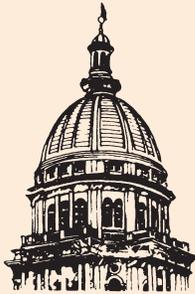


CONTENTS



**Biographies of
New House Members**
2

**Biographies of
New Senate Members**
5

**95th General Assembly
Senate Members**
8

**95th General Assembly
House Members**
9

**Members Not Returning
to Current Office**
10

**New Law Requires Home
Carbon Monoxide Alarms**
11

**Abstracts of Reports Filed
With General Assembly**
12

Dems Gain More Seats in General Assembly

Democrats increased their seats in the Illinois Senate to a veto-proof majority and kept control of the House, gaining one seat in the 95th General Assembly. The House will have 66 Democratic and 52 Republican members; the Senate will have 37 Democrats and 22 Republicans.

Democrats also won all six statewide executive offices. This is the first time since 1941 that Democrats have held all statewide executive offices. The last time one party got all statewide executive offices was in 1994, when the Republicans won control.

In the U.S. House races, 17 incumbents retained their seats. In the two open seats, Democrat Phil Hare won retiring Congressman Lane Evans' seat, and State Senator Peter Roskam won retiring Congressman Henry Hyde's seat. The partisan split in the Illinois delegation remains 10 Democrats and 9 Republicans.

There were seven races for open seats in the Senate; four changed from Republican to Democratic. The seven races for open seats in the House all stayed in the same party. The House will have eight totally new members, and the Senate seven.

In an upset in the General Assembly races, Democratic challenger Fred Crespo defeated Representative Terry Parke of Schaumburg for the 44th House District. Another Democratic challenger, Dan Kotowski, defeated Senator Cheryl Axley of Des Plaines for the 33rd Senate District.

Other notable events include the election of formerly Independent Senator Rev. James T. Meeks of Calumet City as a Democrat in his uncontested race. Senator Miguel del Valle leaves the Senate to begin service as Chicago City Clerk on December 1, and Representative Willie Delgado will replace him in the Senate. (Representative Delgado's replacement has not yet been appointed.)

Biographies of new members of the House begin on page 2; Senate members' biographies begin on page 5. A list of Senate members for the 95th General Assembly is on page 8. House members begin on page 9.

Nicole Lisk
Senior Research Associate



Biographies of New House Members



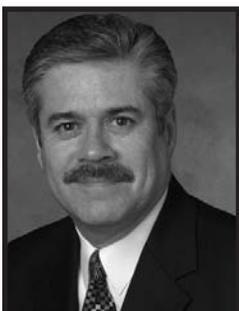
Daniel V. Beiser (D-111, Alton) was appointed in 2004 to fill the seat of Representative Steve Davis, who had resigned, and has now been elected. He has a bachelor's degree in mass communications and park and recreation management, and a master's in special education, both from SIU—Edwardsville. He was a teacher from 1979 to 1989 and an Alton alderman from 1987 to 1989, then served four terms as Alton's city treasurer. He has been the president of the Illinois Municipal Treasurers Association. His House committee assignments are to the House Committees on Aging (vice-chairperson), Appropriations—Higher Education; Elections & Campaign Reform; Elementary & Secondary Education; Higher Education; Local Government; and Transportation & Motor Vehicles.



Franco Coladipietro (R-45, Bloomingdale) is the managing partner of a Bloomingdale law firm. He has a bachelor's degree in finance from Northern Illinois University and a law degree from the John Marshall Law School. He has been active in local and DuPage County Republican organizations, and has been honored by several organizations including a Young Lawyer of the Year award from the Illinois State Bar Association.



Sandy Cole (R-62, Grayslake) has been a member of the Lake County Board for 10 years, and chaired its Finance Committee. She has also served on the Lake County Forest Preserve District board. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Rockford College.



Fred Crespo (D-44, Hoffman Estates) is a trustee of the village of Hoffman Estates. He has a bachelor's degree from Loyola University of Chicago. He worked 22 years for People's Energy, rising to an executive supervisory position, before becoming a real estate agent. He has chaired the Cultural Awareness Commission, and served on several Hoffman Estates committees dealing with public works, utilities, or health. He has also coached running teams and promoted bicycling.



Jim Durkin (R-82, Western Springs) was appointed in 2006 to replace Representative Eileen Lyons, and has now been elected. He is a graduate of Illinois State University and John Marshall Law School. He served in the House previously (1995-2002) and is also a former Assistant Illinois Attorney General. His community activities include serving on the Death Penalty Reform Study Committee, and the board of advisors of the Giant Steps School for Autism. In the House he serves on the Committees on Appropriations—Elementary & Secondary Education; Fee-For-Service Initiatives; International Trade & Commerce; Elections & Campaign Reform (Republican spokesperson); and Judiciary II—Criminal Law and its subcommittee on Managing Sex Offender Issues.



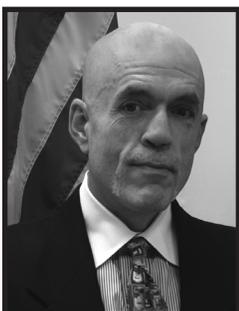
La Shawn K. Ford (D-8, Chicago) has a Bachelor of Science in education from Loyola University of Chicago. After teaching history and coaching basketball for six years in the Chicago public schools, he became a licensed real estate broker and started his own real estate firm. He has received the Austin Business Owner of the Year and Chicago Association of Realtors Outstanding Achievement awards. He serves on the boards of several community and church bodies.



