

**96<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SPRING 2009 SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**Submitted for:** Information.

**Summary:** This report updates the Board on action in the General Assembly. The report includes a summary of bills passed or still under consideration.

**Action requested:** None.



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**96<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SPRING 2009 SESSION**  
**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

The 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly is on a two-week hiatus after an action-packed three months during which lawmakers ousted one governor, a new governor proposed a significant tax increase and reform budget, and legislators enacted a major pension reform plan in a single day that gives a new job to the Chairwoman of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

Before handing the reins of power over to the new legislature in January, the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly handed the Board a significant legislative success by passing Senate Bill 2603. The legislation gives the Board the authority to charge fees to Illinois proprietary institutions and all out-of-state colleges and universities for the review of applications for new degree programs or authority to operate in Illinois. Governor Pat Quinn signed the legislation on March 27.

The budget unveiled by Governor Quinn in March – fueled by a 50 percent increase in the state income tax – would provide a \$40 million increase for higher education in fiscal 2010, roughly half from the general revenue fund and half from federal stimulus money. The proposed funding increase – essentially at the Step 4 level of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) investment budget recommendations – includes increases of \$16 million for public universities, \$9.6 million for community colleges, \$21 million for the need-based Monetary Award Program, \$225,000 for the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, and \$3.4 million for IBHE grants and initiatives, including a new high-need healthcare grant program. The FY10 budget will be the central focus of the remainder of the spring session when the legislature returns April 21. And the main focus of the budget will be filling a fiscal hole that seems to deepen by the day – \$12.4 billion at last count.

Before leaving for spring break, the legislature also passed a \$3 billion capital bill, a precursor to a much larger bricks-and-mortar proposal to be on the legislative docket as the session approaches adjournment on May 31. The Governor's budget proposes more than \$1 billion in capital spending for higher education.

The pension reform act (PA 96-0006) passed the General Assembly one day and was signed into law by Governor Quinn the next. It affects all state pension systems and designates the Chairperson of the Board of Higher Education as the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). Current trustees of all the state pension systems were removed by the legislation. The new 11-member SURS Board will include four trustees appointed by the Governor, four active participants in the system elected by the contributing membership, and two annuitants elected by annuitants of the system.

In addition, legislation to advance goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success* has moved from one chamber to the other. Highlights of legislative action related to the Public Agenda include:

- Senate Bill 1828 (Sen. Heather Steans/Rep. Michael Smith) – Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. IBHE, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) would jointly establish and maintain a data system linking early learning and K-12 student information systems with higher education data banks. SB 1828 passed the Senate on a vote of 56-0. *Public Agenda Goals 1, 2, and 3.*
- House Bill 150 (Rep. David Miller/Sen. Ed Maloney) – Creates the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Act, an early intervention program to entice middle school students to take a rigorous high school curriculum to receive state-funded tuition and fees at public colleges and universities. It has passed the House, 115-0. (Senate Bill 37, sponsored by Sen. Maloney, was identical to HB 150 when introduced but passed the Senate as a shell bill.) *Public Agenda Goals 1 and 2.*
- Senate Bill 1883 (Sen. Brad Burzynski/Rep. Michael Fortner) – Establishes a baccalaureate completion grant program operated by IBHE. The competitive grants would fund partnerships between public and private four-year institutions and community colleges to bring bachelor degree programs to community college campuses. The bill, which passed the Senate 58-0, is regarded as an alternative to authorizing community colleges to grant bachelor's degrees. House Bill 656 (Rep. Fred Crespo/Sen. Michael Noland) would set up pilot bachelor of applied sciences in two fields at Harper College. It passed the House, 69-47. *Public Agenda Goals 1 and 3.*
- House Bill 1079 (Rep. Roger Eddy/Sen. Deanna Demuzio) – Is the product of the Dual Credit Task Force. The bill, which passed the House 116-0, would codify standards for dual credit programs now embodied in ICCB administrative rules, and apply the standards to public and private four-year institutions that offer dual credit programs with high schools. The bill is aimed at assuring quality programming and, hence, greater confidence that dual credit courses will transfer to four-year institutions. *Public Agenda Goal 1 and 2.*
- Senate Bill 2109 (Sen. Michael Bond) – Creates the Advanced Science Zones Act to establish a loan program, financial assistance, transferrable investment tax credits, and tax-deduction certification to spur economic development. The bill, which passed the Senate 47-8, includes several university science and technology zones. *Public Agenda Goal 4.*
- Senate Bill 1796 (Sen. Kim Lightford/Rep. Jerry Mitchell) – Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program. The Senate voted 56-0 for the bill, which is aimed at re-enrolling significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs to enable them to complete their high school diploma. *Public Agenda Goals 1 and 3.*
- Senate Bill 325 (Sen. Maloney) – Allows the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to issue bonds to purchase rehabilitated loans from the federal government to assist those who have defaulted on student loans to get back on a payment schedule. The bill passed the Senate 56-0. *Public Agenda Goal 2.*

