effective immediately.

HB 2747 SAFE AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Michael J. Zalewski

Creates the Safe Autonomous Vehicle Act. Provides definitions. Provides that upon notification to the Department of Motor Vehicles, a Motor Vehicle Manufacturer may commence a safe autonomous vehicle project with a vehicle installed with an Automated Driving System after providing notification to the Department of Motor Vehicles and after self-certification under certain conditions. Provides that the Manufacturer shall determine the geographical boundaries of the project and shall maintain incident records and provide periodic summaries to the Department and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Provides that the Participating Fleet in the program shall be insured by the Manufacturer who shall assume liability for incidents where the automated driving system technology is at fault for that incident. Provides that any person operates a vehicle with automated driving system technology without first satisfying the eligibility requirements in the Act shall be fined \$10,000 for a first violation and a second or subsequent violation is a Class A misdemeanor. Preempts home rule powers. Effective immediately.

HB 2755 INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN BUILD

House Sponsor Rep. Marcus C. Evans, Jr.

Creates the Innovations for Transportation Infrastructure Act. Provides that the Department of Transportation may use design-build project delivery methods, Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery methods, or Alternative Technical Concepts for design-bid-build project delivery of transportation facilities, provided that the delivery method does not exceed 20% of the Department's multi-year highway improvement program, with no one year exceeding 30%. Provides that the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority may use design-build project delivery methods, Construction Manager/General Contractor

project delivery methods, or Alternative Technical Concepts for design-bid-build project delivery of transportation facilities if the facilities delivered do not exceed 20% of the Authority's annual improvement program. Places limits on the number of projects that the Department may use the various methods on. Provides that during the first phase of the two-phase procurement, the Transportation Agency (Department of Transportation or the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority) shall not consider price proposals to make its short-list decision. Provides that at least half of the evaluation committee used to assist in selecting design-build and Construction Manager/General Contractor contracts shall consist of licensed design professionals. Provides the Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Qualifications Based Selection Act does not apply to procurements under the new Act. Contains provisions concerning the procurement process and terms of design-build and construction manager-general contractor contracts. Provides that the Transportation Agency has eminent domain and quick take powers under the Act. Amends the Illinois Procurement Code and the Public Construction Bond Act. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

HB 2764 GOODS SOLD IN THE STATE MUSEUM

House Sponsor Rep. Martin J. Moylan

Amends the Department of Natural Resources Act. Provides that only materials manufactured in Illinois may be sold on the property of the Illinois State Museum. Defines "materials manufactured in Illinois". Amends the State Parks Act. Provides that only materials manufactured in Illinois may be sold in gift shops or concession areas within State parks or parkways. Defines "materials manufactured in Illinois". Amends the Historic Preservation Agency Act. Provides that only materials manufactured in Illinois may be sold on the property of State Historic Sites, State Memorials, and the other properties over which the Historic Preservation Agency has jurisdiction. Defines "materials manufactured in Illinois".

HB 2774 RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

Creates the Right to Know Act. Provides that an operator of a commercial website or online service that collects personally identifiable information through the internet about individual customers residing in Illinois who use or visit its commercial website or online service shall notify those customers of certain specified information pertaining to its personal information sharing practices. Requires an operator to make available certain specified information upon disclosing a customer's personal information to a third party, and to provide an e-mail address or toll-free telephone number whereby customers may request or obtain that information. Provides for a right of action to customers whose rights are violated under the Act. Provides that any waiver of the provisions of the Act or any agreement that does not comply with the applicable provisions of the Act shall be void and unenforceable. Provides that no provision of the Act shall be construed to conflict with or apply to certain specified provisions of federal law or certain interactions with State or local government. Provides findings and purpose. Defines terms.

HB 2794 VOCATIONAL ACADEMY-CHARTER SCH

House Sponsor Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

Amends the School Code. Provides that a school board shall require the school district's high schools, if any, to inform all 11th and 12th grade students of dual enrollment and dual credit opportunities at public community colleges for qualified students.

HB 2819 TELECOM TAX-RIGHT-OF-WAY

House Sponsor Rep. Steven A. Andersson

Amends the Telecommunications Infrastructure Maintenance Fee Act. Provides that the existing prohibition or new franchise fees does not prohibit a municipality from requiring telecommunications carriers to pay a reasonable application fee in order to gain access to the public right-of-way. Effective immediately..