Mike Fortner (R-95, West Chicago) is currently the mayor of West Chicago, and has headed transportation policy for the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference. He has a B.A. in math and physics from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from Brandeis University in Massachusetts. He also teaches physics at Northern Illinois University, and co-chairs the Illinois Articulation Initiative Physics Panel. He formerly was a West Chicago alderman and a member of the West Chicago Elementary District 33 school board.



Esther Golar (D-6, Chicago) was appointed in January 2006 to replace Representative Patricia Bailey, and has now been elected. She attended Malcolm X College; has served on Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago and the Robert Fulton Elementary Local School Council; and received the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Leadership Award. She serves on the House Committees on Appropriations—General Services; Child Support Enforcement; Developmental Disabilities & Mental Illness; Health Care Availability & Access; Judiciary II—Criminal Law; Tourism & Conventions; and Veterans Affairs.



Gregory Harris (D-13, Chicago) is Chicago Alderman Mary Ann Smith's chief of staff. He has been a member or director of the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, the Chicago HIV Service Planning Council, the AIDS Legal Council, Open Hand Chicago, and other community organizations. He has received awards from a number of Chicago organizations that help immigrants, and in 1992 was named Outstanding Young Chicagoan by the Chicago Jaycees.



Elizabeth Hernandez (D-24, Cicero) was employed with Cicero Public School District 99 for 17 years, rising to become overseer of its educational grants office. She has been the president of the Cicero Regular Democratic Organization since 2000, and in 2003 became a Senior Policy Advisor to Lt. Governor Pat Quinn. She is also active in the leadership of several community organizations for youth or the mentally ill.



Elga L. Jefferies (D-26, Chicago) was appointed earlier this year to complete the term of the late Representative Lovana Jones, and has now been elected. She was Representative Jones' administrative assistant for 19 years, and also completed the term of the late Senator Margaret Smith upon her retirement in 2002. She has been a Revenue Account Specialist II for the Chicago Department of Revenue, and a Senior Public Service Administrator with the Illinois Department of Human Services. Her current assignments are to the House Appropriations—Public Safety and Public Utilities Committees, and the Managing Sex Offender Issues Subcommittee of the House Judiciary II—Criminal Law Committee.



Harry R. Ramey, Jr. (R-55, Carol Stream) was appointed in 2005 to replace John J. Millner after he moved to the Senate, and has now been elected. He has a bachelor's degree in restaurant management from the University of Illinois. After managing several restaurants, he was an outreach representative for the Secretary of State from 1992 until his appointment to the House. He is also a Wayne Township trustee, and active in local, state, and national political campaigns. He is a member of the House Committees on Appropriations—Public Safety; Computer Technology; Consumer Protection; State Government Administration; and Transportation & Motor Vehicles.



Dennis Reboletti (R-46, Elmhurst) is a Will County Assistant State's Attorney. He has also served as a Elmhurst alderman and an Addison Township trustee.



Jil Tracy (R-93, Mt. Sterling) was appointed in June 2006 to replace Representative Art Tenhouse, and has now been elected. She has a B.A. in political science and a law degree from Southern Illinois University. She practiced law privately for several years and was the attorney for several local governments, including Mt. Sterling. She was the Director of the Attorney General's West Central Illinois regional office from 1997 until 2004. Her House committee assignments are to the Committees on Aging; Consumer Protection; Environment & Energy; and Transportation & Motor Vehicles.



Biographies of New Senate Members



Michael Bond (D-31, Grayslake) has a B.A. from SIU-Carbondale and an MBA from Roosevelt University. He joined Allstate Insurance Company in 1995 and rose to become Director of Corporate Finance. He is also a member of board of the Woodland District 50 Consolidated School System, and is active in several youth sports.



William Delgado (D-2, Chicago) has served in the House since 1999, and was recently appointed to replace Senator Miguel del Valle upon his resignation to become Chicago City Clerk. He has a B.A. in criminal justice from Northeastern University in Boston and a certificate in social work from John Marshall Law School, and has been a parole and probation officer in Miami, Fla. Currently in the House, his committee appointments are to the Committees on Appropriations—Elementary & Secondary Education; Fee-For-Service Initiatives (co-chairperson); Human Services (chairperson); Judiciary II—Criminal Law (vice-chairperson); and Registration & Regulation.



Michael Frerichs (D-52, Gifford) is Champaign County Auditor and a former county board member. He has an undergraduate degree from Yale. After graduation, he studied Chinese and taught English in Taiwan. He recently got one of two national scholarships to attend the Advanced Government Finance Institute in Madison, Wisconsin. He has been the Managing Director of a local engineering firm, and is a director of a nonprofit nursing home and a volunteer firefighter.



Linda Holmes (D-42, Aurora) is a member of the Kane County Board, and a Kane County Forest Preserve commissioner. She has a B.A. in business; has worked for a marketing research firm; and now owns a remodeling company co-founded with her husband. She is active in numerous community organizations in Aurora or its area, and a supporter of several national environmental groups.



Randall M. Hultgren (R-48, Winfield) has served since 1999 in the House, and has now been elected to the Senate. He has a bachelor's degree from Bethel College and a law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law, and practices law in Wheaton. He is also a member of the DuPage County Board and of the board of directors of the DuPage Homeownership Center. At present in the House, he is the Republican Spokesperson on the Judiciary I—Civil Law Committee and a member of the Developmental Disabilities & Mental Illness, Financial Institutions, International Trade & Commerce, and Telecommunications Committees.



Michael Jacobs (D-36, Moline) was appointed in 2005 to replace his father, Senator Denny Jacobs, who had resigned; he has now been elected. He has a bachelor's degree in political studies from the University of Illinois at Springfield and a master's in political science from the University of West Florida. He has served as a Downstate liaison to the Secretary of State's office. His legislative assignments are to the Senate Committees on Environment & Energy; Executive Appointments; Insurance; Pensions & Investments; and Revenue.