- House Bill 1143 (Rep. Beth Coulson/Senate President John Cullerton) – Establishes a mental health graduate scholarship program to students who agree to work in human services in Illinois in a designated shortage area. The House passed the bill, 116-0. *Public Agenda Goals 2 and 3.*
- Senate Bill 1698 (Sen. Dan Kotowski/Rep. Julie Hamos) – Creates a task force on private student loans to investigate various aspects of private lending to students, including accessibility of private loans, affordability of the loans, loan defaults, impact on students after graduation, and what higher education institutions can do to advise students about the availability of financial aid packages. It passed the Senate 55-0. *Public Agenda Goal 2.*
- House Joint Resolution 42 (Rep. Michael Smith) and Senate Joint Resolution 55 (Sen. Demuzio) – directs the State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Board of Higher Education, to prepare legislative recommendations to restructure school leader preparation and certification programs in Illinois. *Public Agenda Goal 1.*
- Appropriations:
  - House Bill 2685 (Rep. Rosemary Mulligan) – Appropriates \$10 million to ICCB for grants to expand job training for unemployed individuals. *Public Agenda Goal 3.*
  - House Bill 1028 (Rep. Robert Flider) – Appropriates \$10 million to ICCB for manufacturing curricula and workforce development. *Public Agenda Goal 3.*
  - House Bill 4093 (Rep. Robert Biggins) – Appropriates \$1 million to IBHE to expand Cooperative Work Study grants. *Public Agenda Goal 4.*
  - Senate Bill 2023 (Sen. Jeffrey Schoenberg) – Appropriates \$10 million to IBHE for the Matching Grants Program. *Public Agenda Goal 4.*



**LEGISLATIVE REPORT  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**96<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**Goal 1: Increase educational attainment to match best performing states and countries**

**Senate Bill 1828, Steans (Smith)**

**Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. Requires the State Board of Education, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Board of Higher Education to jointly establish and maintain a longitudinal data system by entering into one or more agreements that link early learning, elementary, and secondary school student unit records with institution of higher learning student unit records. Subject to appropriation. Effective immediately.

**House Bill 150, Miller (Maloney)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Creates the 21st Century Scholars Act to provide an incentive for low-income students in the 8th grade to improve their academic preparation for postsecondary education. Sets forth provisions concerning annual tuition scholarships to applicants who qualify; requiring the State, the participating school district, and the student to enter into a 3-part compact; rules to implement the Act; and reporting to the General Assembly on awards.

**Senate Bill 37 (Amended), Maloney  
(Yarbrough)**

**Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the 21st Century Scholars Act. Senate Amendment 1 shells the bill.

**Senate Bill 1883(amended), Burzynski  
(Fortner)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Provides that the Board of Higher Education shall implement the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, 4-year colleges or universities.

**House Bill 1079 (amended), Eddy (Demuzio)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Creates the Dual Credit Quality Act. Requires the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education to develop policies to permit multiple appropriate measures using differentiated assessment for granting eligibility for dual credit to students Sets forth provisions concerning policies to protect the academic standing of students who are not successful in dual credit courses, standards that institutions of higher learning must meet if offering dual credit courses, oversight and review of dual credit programs, and a statewide longitudinal data system to identify high school students who participate in dual credit courses and track their success in high school and postsecondary education.