HB 2861 FOOD-DRUG-ENERGY DRINKS

House Sponsor Rep. Luis Arroyo

Amends the Illinois Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Sets forth the General Assembly's findings concerning the sale of energy drinks to minors. Defines "energy drink" as a beverage that contains the following ingredients or any combination of the following ingredients: (1) taurine, naturally occurring or synthesized; (2) guarana, including any extract or product of the plant or the seed of the plant; (3) glucuronolactone; and (4) any extract, herb, or tuber of any species of ginseng. Provides that it is unlawful in this State for any person to sell, offer for sale, or deliver an energy drink to a person under 18 years of age. Provides that the Director of Public Health is authorized to file a complaint and apply to the circuit court for, and such court may upon hearing and for cause shown grant, a temporary restraining order or preliminary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating the provision concerning the Sale of energy drinks to minors.

HB 2967 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYS-GRANT

House Sponsor Rep. Emanuel Chris Welch

Amends the Emergency Telephone System Act. Provides that each telecommunications carrier shall impose a monthly surcharge of \$1.30 (rather than \$0.87) per network connection; provided, however, the monthly surcharge shall not apply to a network connection provided for use with pay telephone services. Provides that each wireless carrier shall impose and collect a monthly surcharge of \$1.30 (rather than \$0.87) per CMRS connection that either has a telephone number within an area code assigned to Illinois by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator or has a billing address in this State. Provides that at least \$0.87 of this surcharge per network or CMRS connection shall be deposited into the Statewide 9-1-1 Fund for distribution to local Emergency Telephone System Boards. Provides that grants shall be distributed on a per capita basis, with priority to Emergency Telephone System Boards that received a disproportionately large number of ambulance or emergency medical service

dispatch 9-1-1 calls based on the population served by the Board. Provides that data on 9-1-1 calls collected annually by the Department of State Police shall be used to determine priority of grant distributions. Extends the repeal date of the Act until July 1, 2022 (rather than July 1, 2017). Effective immediately.

HB 2997 MULTIMODAL MOBILITY ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Marcus C. Evans, Jr.

Creates the Connected Multimodal Mobility Act. Defines terms. Provides that beginning on or before January 1, 2027, every motor vehicle operating upon any highway in this State shall be equipped with automatic notification technology. Provides that beginning on or before January 1, 2027, the Department of Transportation shall install a traffic-control device network on each traffic-control device operating in this State. Provides that each traffic-control device network shall communicate to a vehicle installed with automatic notification technology when vehicle or pedestrian traffic requires the driver of the vehicle to change the vehicle's speed. Provides that the Department and the Secretary of State shall adopt rules to implement the Act.

HB 3030 DIGITAL FAIR REPAIR ACT

House Sponsor Rep. David Harris

Creates the Digital Fair Repair Act. Provides that original equipment manufacturers shall: (i) make available to any independent repair provider or owner of equipment manufactured by the original equipment manufacturer the same diagnostic and repair documentation in the same manner as that information is made available to the manufacturer's authorized repair providers; and (ii) make available for purchase by the owner, his or her authorized agent, or any independent repair provider, parts, inclusive of any updates to the embedded software of the parts, upon fair and reasonable terms. Requires original equipment manufacturers to make available for purchase by owners and independent repair providers all diagnostic repair tools incorporating the same diagnostic, repair, and remote communications capabilities that the original equipment manufacturer makes available to its own repair or engineering staff or an authorized repair provider. Requires an independent repair provider that purchases or acquires embedded software or service parts to notify the owner of the equipment in writing of certain warranties prior to performing any services on digital electronic equipment. Provides, with one exception, an authorized provider shall have all the rights and remedies provided under the Act. Provides for enforcement by the Attorney General. Authorizes the Attorney General to seek to enjoin violations and to recover civil penalties. Requires the Attorney General to establish an outreach program to inform the public of rights under the Act. Defines terms. Excludes motor vehicle manufacturers. Provides for recovery of damages and attorney's fees. Provides for the protection of trade secrets. Effective January 1, 2018.

HB 3081 MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION

House Sponsor Rep. David B. Reis

Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2018, licenses issued to Type I and Type II establishments (meat and poultry processing and slaughtering) shall not expire if the licensee remains in compliance with the provisions of the Act. Provides that if the management at a Type I establishment desires to work under conditions which will require the services of a Department of Agriculture inspector on any Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, or for more than an approved work day on any other day shall request the Department representative (currently, Regional Administrator) to furnish inspection service during those times. Effective immediately.

HB 3129 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

House Sponsor Rep. David A. Welter

Amends the Time Standardization Act. Provides that the State is exempt from the provisions of the federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 that establish daylight saving time. Effective July 1, 2017.

HB 3157 AGRICULTURE-FOOD DESERTS

House Sponsor Rep. Sonya M. Harper

Amends the Civil Administrative Code Department of Agriculture Law. Provides that the Department of Agriculture shall identify and track geographical areas in this State that are food deserts. Provides that the Department shall notify respective municipal governmental bodies identified as food deserts and provide an annual report to the General Assembly detailing the locations of food deserts within the State and an analysis of health impacts on populations in locations identified in this State as food deserts. Defines "food desert".