David Koehler (D-46, Peoria) has a B.A. in religion from Yankton College in South Dakota, and a Master of Divinity degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He has served on the Peoria County Board and Peoria City Council. In 1985 he became Executive Director of the Peoria Labor Management Council, and in 1992 he also became president of Labor Management Cooperative Health Programs, a health-care purchasing cooperative. He is the vice-chairperson of the Illinois Adequate Health Care Task Force.



Dan Kotowski (D-33, Park Ridge) is the former Executive Director of the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence. He was the Vice President for Development and Public Affairs for the Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN), a human services agency. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and an M.A. from DePaul University.



John J. Millner (R-28, St. Charles), served in the House from 2003 to 2005, then was appointed to the Senate to replace Senator Kay Wojcik; he has now been elected. He has a bachelor's degree from Lewis University, and a master's in law enforcement administration from Western Illinois University. He was Chief of the Elmhurst police force for 16 years, and has written manuals and articles on law enforcement. He is a past president of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, and has been a member of many law-enforcement committees or organizations from the county to international levels. His Senate assignments are as minority spokesperson on the Senate State Government Committee, and a member of the Licensed Activities Committee and Pensions & Investments Committee.



Matt Murphy (R-27, Palatine) is a graduate of the University of Iowa and John Marshall Law School, and practices law in a private firm. He is also a trustee of William Rainey Harper College in Palatine.



Michael Noland (D-22, Elgin) has a bachelor's degree and MBA from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a law degree from John Marshall Law School. He served in the Marines, and as a Navy Corpsman at the Great Lakes Naval Hospital, receiving several awards. He practices law privately and has been on the staff of the Kane County Public Defender. He has also worked with local organizations that seek to protect the environment or aid homeless persons.



Arthur "AJ" Wilhelmi (D-43, Joliet) was appointed in January 2005 to replace Senator Larry Walsh who had resigned; he has now been elected. He has a bachelor's degree in English from Loyola University and a law degree from the Chicago-Kent College of Law. He is a partner in a law firm and concentrates in real estate and business law. He has chaired the board of the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce, and served in other economic development posts. His committee assignments are to the Senate Committees on Agriculture & Conservation (vice-chairperson); Appropriations II and III; Housing & Community Affairs; and Local Government.



Senate Chamber



House Chamber

95th General Assembly Senate Members

New Members (7)

District

22	Michael Noland (D)
27	Matt Murphy (R)
31	Michael Bond (D)
33	Dan Kotowski (D)
42	Linda Holmes (D)
46	David Koehler (D)
52	Michael Frerichs (D)

Representative in 94th General Assembly, elected to 95th Senate (1)

District

48	Randall M. “Randy” Hultgren (R)
----	---------------------------------

Re-elected to 95th General Assembly House, appointed to 95th Senate (1)

District

2	William “Willie” Delgado (D)
---	------------------------------

Appointed to 94th General Assembly, elected to 95th Senate (3)

District

28	John J. Millner (R)
36	Mike Jacobs (D)
43	Arthur J. “AJ” Wilhelmi (D)

Incumbents re-elected or continuing in office (47)

1	Antonio “Tony” Munoz (D)
3	Mattie Hunter (D)
4	Kimberly A. Lightford (D)
5	Rickey R. Hendon (D)
6	John J. Cullerton (D)
7	Carol Ronen (D)

8	Ira I. Silverstein (D)
9	Jeffrey M. “Jeff” Schoenberg (D)
10	James A. DeLeo (D)
11	Louis S. Viverito (D)
12	Martin A. Sandoval (D)
13	Kwame Raoul (D)
14	Emil Jones, Jr. (D)
15	James T. Meeks (D)
16	Jacqueline Y. “Jacqui” Collins (D)
17	Donne E. Trotter (D)
18	Edward D. Maloney (D)
19	M. Maggie Crotty (D)
20	Iris Y. Martinez (D)
21	Dan Cronin (R)
23	Carole Pankau (R)
24	Kirk W. Dillard (R)
25	Chris Lauzen (R)
26	William E. Peterson (R)
29	Susan Garrett (D)
30	Terry Link (D)
32	Pamela Althoff (R)
34	Dave Syverson (R)
35	J. Bradley “Brad” Burzynski (R)
37	Dale Risinger (R)
38	Gary G. Dahl (R)
39	Don Harmon (D)
40	Debbie Halvorson (D)
41	Christine Radogno (R)
44	Bill Brady (R)
45	Todd Sieben (R)
47	John M. Sullivan (D)
49	Deanna Demuzio (D)
50	Larry K. Bomke (R)
51	Frank C. Watson (R)
53	Dan Rutherford (R)
54	John O. Jones (R)
55	Dale A. Righter (R)
56	William R. “Bill” Haine (D)
57	James F. Clayborne, Jr. (D)
58	David S. Luechtefeld (R)
59	Gary F. Forby (D)

95th General Assembly House Members

New Members (8)

District

8	La Shawn Ford (D)
13	Gregory Harris (D)
24	Elizabeth Hernandez (D)
44	Fred Crespo (D)
45	Franco Coladipietro (R)
46	Dennis Reboletti (R)
62	Sandy Cole (R)
95	Mike Fortner (R)

Representative in 94th General Assembly, elected to 95th House (6)

District

6	Esther Golar (D)
26	Elga Jefferies (D)
55	Harry Ramey, Jr. (R)
82	Jim Durkin (R)
93	Jil Tracy (R)
111	Dan Beiser (D)

Incumbents re-elected (103)