**Senate Bill 1796, Lightford (Mitchell)**

**Referred to House Rules Committee**

Amends the School Code. Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program to develop a comprehensive system to re-enroll significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs that will enable them to earn their high school diploma. Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer the IHOPE Program.

**House Bill 3999, Flowers (Martinez)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

**Senate Bill 1926, Martinez ( Flowers)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

The Illinois Future Teacher Corps (IFTC) program would be phased out and funding diverted instead to the private Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois program. Both programs are intended to increase the state's supply of well-qualified teachers, especially working in difficult-to-staff schools and subjects.

**House Bill 392, Golar (Martinez)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

**Senate Bill 226, Martinez )**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

Amends the Grow Your Own Teacher Education Act. Makes changes concerning the purposes and goals of Grow Your Own Teacher Education Initiative, the definitions of certain terms, supportive services, the program of forgivable loans, the award of grants under the Initiative, the inclusion of certain costs in program budgets, and funds to cover the salary of a site-based cohort coordinator.

**House Bill 4117, Mulligan (Althoff)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Grow Your Own Teacher Education Act. Provides that preparing highly skilled, committed teachers to teach in hard-to-staff schools includes the Department of Juvenile Justice School District.

**House Bill 168, Coulson (Luechtefeld)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Allows ISAC to award need-based grants to cover students' fees for participation in the SIU Achieve Program, subject to appropriation. Achieve provides academic support to students diagnosed with learning disabilities and/or ADD.

**House Bill 1035, Flider (Hutchinson)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Amends the School Code and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. Requires the State Board of Education to promote an annual campaign about disability history and awareness in this State. Requires a school district to provide instruction on disability history, people with disabilities, and the disability rights movement. Requires the regional superintendent of schools to monitor a school district's compliance. Allows each public university to conduct and promote activities that provide education on, awareness of, and an understanding of disability history, people with disabilities, and the disability rights movement.

**House Joint Resolution 42 (Smith)**

**Referred to House Rules Committee**

**Senate Joint Resolution 55 (Demuzio)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Resolves that the State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Board of Higher Education, shall prepare legislative recommendations to restructure school leader preparation and certification programs in this State.



## **Goal 2: Ensure Affordability for students, families and taxpayers**

**Senate Bill 1828** (See summary in Goal 1)

**House Bill 150** (See summary in Goal 1)

**House Bill 1079** (See summary in Goal 1)

**House Bill 168** (See summary in Goal 1)

### **Senate Bill 325 (amended), Maloney**

### **Referred to House Rules Committee**

Provides that bonds issued in accordance with the Higher Education Student Assistance Act may be designated by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission as guaranteed by the State of Illinois. The bill provides that this guarantee shall constitute a general obligation of the State of Illinois. The bill stipulates that any bonds designated pursuant to these provisions shall be issued by the Commission on or prior to December 31, 2009 and shall be limited in aggregate principal issuance amount to not greater than \$50 million.

### **Senate Bill 1698, Kotowski (Hamos)**

### **Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the Task Force on Higher Education Private Student Loans Act to investigate the rates, fees, and terms associated with private student loans to Illinois; the impact on accessibility of private student loans, affordability of student loans, and choice of institution students have; the impact rates, fees, and terms have on students after graduation; the impact rising tuition has affected the types of loans available; the impact that capping private student loan fees charged by lenders would have in certain areas; the number of private student loans in default or unable to be repaid; the impact loan defaults have on lending institutions and borrowers; what additional disclosures can be made to students regarding high risk loans, financial information, financial choices, and financial aid available; what higher education institutions can do to advise students on their financial aid and loan resources; and whether race and ethnicity are a factor in the rates, fees, and terms associated with private student loans. Requires the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 2010.

### **House Bill 1143, Coulson (Cullerton)**

### **Referred to Senate Assignments**

Establishes the Mental Health Graduate Scholarship Program, to be administered by the Department of Human Services. The program would provide scholarships to students in graduate level mental health programs who agree to work in human services in Illinois in a designated shortage area.