HB 3208 TOBACCO PRODUCTS-UNDER 21

House Sponsor Rep. Melissa Conyears

Amends the Prevention of Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act. Changes the name of the Act to the Prevention of Tobacco Use by Persons under 21 Years of Age and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act. Raises the age for whom tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and alternative nicotine products may be sold to and possessed by from at least 18 years of age to at least 21 years of age. Defines "electronic cigarette". Repeals the Smokeless Tobacco Limitation Act. Amends various other Acts to make conforming changes.

HB 3262 ICCB-RESEARCH & TECH FUND

House Sponsor Rep. Michael J. Zalewski

Amends the Public Community College Act. Provides that the Illinois Community College Board may collect a fee to cover the cost of processing and handling individual student-level data requests pursuant to an approved data sharing agreement. Renames the ICCB Instructional Development and Enhancement Applications Revolving Fund to the ICCB Research and Technology Fund. Provides that the Fund shall receive all moneys received from processing requests for individual student-level data, and that money from the Fund shall be

used for costs associated with maintaining and updating individual student-level data systems. Amends the State Finance Act to make a conforming change. Effective July 1, 2017.

HB 3362 HOME GROWN BUSINESS OPP ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Elgie R. Sims, Jr.

Creates the Illinois Home Grown Business Opportunity Act. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall develop an economic plan to assist businesses and municipalities located geographically close to bordering states. Provides that the plan shall take into account relevant economic data, including input from local economic development officials, and identify and develop specific strategies for utilizing the assets of those regions of the State located geographically close to bordering states, so that those regions may compete economically with bordering states. Requires the plan to include certain economic assessments, recommendations, and resources relevant to assisting businesses and municipalities located near bordering states. Requires that the information and resources collected and established under the plan shall be available to the public and posted on the Department's Internet website. Defines terms.

HB 3449 GEOLOCATION PRIVACY PROTECTION

House Sponsor Rep. Ann M. Williams

Creates the Geolocation Privacy Protection Act. Defines "geolocation information", "location-based application", and "private entity". Provides that a private entity may not collect, use, store, or disclose geolocation information from a location-based application on a person's device unless the private entity first receives the person's affirmative express consent after complying with specified notice requirements. Provides exceptions. Provides that a person whose rights are violated may recover: (1) liquidated damages of \$1,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater; (2) reasonable attorney's fees and costs; and (3) other relief, including an injunction, as the court may deem appropriate. Provides that authority to seek remedies and impose penalties granted to the Attorney General under the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act is also granted to the Attorney General for the enforcement of the Geolocation Privacy Protection Act. Provides that in any action brought by the Attorney General to enforce the Act, the court may order that persons who incurred actual damages be awarded 3 times the amount at which actual damages are assessed. Provides that a violation of the Act constitutes an unlawful practice under the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Provides that the provisions of the Act may not be waived. Contains applicability language. Makes a corresponding change in the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Effective immediately.

HB 3466 VEHICLE REPAIR FAIRNESS ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Thomas M. Bennett

Creates the Motor Vehicle Repair Fairness Act. Provides that motor vehicle

manufacturers must make available to independent repair providers of parts manufactured by such motor vehicle manufacturer, diagnostic and repair documentation, including repair technical updates and updates and corrections to embedded software, in the same manner as the motor vehicle manufacturer makes such diagnostic and repair documentation, including repair technical updates and updates and corrections to embedded software, available to its authorized repair provider. Defines terms. Authorizes the imposition of a \$500 civil penalty. Provides that the Attorney General may bring an action to recover the penalty.

HB 3503 CABLE EQUIP RENTAL OPTION

House Sponsor Rep. Theresa Mah

Amends the Cable and Video Customer Protection Article of the Public Utilities Act. Provides that upon the customer's election, a cable or video provider that rents internet modems to a customer shall cease imposing rental charges after the customer has paid to the provider an amount equal to the cost of the modem provided.

HB 3773 SMOKE DETECTOR ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Kathleen Willis

Amends the Smoke Detector Act. Provides that the battery for specified battery powered smoke detectors must be a self-contained long term battery if specified conditions occur. Provides that specified battery requirements do not apply to fire alarms, smoke detectors, smoke alarms, or ancillary components electronically connected to specified alarm systems; that use a low-power radio frequency wireless communication signal; that uses Wi-Fi or other Wireless Local Area Networking capability to send and receive specified notifications; or to devices as designated by the State Fire Marshal. Effective January 1, 2018.