District

1	Susana A. Mendoza (D)
2	Edward Acevedo (D)
3*	
4	Cynthia Soto (D)
5	Kenneth "Ken" Dunkin (D)
7	Karen A. Yarbrough (D)
9	Arthur L. Turner (D)
10	Annazette R. Collins (D)
11	John A. Fritchey (D)
12	Sara Feigenholtz (D)
14	Harry Osterman (D)
15	John C. D'Amico (D)
16	Louis I. Lang (D)
17	Elizabeth Coulson (R)

18	Julie Hamos (D)
19	Joseph M. Lyons (D)
20	Michael P. McAuliffe (R)
21	Robert S. Molaro (D)
22	Michael J. Madigan (D)
23	Daniel J. "Dan" Burke (D)
25	Barbara Flynn Currie (D)
27	Monique D. Davis (D)
28	Robert "Bob" Rita (D)
29	David E. Miller (D)
30	William "Will" Davis (D)
31	Mary E. Flowers (D)
32	Milton "Milt" Patterson (D)
33	Marlow H. Colvin (D)
34	Constance A. "Connie" Howard (D)
35	Kevin C. Joyce (D)
36	James D. "Jim" Brosnahan (D)
37	Kevin A. McCarthy (D)
38	Robin Kelly (D)
39	Maria Antonia "Toni" Berrios (D)
40	Richard T. Bradley (D)
41	Robert A. "Bob" Biggins (R)
42	Sandra M. Pihos (R)
43	Ruth Munson (R)
47	Patricia R. "Patti" Bellock (R)
48	James H. "Jim" Meyer (R)
49	Timothy L. Schmitz (R)
50	Patricia Reid Lindner (R)
51	Ed Sullivan, Jr. (R)
52	Mark H. Beaubien, Jr. (R)
53	Sidney H. Mathias (R)
54	Suzanne "Suzie" Bassi (R)
56	Paul D. Froehlich (R)
57	Elaine Nekritz (D)
58	Karen May (D)
59	Kathleen A. Ryg (D)
60	Eddie Washington (D)
61	JoAnn Osmond (R)
63	Jack D. Franks (D)
64	Michael W. "Mike" Tryon (R)
65	Rosemary Mulligan (R)
66	Carolyn H. Krause (R)
67	Charles E. "Chuck" Jefferson (D)

* In district 3, Rep. William "Willie" Delgado (D) won re-election, but was appointed to the Senate. A replacement has not yet been made.

68	Dave Winters (R)	92	Aaron J. Schock (R)
69	Ronald A. Wait (R)	94	Richard P. Myers (R)
70	Robert W. “Bob” Pritchard (R)	96	Joe Dunn (R)
71	Mike Boland (D)	97	Jim Watson (R)
72	Patrick J. Verschoore (D)	98	Gary Hannig (D)
73	David R. Leitch (R)	99	Raymond Poe (R)
74	Donald L. Moffitt (R)	100	Rich Brauer (R)
75	Careen M. Gordon (D)	101	Robert F. Flider (D)
76	Frank J. Mautino (D)	102	Ron Stephens (R)
77	Angelo “Skip” Saviano (R)	103	Naomi D. Jakobsson (D)
78	Deborah L. Graham (D)	104	William B. Black (R)
79	Lisa Dugan (D)	105	Shane Cultra (R)
80	George F. Scully, Jr. (D)	106	Keith P. Sommer (R)
81	Renée Kosel (R)	107	Kurt M. Granberg (D)
83	Linda Chapa LaVia (D)	108	David B. Reis (R)
84	Tom Cross (R)	109	Roger L. Eddy (R)
85	Brent Hassert (R)	110	Chapin Rose (R)
86	John C. “Jack” McGuire (D)	112	Jay C. Hoffman (D)
87	Bill Mitchell (R)	113	Thomas “Tom” Holbrook (D)
88	Daniel P. “Dan” Brady (R)	114	Wyvetter H. Younge (D)
89	Jim Sacia (R)	115	Mike Bost (R)
90	Gerald L. “Jerry” Mitchell (R)	116	Dan Reitz (D)
91	Michael K. Smith (D)	117	John E. Bradley (D)
		118	Brandon W. Phelps (D)

Members Not Returning to Current Office

Senators (9)

District

2	Miguel del Valle (D), resigned his seat
22	Steven J. Rauschenberger (R), ran for Lieutenant Governor
27	Wendell Jones (R), did not run
31	Adeline Jay Geo-Karis (R), lost primary election
33	Cheryl Axley (R), lost general election
42	Edward F. Petka (R), did not run
46	George P. Shadid (D), did not run
48	Peter Roskam (R), won Congressional seat
52	Richard J. Winkel, Jr. (R), did not run

Representatives (8)

District

8	Calvin Giles (D), lost primary election
13	Larry McKeon (D), did not run
24	Michelle Chavez (D), lost primary election
44	Terry Parke (R), lost general election
45	Roger A. Jenisch (R), lost primary election
46	Lee A. Daniels (R), did not run
62	Robert W. Churchill (R), did not run
95	Randall M. “Randy” Hultgren (R), won in 48 th Senate district

New Law Requires Home Carbon Monoxide Alarms

A law enacted by the General Assembly this year will require almost every residence in Illinois to have at least one carbon monoxide alarm by January 1, 2007. Major retailers plan to have the detectors available during the holiday shopping season. Chicago has required carbon monoxide alarms in many residences since 1994; at least 10 other states also require them.

Background

Carbon monoxide (chemical formula CO) is a colorless, odorless gas formed by incomplete burning of fuels such as gasoline, heating oil, natural gas, propane, or charcoal. It may come from sources such as malfunctioning furnaces; unvented fuel-burning heaters; charcoal grills and camp stoves; or motor vehicle exhaust. If it accumulates indoors, it can cause headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion; higher levels can be fatal.