## **Goal 3: Increase the number of quality postsecondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy**

**Senate Bill 1828** (See summary in Goal 1)

**Senate Bill 1883** See summary in Goal 1)

**Senate Bill 1796** (See summary in Goal 1)

**House Bill 1143** (See summary in Goal 2)

**House Bill 3999/Senate Bill 1926** (See summary in Goal 1)

**House Bill 2685, Mulligan**

**Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for grants to community college districts to expand job training programs for individuals who are unemployed.

**House Bill 1028, Flider**

**Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for manufacturing curricula and workforce development.

**Senate Bill 1453, Maloney (Lang)**

**Referred to House Rules Committee**

Amends the Health Services Education Grants Act to provide that grants may be made to psychology and other physical and mental health-related schools and programs (instead of to other health-related schools and programs).

**House Bill 382, Brosnahan (Cullerton)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Nursing Education Scholarship Law. Requires the Department of Public Health to provide nurse educator scholarships, to be awarded for a period of up to 3 years.

**Goal 4: Better integrate Illinois' educational, research, and innovation assets to meet the economic needs of the state and its regions**

**House Bill 4093, Biggins**

**Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Higher Education for distribution as grants for Cooperative Work Study Programs to institutions of higher education, in addition to all other amounts appropriated for these purposes. Effective July 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 2023, Schoenberg**

**Assigned to Appropriations II**

Appropriates \$10 million from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Higher Education for the Matching Grant Program.

**Senate Bill 2109, Bond**

**Passed Senate**

Creates the Advanced Science Zones Act. Sets forth procedures for the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to certify areas in the State as Advanced Science Zones. Requires the Department to establish several programs with respect to the Zones including a loan program, a financial-assistance program, a transferable investment tax credit, and a tax-deduction certification. Includes several University science and technology zones. Effective immediately.

## **Affordability**

### **House Bill 174, Burke**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act to require taxation of the amount previously contributed to a tax-exempt college tuition savings program if the money, when taken out of the program, is used for purposes other than qualified educational expenses.

### **House Bill 364, Reis (Frerichs)**

### **Referred to Senate Assignments**

Creates a Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program to be operated by the University of Illinois. For each year in which they receive a grant under this Act, recipients must work for one year in (i) a veterinary practice primarily devoted to large agricultural animal care or (ii) regulatory veterinary medicine that supports public health and safety, livestock biosecurity, or diagnosis of food animal diseases. Awards are to be for \$20,000 per recipient per year.

### **House Bill 461(amended), Jakobsson**

### **Referred to Senate Assignments**

### **Senate Bill 1485, (Hunter)**

### **Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act. Provides that when contacting or being contacted by prospective clients, each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, (1) the copyright dates of the 3 previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. Effective July 1, 2010.

### **House Bill 574 (amended), Turner (Schoenberg)**

### **Referred to Senate Assignments**

Creates a loan repayment assistance program, subject to appropriation, for Illinois-licensed attorneys working in the public sector. A single recipient may not receive more than \$60,000 through the program over his or her lifetime. Each year, the grant would equal 10% of the amount of law school loans that the applicant would be expected to repay in that year.

### **Senate Bill 266, Schoenberg (Hoffman)**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

Establishes a Public Interest Attorney Loan Repayment Assistance Program administered by ISAC in cooperation with an advisory committee made up of lawyers and law school representatives. Disbursement of awards would be in the form of forgivable loans.

### **Senate Bill 77 (amended), Clayborne, Jr. (Verschoore)**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

Creates a new tax incentive for employers and their employees to contribute to the State of Illinois' college savings and prepaid tuition programs. The bill would allow Illinois employers to claim a tax credit, up to a maximum of \$500, for one-fourth of the amount they contribute each year toward their employees' College Illinois! prepaid tuition contracts or Bright Start college savings plans. The credit sunsets in 2019.