HB 3777 PROCUREMENT-LOCAL PREFERENCE

House Sponsor Rep. Juliana Stratton

Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Creates a bid incentive program for State-based manufacturers. Sets forth requirements needed to access the program and the bid incentive amount for the total dollar value of locally manufactured goods. Sets forth exemptions to the incentive program. Requires the maintenance of records and provides for penalties in the event a manufacturer fails to meet projected amounts of locally-manufactured goods. Allows the Department of Central Management Services to adopt rules to implement the program.

HB 3877 VAPOR PRODUCTS

House Sponsor Rep. Kathleen Willis

Creates the Vapor Products Regulatory Act. Provides for the licensing and regulation of retail sellers of vapor pens and vapor products by the Department of Revenue. Sets requirements for licensure, including qualifications and disqualifications, and sets annual licensing fee of \$75. Provides the Department

of Revenue with regulatory authority, provides for licensing and appeals from licensing decisions made by the Department of Revenue. Provides that persons licensed as retailers under the Cigarette Tax Act need not obtain a license under this act to sell vapor products. Defines terms. Amends the Prevention of Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act to exclude vapor products from the definition of "alternative nicotine product". Amends the State Finance Act to create the Vapor Products Compliance Fund. Effective January 1, 2018.

HB 3897 TRAMPOLINE SAFETY ACT

House Sponsor Rep. Robyn Gabel

Creates the Trampoline Safety Act. Provides for the adoption of rules and regulations by the Director of the Department of Labor, and specifies further duties of the Director. Provides requirements for registration and inspection of trampoline courts. Specifies the duties of owners or operators of trampoline courts. Provides requirements for the use of trampoline courts by patrons. Provides an enforcement provision and specifies compliance for trampoline courts in existence in this State prior to the effective date of this Act. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Trampoline Court Safety Fund.

HB 3917 UTILITIES-TELECOMM RATE INFO

House Sponsor Rep. Theresa Mah

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Provides for the giving of notice and information concerning rates, charges, terms, and conditions of service to customers of telecommunications carriers. Extends the repeal of the Telecommunications Article to July 1, 2020

SB 76 VEH BUYER PROTECTION-LEMON LAW

Senate Sponsors Sen. Ira I. Silverstein

Creates the New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act of 2017. Provides that if a manufacturer is unable to service or repair a new motor vehicle to conform to the applicable express warranties after a reasonable number of attempts, the manufacturer shall either promptly replace the new motor vehicle or make restitution to the buyer. Provides that it shall be presumed that a reasonable number of attempts have been made to conform a new motor vehicle to the applicable express warranties if, within 18 months from delivery to the buyer or 18,000 miles on the odometer of the vehicle: (1) the same nonconformity results in a condition that is likely to cause death or serious bodily injury if the vehicle is driven after 2 or more repairs; (2) the same nonconformity has been subject to repair 4 or more times; or (3) the vehicle is out of service by reason of repair for more than 30 calendar days since delivery of the vehicle to the buyer. Requires a buyer to initiate a qualified third-party dispute resolution process, if available, before asserting the presumption that a reasonable number of attempts have been made to repair the nonconformity. Prohibits a person from selling a motor vehicle without first disclosing to the prospective buyer that the vehicle had a nonconformity and the nonconformity was corrected. Contains provisions

concerning a "Lemon Law Buyback" decal; a warranty buyback notice; remedies; a manufacturer's fee for each vehicle sold; sales and use tax reimbursements; and other matters. Amends the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act and the Illinois Vehicle Code. Changes references to "New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act" to "New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act of 2017". Amends the State Finance Act. Creates the Motor Vehicle Dispute Resolution Certification Fund. Repeals the New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act.

SB 191 LIQUOR-POWDERED ALCOHOL

Senate Sponsor Sen. Ira I. Silverstein

Amends the Liquor Control Act of 1934. Prohibits the possession of any product consisting of or containing powdered alcohol. Provides that a knowing violation of that prohibition is a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense.

SB 194 CRIM CD-IMITATION FIREARMS

Senate Sponsor Sen. Ira I. Silverstein

Amends the Criminal Code of 2012. Adds an Imitation Firearms Article to the Code. Prohibits the sale of an imitation firearm in the State and of a BB device that is an airsoft gun that expels a projectile, such as a BB or pellet, that is 6mm or 8mm caliber which does not meet certain criteria. Provides that the criteria includes, if the airsoft gun is configured as a handgun, a blaze orange ring on the barrel required by federal law, a trigger guard that has fluorescent coloration over the entire guard, and a 2 centimeter wide adhesive band around the circumference of the protruding pistol grip that has fluorescent coloration. Adds certain additional criteria if the airsoft gun is configured as a rifle or long gun. Provides that a person who sells an imitation firearm in the State is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Provides that a person who sells a BB device that does not meet the criteria specified in the Imitation Firearms Article is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Provides exemptions. Defines "imitation firearm" as any BB device, toy gun, replica of a firearm, or other device that is so substantially similar in coloration and overall appearance to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to perceive that the device is a firearm.