Carbon monoxide is the largest cause of poisoning deaths in the U.S., killing about 500 Americans and sending 15,000 to hospitals each year. The Illinois Department of Public Health reported a total of 21 accidental deaths statewide in 2004 from gases (including carbon monoxide, natural gas, vehicle exhaust, tear gas, nitrogen oxide, and sulfur dioxide). Most carbon monoxide poisonings occur in homes; others occur in tents or other temporary shelters, vehicles, or garages.

New Law

Effective January 1, 2007, every non-exempt dwelling unit must have at least one CO alarm within 15 feet of each room used for sleeping. A “dwelling unit” is defined as a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, including each living unit in a multi-family residence or mixed-use building. The law exempts a residential unit only if it fits one of two narrow exceptions:

(A) It is in a building meeting **all three** of these criteria:

(1) It does not use fuel for heat, water heating, or ventilation;

(2) it is not connected to a garage; and

(3) it is not near enough to a ventilated source of CO to receive CO from that source, as determined by the “local building commissioner.” (The quoted term most likely refers to whatever office issues building permits in the municipality or county.)

or

(B) It is not close enough to **any** source of CO to be at risk of receiving CO from that source, as determined by the local building commissioner.

Since the act is a criminal law, it is not clear whether such determinations by local building officials must occur before a homeowner is cited for a violation to be effective. But apparently only a dwelling with all-electric heating (including water heating, and perhaps including cooking) and no attached garage would qualify for either of these exemptions.

All alarms required by the act must have batteries as either their main power source or a backup to house current. The owner of a multi-unit dwelling must supply and install alarms and initial batteries, and give written information on testing and maintenance to one tenant per unit.

Tenants must test and maintain alarms; replace batteries as needed; notify the owner in writing of any problems they cannot correct; and let in the owner (or owner’s agent) to correct such problems.

Alarms must meet requirements of the State Fire Marshal, be approved by a national testing laboratory, and comply with current standards of Underwriters Laboratories or the Canadian Standard Association. (A spokeswoman for the State Fire Marshal’s office said it has no regulations on CO alarms and does not plan to issue any; an alarm meeting the other statutory requirements will be satisfactory.)

Willful failure to install or maintain a required alarm will be a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by up to 6 months in jail and a fine up to \$1,500 plus an additional \$375. The State Fire Marshal’s spokeswoman said that homes will not be inspected regularly for detectors; but local officials may check for them if called to a home for a fire or other emergency, or during inspections for building permits or other home inspections.

Buying an Alarm

CO alarms cost \$20 to \$60 in major stores. Those meeting standards of Underwriters Laboratories or the Canadian Standard Association will so state on the package.

Hardware or home-improvement chains that were called (Ace Hardware, Home Depot, Lowe’s, and Walgreens) reported plans to increase their stocks of CO alarms in Illinois stores to meet demand under the new law. Some chains reported surges in demand in other states after similar laws were enacted.

Sarah E. Franklin
Research Associate

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed with General Assembly

The Legislative Research Unit staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly. Legislators may receive copies of entire reports by sending the enclosed form to the State Government Report Distribution Center at the Illinois State Library. Abstracts are published quarterly. Legislators who wish to receive them more often may contact the executive director.

Aging, Dept. on

Older Adult Services Act report, January 2006

Describes Department's plans to implement provisions of the Older Adult Services Act (Public Act 93-1031), with an emphasis on home-based and community-based care rather than a facility-based system. In November 2004, Department established an advisory committee as authorized by the Act. Department's objectives include compiling information on financing long-term care; improving the system for accessing aging-related services; expanding home and community-based service options; improving health care worker and family caregiver training and support; and planning ways to reduce Medicaid nursing facility costs. Reviews history of P.A. 93-1031. (320 ILCS 42/15(c); Jan. 2006, 29 pp.)

Central Management Services

Hispanic Employment Plan, 2006

State of Illinois employs 1,942 Hispanic employees in coded positions. Agencies with the largest number of Hispanic employees are: Human Services (796); Corrections (324); Children and Family Services (197); Employment Security (168); and Healthcare and Family Services (100). Agencies with the highest number of employees receiving bilingual pay for Spanish are: Human Services (547); Children and Family Services (181); Employment Security (127); Healthcare and

Family Services (85); and Corrections (45). Lists total and Hispanic population and state employees by county. (5 ILCS 410/20; Feb. 2006, 22 pp. + 4 appendices)

State-owned and surplus real property report

CMS Bureau of Property Management did not handle the conveyance of surplus property in the past calendar year. In March 2005, CMS Legal assisted in a land exchange between the Department of Agriculture and two individuals in Perry County. A 5.8-acre parcel owned by the Department was exchanged for a similar parcel near the DuQuoin State fairgrounds in a non-monetary conveyance. (30 ILCS 605/7.1; Feb. 2006, 1 p.)

State-owned and surplus real property report

Lists real estate owned by 32 state agencies and universities. Also lists surplus property by legislative district. (30 ILCS 605/7.1; Dec. 2005, no pagination)

Summary of results of Executive Order 03-10 (2003)

CMS consolidated facilities management functions of 35 agencies reporting directly to the Governor. Accomplishments include assessments of facility conditions, longevity, technology, utilization, and occupancy. CMS reports that spending for facilities across the state has been reduced by \$62.941 million since FY 2003. CMS has

no recommendations at the present time for future legislation. (15 ILCS 15/11; Nov. 2005, 3 pp.)