### **Senate Bill 81, Bond (Burke)**

### **Referred to House Rules Committee**

Allows taxation of the amount previously contributed to a tax-exempt college tuition program administered by the State of Illinois if the money, when taken out of the program, is used for purposes other than qualified educational expenses and if the nonqualified expenses were not due to the death or disability of the beneficiary.

**House Bill 4209 (amended), Bost**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Passed**

With respect to Veteran grants and Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia grants, provides that a person who otherwise qualifies for a grant may relinquish his or her entitlement to the grant and instead transfer that entitlement to his or her spouse, natural child, legally adopted child, or step-child. Provides that the veteran must have elected not to utilize the Illinois Veterans Grant program or any federal program that provides tuition payments or assistance to veterans in order to transfer his or her entitlement to a veterans grant. Effective July 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 1524(amended), Trotter  
(Pritchard)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

**House Bill 2352 (amended), Joyce (Trotter)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

**Appropriations**

**House Bill 278 (amended), Bellock  
(Cullerton)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the University of Illinois for a forensic psychiatry fellowship training program at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, and Southern Illinois University.

**House Bill 289 (amended), Madigan  
(Sullivan)**

**Public Act 96-0005**

Provides that the \$2,000,000,000 increase in Transportation B bonds shall be used on projects included in either (i) the FY09-14 Proposed Highway Improvement Program as published by the Illinois Department of Transportation in May 2008 or (ii) the FY10-15 Proposed Highway Improvement Program to be published by the Illinois Department of Transportation in the spring of 2009.

**House Bill 879, Acevedo**

**Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$1,600,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the University of Illinois for the Hispanic Center of Excellence at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, Department of Medical Education.

**House Bill 1028, Flider**

**Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for manufacturing curricula and workforce development.

**House Bill 2685, Mulligan****Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for grants to community college districts to expand job training programs for individuals who are unemployed.

**House Bill 4010, Winters****Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$200,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the University of Illinois for continued research on and developing a pilot project using miscanthus to generate energy.

**House Bill 4332, Riley****Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$702,514,000 to the State Universities Retirement System for the State's contribution and \$4,059,413 to the Community College Health Insurance Security Fund for the State's contribution.

**Senate Bill 225, Martinez****Assigned to Appropriations II**

Appropriates \$4,500,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the State Board of Education for the Grow Your Own Teacher Education Initiative. Effective July 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 1862, Maloney****Assigned to Appropriations II**

Makes a supplemental appropriation of \$21,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Board of Higher Education for distribution as grants authorized by the Health Services Education Grants Act.

**Budget****House Bill 194 (amended), Bassi (Murphy)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Governor's Office of Management and Budget Act. Requires GOMB to establish a single updated searchable database website accessible by the public at no cost that includes information concerning each entity that receives Illinois funding.

**Campus Security****House Bill 251, Reis****Assigned to Appropriations-Higher  
Education Committee**

Appropriates \$7,500,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for the mobile response workforce training pilot program. Effective July 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 204 (amended), Demuzio  
(Hoffman)****Referred to House Rules Committee**

Amends the School Code, various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois, and the Public Community College Act. Requires (instead of allows) a board of trustees of a community college district to make mutually agreed upon buildings of the college available for emergency purposes, upon the request of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or the State-accredited emergency management agency with jurisdiction, and to cooperate in all matters with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management agencies, State-certified, local public health departments, the American Red Cross, and federal agencies concerned with emergency preparedness and response; provides that the request may also be made by the American Red Cross. Adds a similar requirement for public universities.

**House Bill 336(amended), Pritchard  
(Hutchinson)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. Provides that the inter-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional campus violence prevention plan includes communication with (instead of coordination of and communication among) governmental agencies and school districts contiguous to the higher education institution's boundaries (instead of surrounding governmental agencies and school districts). Removes the provisions amending the State Mandates Act.

**Capital**

**Senate Bill 2009 (amended), Righter**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading, Senate**

Amends the Public University Energy Conservation Act to provide that "energy conservation measure" includes construction of a new building or facility that is designed to reduce energy consumption or operating costs, and provides that, until January 1, 2015, "energy conservation measure" includes a renewable energy center pilot project at Eastern Illinois University.