SB 721 CIV PRO-TESTIMONY RELIABILITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides limitations upon a non-expert's opinion or inference testimony. Sets forth requirements regarding: qualifications, testimony, disclosure, and compensation of expert witnesses; bases of expert opinion testimony; limitations on expert testimony; pre-trial hearings and disclosures concerning expert witnesses; precedents to be followed in interpreting the new provisions; interlocutory appeals of rulings on the admissibility of expert evidence; standards to be followed by reviewing courts in determining the admissibility of expert testimony; and severability. Provides that the new provisions apply to actions commenced on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act and pending actions in which a trial has not been scheduled

or in which a trial has been scheduled more than 90 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act. Effective immediately.

SB 722 FULL FAIR NONECONOMIC DAMAGE

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Creates the Full and Fair Noneconomic Damages Act. Provides that, in determining noneconomic damages, the fact finder may not consider: (i) evidence of a defendant's alleged wrongdoing, misconduct, or guilt; (ii) evidence of the defendant's wealth or financial resources; or (iii) any other evidence that is offered for the purpose of punishing the defendant, rather than offered for a compensatory purpose. Provides for bifurcated trials before the same jury in cases involving punitive damages, if requested by any defendant. Outlines the procedure for the bifurcated trials. Provides for court post-trial review of noneconomic damage awards pursuant to specified non-exclusive factors. Includes legislative findings, definitions, and applicability language. Effective immediately.

SB 723 CIV PRO-ASBESTOS EVIDENCE

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that in any case in which the plaintiff makes a claim based upon exposure to asbestos, the following issues are relevant to the determination of liability and damages: (1) whether the plaintiff had exposure to any asbestos manufactured by, processed by, or otherwise associated with any entity other than the defendant; (2) whether the plaintiff's exposure to asbestos was to asbestos exclusively manufactured by, processed by, or otherwise associated with the defendant; and (3) whether there is a causal relationship between the plaintiff's alleged injuries and the asbestos manufactured by, processed by, or otherwise associated with the defendant. Provides that the court shall allow the parties to present evidence concerning these issues and that the trier of fact shall determine liability and damages based on these issues, together with any other relevant issues. Effective immediately.

SB 724 CIV PRO-CLASS ACTIONS

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure in relation to class actions. Adds additional requirements concerning: prerequisites to the maintenance of a class action (including provisions that a class action may be certified only if: the plurality of the class members are residents of Illinois or if the plurality of the class members were physically in Illinois when the cause of action arose; and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy); where a class action may be brought; preliminary determinations to be made by the court; notice to the class; coupon and other noncash settlements; loss by class members under a proposed settlement; and attorney's fees.

SB 725 CIV PRO-JOINT SEVERAL LIABLE

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Deletes language providing for joint and several liability in actions on account of bodily injury or death or physical damage to property, based on negligence, or product liability based on strict tort liability. Adds language providing that in such actions in which recovery is predicated upon fault, each defendant found liable is liable for only that percentage of the plaintiff's damages that represents the contributory fault chargeable to that defendant in the comparison of the plaintiff's fault with the fault of all tortfeasors whose fault was a proximate cause of the death, injury, loss, or damage for which recovery is sought. Provides that except when the plaintiff is barred from recovering damages because the plaintiff's contributory fault is more than 50% of the proximate cause of the injury or damage for which recovery is sought, the plaintiff is barred from recovering damages from a defendant in excess of the amount of damages obtained by applying the percentage of contributing fault of that defendant to the amount of the plaintiff's damages. Provides that no defendant is jointly and severally liable for a plaintiff's damages. Amends the Joint Tortfeasor Contribution Act by deleting and repealing certain provisions regarding (i) contribution if the obligation of one or more of the joint tortfeasors is uncollectable and (ii) a plaintiff's right to recover the full amount of his judgment from any one or more defendants.

SB 726 TRANSPARENCY LAWSUITS PROTECT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Creates the Transparency in Lawsuits Protection Act. Provides that the purpose of the Act is to ensure that any Act, regulatory or otherwise, enacted in this State shall not create a private right of action unless such a right is expressly stated in the Act. Provides that any Act enacted in this State creating a private right of action shall contain express language providing for such a right and that courts of this State shall not construe a statute to imply a private right of action in the absence of such express language. Applies to any action that has not yet been initiated or is pending on the effective date of the Act. Effective immediately.

SB 727 CIV PRO-PRODUCT LIABILITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Re-enacts and changes various provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to product liability actions that were added by Public Act 89-7, which was held to be void in its entirety by the Illinois Supreme Court in *Best v. Taylor Machine Works*, 179 Ill. 2d 367 (1997). Effective immediately.