Commerce Commission

Crossing Safety Improvement Program: FY 2007-2011 Plan

Lists \$145 million in proposed grade crossing safety improvements on local roads and streets from FY 2007-2011 using funding from Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF). Includes projects totaling \$31.3 million for FY 2007 and \$113.6 million for FYs 2008-2011. Subject to local fund matches, ICC plans to initiate 32 new or reconstructed grade separations; install warning devices or upgrade circuitry at 268 crossings; and make progress payments for seven bridge projects previously ordered by the Commission. Lists types of improvements for which GCPF funds are used. One hundred forty-five collisions occurred at public crossings in Illinois in 2005, an 11% decrease from 2004. (35 ILCS 505/8(c); Apr. 2006, 8 pp. + 4 appendices)

Railroad accidents involving hazardous materials, 2005

Commission inspectors checked 14,551 railcars carrying hazardous materials. Four-hundred ninety-two (3.4%) violations of hazardous materials regulations were found in 2005; in 2004, violations were identified in 3.2% of inspections. Eleven derailments released hazardous materials; 8 did not release hazardous materials; and 57 hazardous releases occurred without derailment. Tables show location, railroad, material, suspected cause, amount involved and released, and date of each incident. (625 ILCS 5/18c-1204(3); May 2006, 6 pp. + tables and attachments)

Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Dept. of

First Stop Business Information Center report, 2004

The Center is a statewide resource for businesses with questions about state and federal requirements, regulatory processes, and general assistance. In 2004, the Center helped 20,224 clients; issued 6,531 startup kits; answered questions for 8,837 clients on licensing and registration, 1,907 on financial sources, 345 on market research, 141 on government contracting, and 10 on international trade. The Center referred 3,550 clients to Small Business Development Centers, 115 to Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, and 12 to International Trade or NAFTA Opportunity Centers. The Center analyzes the impact of state law on small businesses. The Center's Regulatory Flexibility Program reviewed 400 proposed state regulations and summarized 112 proposed regulations that affect small businesses. Of 1,296 customers surveyed, 95% indicated a high degree of satisfaction with First Stop's products and services. (20 ILCS 608/15(q); Aug. 2005, 9 pp.)

First Stop Business Information Center report, 2005

The Center is now known as the Illinois Entrepreneurship Network Business Information Center (IENBIC). In 2005 the Center helped 19,915 clients, issued 5,682 startup kits, and answered questions for 8,628 clients on licensing and registration, 2,594 on financial sources, 340 on market research, 261 on government contracting, and 31 on international trade. New in 2005 are the Illinois Entrepreneurship Network (IEN) Web site and an online Business Portal. The Center has converted its most popular publications to Spanish and provides a bilingual customer service

representative for Spanish-speaking clients. (20 ILCS 608/15(q); Mar. 2006, 11 pp.)

High Impact Business designation
Abbott Laboratories in Abbott Park and Des Plaines plans to invest an additional \$36.4 million that will result in the retention of 260 existing jobs and creating 50 new jobs in Des Plaines. DeVry Inc. in Naperville will invest \$15 million and create a minimum of 500 full-time jobs. Both companies qualify for Illinois High Impact Business tax credits and exemptions for up to 20 years, provided they fulfill the minimums for investment and jobs. (20 ILCS 655/5.5(h); Sept. 2004, 4 pp.)

Summary of results of Executive Order 03-11 (2003)

DCEO saved a total of \$19.8 million from workforce program consolidations from FY 2003 to FY 2004. Executive Order transferred administration of Federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (FTAA) from Illinois Department of Economic Security to DCEO. DCEO formed a special task force of Local Workforce Investment Areas and an inter-agency team for FTAA program delivery. Other activities include the Critical Skills Shortage Initiative (CSSI) and reorganization of the Bureau of Workforce Development. (15 ILCS 15/11; Feb. 2006, 4 pp.)

Comptroller

Fee Imposition Report, FY 2005

The state got \$6.2 billion from 1,428 fees collected by 79 agencies, which represents 10.1% of state's main operating funds. The largest fee collector was the Secretary of State, which reported 451 fees (32%). Most of the fees collected went to restricted funds, such as the 37% deposited into Special State Funds and 23% deposited into Highway Funds. Only \$508 million of the

fee revenue went into the General Funds. Describes number and types of fees; number and amount collected by agency; disposition of revenues; and a special 10-year study on the evolution of Illinois fees. (15 ILCS 405/16.2; Mar. 2006, 13 pp. + appendices)

Receivables report, 2005

Gross receivables due to Illinois at 2005 year end were \$12.5 billion, an increase of 7% from 2004. Net receivables (minus uncollectible receivables and long-term loans) were \$1.6 billion, an increase of \$153 million from 2004 mainly due to increase in uncollectible receivables in Department of Healthcare and Family Services and University of Illinois. Three largest collectible receivables are child support claims (45%); other such as licenses, fees, federal reimbursements, university activities, etc. (24%); and taxes (16%). Lists receivables by agency and age. (30 ILCS 210/4(d); Mar. 2006, 28 pp.)

Criminal Justice Information Authority

Annual report, FY 2005

In FY 2005, the Authority administered federal grants under Victims of Crime Act (\$16.2 million); Anti-Drug Abuse Act (\$12.2 million); Violent Offender Incarceration and Truth-in-Sentencing Grant Program (\$9.6 million); Violence Against Women Act (\$4.3 million); Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program (\$2.9 million); Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (\$1.5 million); Project Safe Neighborhoods (\$799,600); Local Law Enforcement Block Grants program (\$778,000); Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grants (\$270,269); National Criminal History Improvement Program (\$256,728); and

(continued on p. 14)

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 13)

National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (\$241,364). Additional programs supported by the ICJIA included the Integrated Justice Information System Implementation Board and the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council. The ICJIA also sponsored a conference on balanced and restorative justice initiatives, supported studies on prisoner re-integration and intimate partner violence, and continued research on lethal violence. (20 ILCS 3930/7; Mar. 2006, 41 pp.)