**Community Colleges**

**House Bill 437 (amended), Beiser (Haine)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Public Community College Act with respect to a provision allowing a community college district to borrow money not in excess of \$4,500,000 in the aggregate at any one time, except allows Community College District No. 522 and Community College District No. 536 to borrow money not in excess of \$20,000,000.

**House Bill 656, Crespo (Noland)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

**Senate Bill 244, Kotowski**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Provides that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 (Harper College) may offer a pilot program of bachelor's degrees in 2 fields of study if certain conditions are met, including requiring (i) that the degree programs not compete with any nearby public university and the public universities in this State have the right of first refusal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree programs on the community college campus or a community college extension site, (ii) that the district identify and document unmet workforce needs, (iii) that the degree programs not require any additional funding from local taxes, the State, or the community college students not enrolled in the program, (iv) that the Board of Higher Education approve the offering of the degree programs, and (v) that the pilot program expire 4 years after the initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise extended by law. Prohibits Community College District No. 512 from becoming a primarily baccalaureate degree-granting, 4-year institution of higher learning.

**House Bill 862 (amended), Black (Demuzio)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

**Senate Bill 277(amended), Demuzio  
(Froelich)**

**First Reading, House**

Amends Public Community College Act to provide that electronic bid submissions shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt of bids. Provides that bids for construction purposes are prohibited from being submitted electronically.

**House Bill 2253 (amended), Pritchard (Maloney)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Provides that sworn members of a community college district police department must complete the minimum basic training requirements of a police training school under the Illinois Police Training Act.

**House Bill 2330, Black (Demuzio)**  
**Senate Bill 1580, Demuzio**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

Provides that the student member of the board of trustees of a community college district may serve for only one term.

**Senate Bill 1373 (amended), Kotowski**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Prohibits residence within a community college district or outside a community college district from being considered in determining whether to retain any employee of a community college or in assigning, promoting, or transferring an employee.

**Health**

**House Bill 2661, Coulson (Cullerton)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Illinois Health Policy Center Act. Provides that in implementing the Act, the University of Illinois may (instead of shall) consult with and seek the participation of all other public universities in the State. Makes changes concerning the membership of the Illinois Health Policy Center Advisory Panel, including adding 12 members.

**Miscellaneous**

**Senate Bill 5 (amended), Franks (Clayborne, Jr.)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Lobbyist Registration Act. Prohibits a person subject to the Act from accepting compensation from a State agency for lobbying legislative action. Exempts compensation to an individual contractually retained by a State agency not listed in Section 5-15 of the Civil Administrative Code. (This exempts IBHE.) Exempts the salaries of full-time State employees with responsibilities or authority other than lobbying.

**House Bill 35 (amended), Tryon**

**Passed House**

Amends the Department of Central Management Services Law. Requires the Department to establish and maintain a website known as the Illinois Accountability Portal. The website shall provide direct access to information concerning State employees and individual consultants, State expenditures, State tax credits, State contracts, and revocations and suspensions of occupation and use tax certificates of registration and professional licenses.

**House Bill 547, Pihos (Radogno)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Creates the Identity Protection Act. Prohibits a State or local government agency from using an individual's social security number in certain ways, subject to various exceptions. Requires each State or local government agency to develop and implement an identity protection policy.

**House Bill 725 (amended), Watson  
(Hultgren)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the School Code to encourage school boards to implement American Sign Language (ASL) courses into school foreign language curriculum. Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. In provisions concerning admissions requirements, provides that ASL constitutes a foreign language for the purposes of meeting those requirements. Requires the governing board of each public university to award academic credit for the successful completion of any ASL course offered or approved by the university, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the university. Imposes conditions on any rulemaking authority.

**House Bill 793, Winters**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Amends the Open Meetings Act. Permits a public body with statewide jurisdiction or with jurisdiction over more than 4,500 square miles to include members participating in a video or audio conference at specified locations when determining the physical presence of a quorum at an open meeting (now, a public body with statewide jurisdiction may include members participating in a video conference at specified locations when determining the physical presence of a quorum at an open meeting). Provides that the requirement that members of a public body with less than statewide jurisdiction be physically present at a closed meeting is limited to public bodies with jurisdiction over 4,500 or fewer square miles.

