

END OF SESSION REPORT
2021 VETO SESSION
MORRILL & FIEDLER, LLC

The 2021 fall veto session wrapped up at approximately 11:30pm on Thursday, October 28. During the two-week veto session, there were 25 substantive bills considered and approved by both chambers (a handful of other bills only passed one chamber); however, there were zero gubernatorial vetoes addressed (as all vetoes issues were addressed *prior to* the beginning of the veto session).

2021 Veto Session Recap

Here is a list of the major bills advanced during the fall veto session (includes links to the bill status and summaries):

- [SB 1169](#) - Amends Health Care Right of Conscience Act to clarify law not applicable to COVID mandates
- [HB 370](#) - Parental Notification of Abortion repeal
- [HB1769](#) - Reimagining Electric Vehicles in Illinois Act (business incentive program)
- [HB3136](#) – Small gaming bill (includes limited sports betting on in-state college teams; allows sports betting a Chicago Sky arena; allows local push taxes in effect prior to Nov. 1; online registration for sports betting to begin March 5, 2022; addresses IRB review of applications for new south suburban race track; caps local VGT fees; expands race horse breeding programs)
- [SB0536](#) - Election omnibus
- [HB1291](#) - Congressional redistricting
- [SB 280](#) – Creates regional water commission for Joliet-region
- [SB1784](#) - Chicago elected school board clean up
- [HB3666](#) - Energy trailer - prevailing wage on EV rebates
- [HB2778](#) - Education employee paid COVID-19 leave
- [HB 220](#) - amends definition of “supervisor” in IPLRA for purposes of determining who can be included in a bargaining unit for a fire department
- [HB3512](#) - Criminal justice reform update (passed Senate, pending in the House)

With the exception of HB 2778, the Governor is expected to sign each bill after they are sent to his office for review.

2022 Spring Session Shortened – Begins January 4, 2022

Also, the 2022 spring session schedules were released prior to the adjournment of the veto session (see attached). The 2022 spring session is scheduled to begin on January 4 and concluded on April 8 (almost a full month early). While the time frame for the spring session is shorter, the number of scheduled session days (54) is about the same as a normal session calendar that concludes May 31. The rationale for the early conclusion is two-fold: (a) allow for construction to be completed on the north-end of the Capitol that will impact legislative offices; and (b) afford legislators adequate time to campaign in their new legislative districts before the primary election in June.

Executive Order on Gun Violence

This afternoon, Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2021-29 declaring gun violence a public health crisis and launching a comprehensive, statewide approach to reducing gun violence and establishing the Reimagine program. According to the Governor's press release on the matter, Executive Order 2021-29 requires relevant state agencies to work with the new Office of Firearm Violence Prevention (OFVP) to address the systemic causes of firearm violence and to develop trauma-informed and equity-based strategies. The overall violence prevention approach includes four key elements:

- High-risk youth intervention programs that have been proven to reduce involvement in the criminal or juvenile justice system, referrals of teens into therapeutic programs that address trauma recovery and other mental health services.
- Violence prevention services, including street-based violence interruption work, emotional or trauma related therapy, housing, employment, job training/placement, family engagement, and wrap-around support services.
- Youth development programs, including after school and summer programming to increase school attendance and school performance, reduce criminal justice system involvement, and build social-emotional persistence and intelligence.
- Trauma recovery services for young people, funded by Medicaid, designed and implemented by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, to address trauma recovery from chronic exposure to firearm violence. A team-based model of care will include case management and school support services, group and individual therapy, and evidence-based family systems interventions.

\$250 Million in Community-Based Grants

In the coming weeks, the OFVP will announce competitive funding opportunities for grants focused on technical assistance for violence prevention and youth development and intervention. Fifty million dollars in funding has been budgeted for the remainder of the state's fiscal year 22, and \$100 million for each of the subsequent two fiscal years will be requested.

ICJIA and IDHS have launched technical assistance and training opportunities for community organizations across the state to apply for funding that will help address factors that contribute to gun violence. For information on available technical assistance and upcoming funding opportunities, visit the IDHS website.

Office of Firearm Violence Prevention

Anti-violence funding will support the enactment of RPSA, which establishes the OFVP within the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) to focus on reducing firearm deaths and injuries in communities with the most gun violence. To develop sound recommendations on reducing incidents of gun violence, the OFVP is required to identify and work with violence prevention conveners in Chicago neighborhoods with the highest rates of violence. In areas outside of Chicago, the OFVP will form community advisory groups designed to lower firearm injuries and deaths.

Community-Based Violence Prevention and Intervention Action Plans

The Reimagine Plan aligns with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's (ICJIA) recently published violence prevention plan, a statewide effort structured on evidence-based strategies and practices and focused on measuring incidents of gun violence across the state and analyzing indicators that can predict acts of violence. ICJIA's researchers laid out five areas of focus to guide future prevention efforts:

1. Stop the violence, promote safety;
2. Support children, youth, and families;
3. Advance equity;
4. Support health; and,
5. Promote collaboration across state, municipal, and community-based agencies.

Other notable items that occurred during the second week of the veto session:

- Senate GOP Chief of Staff – Dale Righter – announced he will leave to focus on his private law practice, and Jenna Mitchell (Deputy COS) will take over;
- GOP Congressman Adam Kinzinger announced he will not run for re-election;
- Dem Congresswoman Mary Newman announced she'll run against Congressman Sean Casten in the newly drawn 6th District;
- Legislators failed to appoint a new legislative inspector general (exiting LIG to leave December 15, 2021).