Education, State Board of *Annual Report, 2005*

Illinois public school districts decreased from 886 in 2004 to 879 in 2005, and the number of public schools which issue report cards fell from 3,907 in 2004 to 3,884 in 2005. Public school enrollment decreased from 2.1 million in 2004 to 2.06 million in 2005. In 2005, the chronic truancy rate was 2.2%; dropout rate, 4.0%; average teacher salary, \$55,558; average administrator salary, \$97,051; statewide operating expenditure per pupil, \$8,786; elementary pupil-teacher ratio, 18.9:1; secondary pupil-teacher ratio, 18.4:1; and average teaching experience, 13.6 years. Total funding for Illinois schools for 2004-2005 was \$20.6 billion (\$11.45 billion local, \$6.96 billion state, and \$2.21 billion federal). (105 ILCS 5/1A-4(e); Jan. 2006, 67 pp.)

School breakfast incentives, 2005

Lists number of students getting free, reduced-price, and paid breakfasts and lunches by participating schools. During the school year, 1,106 districts received \$0.10 per meal for increased participation in

the breakfast program; 14 schools dropped national school lunch or breakfast programs because of low participation, school closing, or other reasons; and 261 schools began a school breakfast program, of which 117 also received the \$3,500 start-up grant. Due to an expected increase in expenditures resulting from the Childhood Hunger Relief Act, the Board did not offer grants for universal free breakfasts. (105 ILCS 125/4; Feb. 2006, 126 pp.)

Educational Labor Relations Board

Annual report, FY 2004 and FY 2005

Board handled 89 representation cases in FY 2004 and 133 in FY 2005, was involved through mediation in settlement of 10 strikes in FY 2004 and 5 strikes in FY 2005, and considered 354 unfair-labor-practice cases in FY 04 and 357 in FY 2005. Public Act 93-509 (2003) reduced Board from 7 members to 5. Lists biographical details on current board members and selected agency personnel. Summarizes major Board decisions and court rulings. Board's budget was \$1,468,500 in FY 2004 and \$1,458,700 in FY 2005. (115 ILCS 5/5(j); Feb. 2006, 29 pp.)

Financial and Professional Regulation Dept., Division of Insurance *Insurance cost containment report, 2006*

Direct written premiums (premiums charged to policyholders) totaled \$21.2 billion in 2004, or 4.5% of total written premium nationwide. Direct pure loss ratio (losses divided by direct earned premium) declined to 62.1% (from 70.1% in 2003). The HHI Index, a measure of market concentration and market share, indicates that the market for medical malpractice insurance is highly concentrated (4464 HHI); HHI above 1800 indicates that market could

be approaching anti-competitive behavior. HHI's for other insurance lines (homeowners, private passenger automobile, commercial auto liability, and other liability) were below 1800. (215 ILCS 5/1202(d); Apr. 2006, 38 pp. + appendices)

Government Forecasting & Accountability Commission

Impact of 2002 State Employees' Early Retirement Incentive, 2006

Participants totaled 11,039 with 10,301 eligible to retire immediately (Option 1) and 738 terminating employment but receiving benefits later (Option 2). On average, participants purchased 58 months at a cost of \$11,624 with a monthly benefit of \$2,505. Option 1 participants averaged 57 years old while Option 2 were 48 years old. Estimated payroll-related savings for FY 2003-2012 is \$2.9 billion. Estimated group insurance contributions lost by moving participants to retiree category is \$26.1 million for FYs 2003-2012. Unfunded liability due to the ERI was \$2.3 billion. (40 ILCS 5/14-108.3(h); June 2006, 5 pp.)

Healthcare and Family Services, Dept. of

Medical Assistance Program annual report, FY 2005

Department spent \$6 billion on health benefits in FY 2005, serving an average 2.1 million people per month through 49,634 providers (including 31,418 physicians, 2,702 pharmacies, 766 nursing facilities, 281 home health agencies, and 261 hospitals). Senior Care and Circuit Breaker pharmaceutical assistance programs merged in FY 2005 to form the Illinois Cares Rx program. The Health Benefits for Workers with Disabilities program provided coverage to 747 employed persons with disabilities. In FY 2005, DHFS served almost 59,000 people

each month in 766 nursing facilities. Inpatient spending was \$1.9 billion, up 3.1%. DHFS collected \$109.2 million in state supplemental rebates from drug manufacturers in FY 2005, up from \$85.1 million in FY 2004. (305 ILCS 5/5-5 and 305 ILCS 5/5-5.8; 78 pp. + graphs and tables)

Higher Education, Board of

Underrepresented groups in higher education, 2005

Undergraduate and graduate enrollment of minority students at Illinois colleges and universities increased between 1995 and 2005 by 62.7% (Hispanics); 21.9% (Blacks); 20.8% (Asian/Pacific Islanders); and 16.3% (Native Americans). Enrollment of Hispanic students at Illinois institutions of higher education (private and public universities plus community colleges) in 2005 increased to 8.4% of total (from 8.1%); Black was unchanged at 13.2%; Asian/Pacific Islander was 5.8% (down from 5.9%); and Native American was unchanged at 0.3%. Programs to attract and educate underrepresented groups, including racial/ethnic minorities and students with disabilities, are summarized. (110 ILCS 205/9.16; June 2006, 140 pp.)

Human Services Dept.