**House Bill 898, Jakobsson (Frerichs)**

**Referred to Assignments**

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Provides that all faculty and staff members of a university or community college are free to communicate their views on any matter of private or public concern to any member of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of government, State or federal, without notice to or prior approval of the university or community college, so long as they do not represent that they are speaking for or on behalf of the university or community college.

**House Bill 899, Jakobsson (Frerichs)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Provides that a university or community college may not prohibit any faculty or staff member from (i) displaying political buttons, stickers, or patches while on university or community college property, provided that such display by any member of the faculty in an instructional setting is for a purpose relevant to the subject of instruction; (ii) attending a partisan political rally, provided that the employee is not on duty; or (iii) displaying a partisan bumper sticker on his or her motor vehicle.

**Senate Bill 972, Chapa LaVia (Munoz)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the School Code, various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois, and the Public Community College Act. Provides that if a public school, university, or community college holds any type of event at the institution on November 11, Veterans' Day, the governing board of the institution shall require a moment of silence at that event to recognize Veterans' Day.



**House Bill 1013, Boland (Cullerton)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Creates the Green Buildings Act, requiring that State-funded building construction and major renovations of existing State-owned facilities must meet certain energy and environmental standards of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program rating system, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes rating system, or an equivalent rating system. The bill permits waiver of the standards by the Capital Development Board or another agency and specifies the criteria for waivers.

**House Bill 1060, Coulson (Radogno)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends State Lobbyist Registration Act to apply the law to lobbying of state boards and commissions.

**House Bill 2507, Pihos (Dillard)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Private College Campus Police Act. With respect to the members of a campus police department having the powers of municipal peace officers and county sheriffs, provides that the powers are for the protection of students, employees, visitors and their property, and the property, branches, and interests of the college or university in the county where the college or university is located (instead of requiring that these powers be exercised only on college or university property). Also gives members of the campus police department the ability to regulate and control traffic on the public way contiguous to the college or university property.

**House Bill 2686, Leitch (Cronin)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Training Act. Provides that funds may also be appropriated to the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria (not just to the University of Illinois at Chicago and Southern Illinois University) for its forensic psychiatry fellowship training program. Effective July 1, 2009.

**House Bill 4094, Hatcher (Cullerton)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Requires the Board of Higher Education's master plan to include higher education affordability and accessibility measures.

**House Bill 4122(amended), Chapa LaVia  
(Holmes)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Criminal Code of 1961. Provides that it is unlawful for any institution of higher learning that employs peace officers to prohibit a peace officer from carrying a firearm in the performance of his or her duties, unless the peace officer fails to qualify with the firearm, is declared unfit for duty, and is unable to be armed.

**House Resolution 74, Rose****Assigned to Higher Education Committee**

Urges Governor Quinn to return to the practice of selecting State university trustees from a list provided by and vetted by the alumni association of the State university in question.

**House Resolution 97, Reitz****Resolution Adopted**

Urges the U.S. Congress to fund the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network's request for \$648,600,000 from the federal government for the training and development of a green-collar workforce and the creation of green-collar jobs through community college renewable energy and energy conservation projects.

**Senate Bill 263 (amended), Frerichs****1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

Amends the University of Illinois Act. Removes a provision that prohibits a student from being admitted to instruction in any of the departments of the University who has not attained the age of 15 years and who has not previously undergone a satisfactory examination in each of the branches ordinarily taught in the common schools of this State. Effective immediately.

**Senate Bill 1570, Pankau (Kosel)****Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the School Wind and Solar Generation Program to fund wind generation projects and solar generation projects for school districts and community college districts. The legislation requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to implement and administer the program and allows the Department to award full or partial grants for engineering studies, feasibility studies, research studies, and construction costs. The legislation also allows school districts and community college districts to own and operate solar generation turbine farms (not just wind generation turbine farms) that directly or indirectly reduce energy or other operating costs.