SB 728 CIV PRO-VENUE CORPORATIONS

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jil Tracy

Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that, if none of the parties joined in good faith as defendants in a civil case are residents of this State, an action against those defendants may be commenced in this State only in the county in which the transaction out of which the cause of action arose, or some part of that

transaction, occurred. Provides that a corporation organized under the laws of or authorized to do business in this State is a resident only of any county in which it has its registered office or other office (rather than being a resident of any county in which it does business). Makes similar changes regarding partnerships and voluntary unincorporated associations. Deletes language providing that an insurance company incorporated under the laws of or doing business in this State may be sued in any county in which one of the plaintiffs resides. Provides that, if none of the defendants in a civil action are residents of this State, and no part of the transaction out of which the action arose occurred in this State, the action must be dismissed for lack of proper venue. Makes other changes. Provides that the changes apply to causes of action filed on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act.

SB 736 HIGHER ED-MILITARY EXP CREDIT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Michael E. Hastings

Creates the Educational Credit for Military Experience Act. Provides that before June 1, 2018, each institution of higher education shall adopt a policy regarding its awarding of academic credit for military training considered applicable to the requirements of the student's certificate or degree program. Requires the policy to apply to any individual who is enrolled in the institution of higher education and who has completed a military training course that meets certain requirements. Provides that institutions of higher education shall develop procedures for evaluating courses and awarding credit. Requires institutions of higher education to submit their policies for awarding credit to the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board for review before June 30, 2018 and before June 30 of every other year thereafter. Requires the Board of Higher Education to collect data in the Illinois Higher Education Information System on students who are veterans or have military service to assess enrollment and completions outcomes.

SB 861 CIV PRO-INSTRUCTION-LIABILITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Christine Radogno

Amends and re-enacts provisions of the Civil Practice Article of the Code of Civil Procedure concerning actions on account of bodily injury or death or physical damage to property based on negligence or product liability based on strict tort liability. Provides that the court shall not instruct the jury of the consequence of any findings of fault of any plaintiff or defendant under specified provisions of the Code. Deletes language providing that the court shall instruct the jury in writing that the defendant shall be found not liable if the jury finds that the contributory fault of the plaintiff is more than 50% of the proximate cause of the injury or damage for which recovery is sought. In the Section concerning joint liability, deletes language providing that: any defendant whose fault is less than 25% of the total fault attributable to the plaintiff, the defendants sued by the plaintiff, and any third party defendant except the plaintiff's employer, is severally liable for non-medical damages; and any defendant whose fault is 25% or greater of the total fault attributable to the plaintiff, the defendants sued by the plaintiff, and any

third party defendants except the plaintiff's employer, is jointly and severally liable for non-medical damages. Adds language providing that: any defendant whose fault is less than 25% of the proximate cause of the injury or damage for which recovery is sought by the plaintiff is severally liable for non-medical damages; and any defendant whose fault is 25% or greater of the proximate cause of the injury or damage for which recovery is sought by the plaintiff is jointly and severally liable for non-medical damages. Contains applicability provisions.

SB 924 CONSUM FRAUD-STANDARD SERVICE

Senate Sponsor Sen. Melinda Bush

Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Provides that no seller may discriminate, with respect to the price charged for services of similar or like kind, against a person because of the person's gender. Provides that nothing in the provisions of the amendatory Act: (1) prohibits price differences based specifically upon the amount of time, difficulty, or cost of providing the services; or (2) alters or affects the provisions of the Illinois Insurance Code or other laws that govern health care service plan or insurer underwriting or rating practices. Requires certain sellers to: (a) clearly and conspicuously disclose to consumers in writing the pricing for each standard service provided; (b) provide consumers with a complete written price list upon request; and (c) display in a conspicuous place at least one clearly visible sign, which reads: "ILLINOIS LAW PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO THE PRICE CHARGED FOR SERVICES OF SIMILAR OR LIKE KIND, AGAINST A PERSON BECAUSE OF THE PERSON'S GENDER. A COMPLETE PRICE LIST IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST." Contains provisions concerning remedies and civil liabilities. Defines "standard service".

SB 956 UNEMPLOYMNT CONTRBUTE QUARTRLY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jason A. Barickman

Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act. Provides that upon payment of an annual administrative fee not exceeding \$100, during the first 3 calendar quarters an employer may pay its quarterly contributions due for wages in equal installments. Establishes a schedule for payment of the contributions. Provides for the accrual of interest. Authorizes the issuance of necessary rules. Provides that payment on a quarterly basis is not available for calendar years when there are outstanding bonds under the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Financing Act.