Emergency Food & Shelter Program and Supportive Housing Program Annual Report, FY 2005

Using public and private shelters, the program provided 1.8 million nights of shelter, 2.75 million meals, and 1 million units of supportive services to homeless persons in FY 2005. Program received \$9.0 million from the general revenue fund in FY 2005. Supportive Housing Program provided supportive services to 8,229 persons in 5,224 households with a budget of \$4.9 million. Causes of homelessness include loss of income, eviction, family/neighborhood problems, release from

prison or mental institution, drug abuse, and relocation. (305 ILCS 5/12-4.5; Feb. 2006, 67 pp.)

Homeless Prevention Program Annual Report, FY 2005

In FY 2005, Program received \$2.94 million from the State General Revenue Fund and \$1.98 million from Federal TANF funds. Funds were divided among 21 care centers. Program served 8,457 households of which 73% were families with children. An average of 403 households per center received benefits, averaging \$582 per household. Eighty-five percent of participants remained housed at least six months after FY 2005. (310 ILCS 70/13; May 2006, 39 pp. + graphs)

Illinois Global Partnership, Inc. (IGP)

Plan for Non-Discrimination, Vendor Utilization Diversity, & Employee Affirmative Action, 2006

IGP's policies on non-discrimination, sexual harassment, diversity among its vendors, and affirmative action are described. IGP plans to ensure that 12% of its spending on contracts will go to businesses owned by minorities, females, and disabled persons. (20 ILCS 3948/50(e); April 2006, 16 pp.)

Illinois Supreme Court

Court-annexed mandatory arbitration annual report, FY 2005

This program, created by the Supreme Court and General Assembly to reduce civil case backlogs and resolve complaints faster, began in 1987 and operates in 15 counties. Cases with "modest" claims (up to \$30,000 in Cook and Will Counties; and \$50,000 in Boone, DuPage, Ford, Henry, Kane, Lake, McHenry, McLean, Mercer, Rock Island, St. Clair, Whiteside, and Winnebago) are automatically assigned to arbitration. If it fails, they may go to trial. There were 33,296 cases referred

to arbitration in FY 2005. Among cases on the pre-hearing calendar, 84% were settled or dismissed before hearing. In 47% of cases reaching the post-hearing calendar, one or both parties rejected the arbitration decision. Less than 1% of referred cases went to trial. (735 ILCS 5/2-1008A; undated, rec'd Feb. 2006, 42 pp.)

Labor Relations Board

Annual Report, 2004

Board received 320 charges of unfair labor practices. Of these, 266 were against a public employer and 54 were against a labor organization. Board processed 273 representation cases, provided mediation or arbitration in 282 cases, and investigated 2 strikes. Summarizes local and state decisions on jurisdiction, representation, unfair labor practices by employers and unions, and procedural issues. Board's budget was \$1,620,400. (5 ILCS 315/5(e); undated, rec'd April 2006, 68 pp.)

Legislative Audit Commission

Annual Report, 2005

In 2005, the Commission reviewed 210 compliance and financial audit reports. Key accomplishments include increasing Toll Highway Authority's vigilance in timely collection of fines and improving the billing process for CMS efficiency initiatives. The Commission also noted that the state's fiscal crisis is subsiding. Ongoing concerns include timeliness of compliance and financial audits, proper handling of contracts to outsource state services, continued fulfillment of statutory mandates by newly reorganized agencies, and information technology planning (design/development, training/documentation, security, and continuity of record-keeping and service in case of system failure). Statewide Single Audit contained 71 findings with 45 repeat findings.

(continued on p. 16)

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 15)

Statewide Audit found that twelve agencies do not have an adequate process for expenditure of federal funds. (25 ILCS 150/3; Mar. 2006, 39 pp.)

Lieutenant Governor

“Service Evaluation Survey,” 2005

The survey allows school boards and school superintendents to assess

the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Regional Offices of Education (ROEs). There were 880 surveys sent out with 428, returned, up from the 386 returned in 2004. In 2005, responses for ISBE were: 20.9% excellent, 65.6% satisfactory, and 13.5% needs improvement. In 2004, ISBE’s responses for excellent were 13.6%. In 2005, responses for ROEs were: 50.8% excellent, 37.8% satisfactory, and 11.4% needs improvement. In 2004, the ROEs were rated 55% excellent. ISBE’s Web site was visited by 50% of respondents on a weekly basis, compared to 15.4% for ROEs. Report also includes a summary of written comments from the survey. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.112(e); Dec. 2005, 5 pp.)

Secretary of State

Findings of S.B. 248 [Public Act 94-470]

Study on feasibility, for vehicles weighing up to 8,000 lbs., of replacing specialty plates with standard plates and specialty stickers; using county identifier on plates; and using specialty plates on front and

standard plates on rear of vehicles. Costs of replacing approximately 15,600 specialty license plates with standard plates may exceed \$1 million. Costs of producing 250,000 specialty decals would be about \$152,734 during the first year and about \$34,100 during each subsequent year. Replating approximately 8.05 million vehicles with a county identifier would cost approximately \$66 million compared to approximately \$6.037 million for using decals with county identifiers. Most surveyed law enforcement officials thought the universal plate designs and county identifiers would be helpful, but a dual plate system would be difficult. Report includes FY 2005 data on specialty plate revenues and registrations. (625 ILCS 5/2-128(d); rec’d March 2006, 34 pp.)

FIRST READING

A publication of the Legislative Research Unit

Patrick D. O’Grady
Executive Director

Bridget Devlin
Associate Director

David R. Miller
Editor

Dianna Jones
Composition & Layout

LRU 

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH UNIT
222 South College, Suite 301
Springfield, Illinois 62704