**Senate Bill 1624, Kotowski (Walker)****Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the Higher Education Veterans Campus Service Act. Requires all public colleges and universities to conduct a survey of the services and programs that are provided for veterans, active duty military personnel, and their families, at each of their respective campuses. Requires appointment of a Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services on each campus of the college or university that has an onsite, daily, full-time student headcount above 1,000 students. Provides that the Board of Higher Education and the Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue a best practices report to highlight those programs and services that are most beneficial to veterans and active duty military personnel.

**Senate Bill 2045, Jacobs (McAuliffe)****Referred to House Rules Committee**

Creates the Blind Vendors Act. Creates the Business Enterprise Program for the Blind. Provides that the Program must provide that: priority is given to blind vendors in the operation of vending facilities on State property; tie bid preference is given to blind vendors in the operation of cafeterias on State property unless the cafeteria operations are operated by employees of a State agency; vending machine income from all vending machines on State property is assigned as provided in the Act.

**Senate Resolution 29, Maloney****Secretary's Desk, Resolutions**

Establishes the Unemployment Insurance for Contingent Academic Workers Task Force to (1) estimate costs to higher education institutions of a change in law that allows contingent academics to collect unemployment insurance and (2) examine the growth of employment of part-time contingent faculty over the past 10 years.

**House Bill 2235, Davis (Lightford)****Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the School Code and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Requires the governing board of each school district, university, and community college to report to the State Board of Education or Board of Higher Education, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of all administrators and teachers or faculty employed by the school district, university, or community college district.

**House Bill 2573 (amended), Mell (Martinez)**

**Referred to Senate Assignments**

Amends the Illinois Human Rights Act. Provides that every institution of higher education shall post in a prominent and accessible location a poster stating sexual harassment laws and policies; that the poster shall be easily accessible to all students or posted annually in similar locations with an electronic copy of the sexual harassment laws and policies also sent to each student at the time that registration materials are e-mailed. Provides that a failure to post such materials may subject the institution to an investigation by the Department of Human Rights and a subsequent civil rights violation charge.

**House Bill 4209 (amended), Bost**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Passed**

With respect to Veteran grants and Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia grants, provides that a person who otherwise qualifies for a grant may relinquish his or her entitlement to the grant and instead transfer that entitlement to his or her spouse, natural child, legally adopted child, or step-child. Provides that the veteran must have elected not to utilize the Illinois Veterans Grant program or any federal program that provides tuition payments or assistance to veterans in order to transfer his or her entitlement to a veterans grant. Effective July 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 1524(amended), Trotter  
(Pritchard)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, House**

**House Bill 2352 (amended), Joyce (Trotter)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Senate**

Creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

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**House Resolution 50, Miller**

**Assigned to Higher Education Committee**

Resolves that this State must guarantee up to 2 years of postsecondary education or training for all Illinoisans.

**House Resolution 56, Ford**

**Assigned to Elementary & Secondary  
Education Committee**

Urges the State Board of Education to establish a comprehensive plan to close the student achievement gap by the 2010-2011 school year.

**Senate Bill 37 (Amended), Maloney  
(Yarbrough)**

**Referred to Rules Committee**

Creates the 21st Century Scholars Act. Senate Amendment 1 shells the bill.

## **Pensions**

### **House Resolution 63, Jakobsson** **Senate Resolution 54, Frerichs**

### **State Government Administration** **Secretary's Desk Resolutions**

Instructs the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability to study the economic impact on central Illinois of the number of jobs that would be eliminated due to the consolidation of investment authority in the State Universities Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of State of Illinois.

### **Senate Bill 364, Schoenberg (Madigan)**

### **Public Act 96-0006**

Amends the Illinois Ethics Act concerning various pension funds and amends the Illinois Pension Code provisions concerning the boards of trustees of the State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois and the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). The Chairperson of the Illinois Board of Higher Education will chair the SURS Board of Trustees. Also provides for the boards to be reconstituted 90 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act.