SB 959 PREVAILING WAGE PUBLIC UTILITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Jason A. Barickman

Amends the Prevailing Wage Act. Provides that "public utility company" means: (1) a privately owned public utility as defined and regulated under the Public Utilities Act; (2) a public utility that is owned and operated by any political subdivision, public institution of higher education, or municipal corporation of this State; or (3) a public utility that is owned by a political subdivision, public institution of higher education, or municipal corporation and operated, wholly or in

part, by any of its lessees or operating agents. Makes other changes.

SB 1240 UTILITY-SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. James F. Clayborne

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Requires all local exchange telecommunications carriers with at least 35,000 subscriber access lines, any person or entity providing cable service or video service, and any wireless telephone carrier and internet service provider serving Illinois residents to submit an annual report concerning procurement goals and actual spending for female-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned, and small business enterprises. Effective immediately.

SB 1267 RAILROAD SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

Senate Sponsor Sen. Martin A. Sandoval

Creates the Railroad Supplier Diversity Act. Defines terms. Provides that each Class I railroad company shall, no later than April 15 of each year, submit to the Illinois Commerce Commission an annual report containing certain information concerning procurement goals and spending for female-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned, and small business enterprises. Provides that the reports shall be submitted in the form and manner required by the Commission. Provides that the Commission and each railroad company subject to the Act shall hold an annual workshop open to the public on the state of supplier diversity.

SB 1288 LIQUOR-CRAFT DISTILLERS

Senate Sponsor Sen. Dan McConchie

Amends the Liquor Control Act of 1934. Provides that a craft distiller may make sales and deliveries to importing distributors and distributors and may make sales and deliveries of up to 25,000 gallons of spirits to retail licensees per year. Effective immediately.

SB 1294 INDUSTRIAL HEMP ACT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Toi W. Hutchinson

Creates the Industrial Hemp Act. Provides that any person desiring to grow, process, cultivate, harvest, process, possess, sell, or purchase industrial hemp or industrial hemp related products must be licensed by the Department of Agriculture. Provides that the application for a license shall include the name and address of the applicant and the legal description of the land area to be used to grow or process industrial hemp and that the license shall be valid for a period of 5 years. Preempts home rule powers. Amends the Illinois Noxious Weed Law. Provides that "noxious weed" does not include industrial hemp. Amends the Cannabis Control Act. Provides that "cannabis" does not include industrial hemp.

SB 1364 MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION

Senate Sponsor Sen. Napoleon Harris, III

Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2018, licenses issued to Type I and Type II establishments (meat and poultry processing and slaughtering) shall not expire if the licensee remains in

compliance with the provisions of the Act. Provides that if the management at a Type I establishment desires to work under conditions which will require the services of a Department of Agriculture inspector on any Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, or for more than an approved work day on any other day shall request the Department representative (currently, Regional Administrator) to furnish inspection service during those times. Effective immediately.

SB 1381 TELECOMS-IP-BASED SERVICES

Senate Sponsor Sen. Bill Cunningham

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Adds provisions to the Telecommunications Article concerning the transition of Large Electing Providers to Internet Protocol-based networks and service. Provides that beginning July 1, 2017, a Large Electing Provider may cease to offer and provide a telecommunications service to an identifiable class or group of customers, other than voice telecommunications service to residential customers, upon 60 days' notice to the Commission and affected customers. Provides that beginning July 1, 2017, a Large Electing Provider, may cease to offer and provide voice telecommunications service to an identifiable class or group of residential customers subject to compliance with specified requirements. Repeals language that provides for the repeal of the Telecommunications Article of the Public Utilities Act on July 1, 2017. Removes the December 31, 2020 expiration date for an Illinois Commerce Commission-issued authorization to offer or provide cable or video service. Repeals language that provides for the repeal of specified Sections of the Cable and Video Competition Article of the Illinois Public Utilities Act on July 1, 2017. Defines terms and makes other changes. Effective immediately.

SB 1432 SAFE AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE ACT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Martin A. Sandoval

Creates the Safe Autonomous Vehicle Act. Provides definitions. Provides that upon notification to the Department of Motor Vehicles, a Motor Vehicle Manufacturer may commence a safe autonomous vehicle project with a vehicle installed with an Automated Driving System after providing notification to the Department of Motor Vehicles and after self-certification under certain conditions. Provides that the Manufacturer shall determine the geographical boundaries of the project and shall maintain incident records and provide periodic summaries to the Department and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Provides that the Participating Fleet in the program shall be insured by the Manufacturer who shall assume liability for incidents where the automated driving system technology is at fault for that incident. Provides that any person operates a vehicle with automated driving system technology without first satisfying the eligibility requirements in the Act shall be fined \$10,000 for a first violation and a second or subsequent violation is a Class A misdemeanor. Preempts home rule powers. Effective immediately.

SB 1502 RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Michael E. Hastings

Creates the Right to Know Act. Provides that an operator of a commercial website or online service that collects personally identifiable information through the internet about individual customers residing in Illinois who use or visit its commercial website or online service shall notify those customers of certain specified information pertaining to its personal information sharing practices. Requires an operator to make available certain specified information upon disclosing a customer's personal information to a third party, and to provide an e-mail address or toll-free telephone number whereby customers may request or obtain that information. Provides for a right of action to customers whose rights are violated under the Act. Provides that any waiver of the provisions of the Act or any agreement that does not comply with the applicable provisions of the Act shall be void and unenforceable. Provides that no provision of the Act shall be construed to conflict with or apply to certain specified provisions of federal law or certain interactions with State or local government. Provides findings and purpose. Defines terms.

SB 1505 VEH CD-VEH REG-MULTI-YEAR

Senate Sponsor Sen. Dan McConchie

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that beginning with the 2018 registration year, the Secretary of State shall offer to each owner of a motor vehicle of the first division or motor vehicle of the second division weighing no more than 8,000 pounds a registration period based on a one calendar year, 2 calendar year, 3 calendar year, 4 calendar year, or 5 calendar year basis. Provides that the owner of the motor vehicle shall pay a one-time registration fee under the Code that shall, if applicable, be increased to reflect the registration year period chosen by the motor vehicle owner. Effective immediately.

SB 1536 UTILITIES-WATER PRICING REPORT

Senate Sponsor Sen. Chuck Weaver

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Provides that, on April 1 of each year beginning the year after the effective date of the amendatory Act, privately held public water utilities shall provide annual reports to the Illinois Commerce Commission with specified information for each municipality served by the utility. Provides that the utility shall certify the accuracy of the information provided in the reports. Effective immediately.

SB 1537 UTILITIES-WATER ASSETS PRICING

Senate Sponsor Sen. Chuck Weaver

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Adds provisions concerning pricing of water assets, meaning a water utility or water distribution company and its tangible and intangible properties, by an Illinois governmental purchaser. Provides that the determination of value or price for the purchase or acquisition of water assets by the Illinois governmental purchaser: may not distinguish, penalize, or increase the value or price to be paid by an Illinois governmental purchaser based on specified characteristics of the purchaser; or may not use as a factor any excess

of replacement cost new minus depreciation over the value of price based on fair market value of the water assets, as determined by what a willing buyer in the private sector would value, price, or pay for the water assets. Provides for application of the provisions to contracts already in place. Contains a severability clause. Effective immediately.

SB 1577 FALSE CLAIMS ACT-PENALTIES

Senate Sponsor Sen. Julie A. Morrison

Amends the Illinois False Claims Act. Provides that a person who commits certain acts is liable to the State for a civil penalty of not less than the minimum amount and not more than the maximum amount allowed for a civil penalty for a violation of the federal False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3729 et seq.) as adjusted by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (28 U.S.C. 2461) (instead of a penalty of not less than \$5,500 and not more than \$11,000). Effective immediately.

SB 1620 PROCUREMENT-VETERAN PREF

Senate Sponsor Sen. Michael E. Hastings

Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Provides that the certification of service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses and veteran-owned small businesses is an exclusive powers and functions of the State. Denies home rule powers. Effective immediately.

SB 1646 INS CD-UNDERINSURED MOTORIST

Senate Sponsor Sen. Ira I. Silverstein

Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Provides that no policy which provides underinsured motor vehicle coverage shall be renewed, delivered, or issued for delivery unless it provides that any dispute with respect to the coverage and the amount of damages shall be submitted for arbitration to the American Arbitration Association and be subject to its rules for the conduct of arbitration hearings as to all matters except medical opinions. Provides the rules for arbitration in which a claimant is only seeking monetary damages up to certain limits. Provides rules for proposing to use the written opinion or testimony of an expert or opinion witness. Provides rules for subpoenaing the author or maker of a document. Provides that certain provisions in the Code of Civil Procedure shall be applicable to arbitration hearings.

SB 1898 CONSUMER STATEMENTS PROTECTED

Senate Sponsor Sen. Steve Stadelman

Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. Provides that a contract or a proposed contract for the sale or lease of consumer merchandise or services may not include a provision waiving the consumer's right to make any statement regarding the seller or lessor or the employees or agents of the seller or lessor or concerning the merchandise or services. Makes it an unlawful practice to threaten or to seek to enforce a provision made unlawful by the new provisions or to otherwise penalize a consumer for making a

protected statement. Provides that a waiver of the new provisions is contrary to public policy and is void and unenforceable. Provides that the new provisions may not be construed to prohibit or limit a person or business that hosts online consumer reviews or comments from removing a statement that is otherwise lawful to remove.