

END OF SESSION REPORT
2022 SPRING
MORRILL & FIEDLER, LLC

The 2022 spring legislative session began with a one-day session on January 5, 2022 – as COVID forced the Illinois General Assembly to cancel all remaining January session days. The 2022 spring session was already “truncated” to adjourn on April 8 (instead of the customary May 31), thus squeezing a full 5 ½-month session to be conducted in only 2 ½ months. The 2022 spring session saw 2600 new bills filed for consideration; however, only 410 bills (or 16%) were approved by both chambers upon adjournment on April 9. On the final “session day,” the Illinois General Assembly held session for a record 19.5 hours straight – with the Illinois Senate adjourning at 3:00am on Saturday, April 9, and the Illinois House adjourning at 6:00am Saturday morning.

The final week, and final days, of the 2022 spring session, saw the Illinois General Assembly advanced the key priority issues the chamber leaders had indicated before the 2022 session began: (a) the FY23 operational and capital project budget; (b) temporary tax relief for Illinois citizens (*e.g.*, one-year suspension of motor fuel tax or sales tax imposed on gas, suspend sales tax on groceries, and property tax rebates); (c) a legislative “crime package” that includes measures to address increases in retail theft and carjackings; and (d) renewal of the Illinois Medicaid/hospital/nursing home assessment programs.

On Tuesday, April 19, the Governor signed the FY23 budget, BIMP, and tax relief measures into law. It is anticipated that Governor Pritzker will approve every major bill detailed below in this summary report; however, a handful of bills won’t receive a final legislative approval until the fall veto session.

FY23 State Budget/Capital Projects Program/BIMP

[HB 900 \(Welch/Sims\)](#) – FY23 operations and capital projects budget. \$46.45 billion in appropriated spending for state operations against an estimated \$46.54 billion in anticipated revenues. A general breakdown of the FY23 spending plan is as follows:

- \$2.4 billion appropriated for public safety agency operations/programs;
- \$12 billion appropriated for elementary, secondary, and higher education;
- \$16.1 billion appropriated for human services agency operations/programs;
- \$13.6 billion appropriated for general services agency operations/programs;
- \$1.0 billion appropriated to state rainy day fund; and
- Re-appropriates all funding for 2019 capital construction projects.
- TOTAL: \$46.45 billion FY23 budget

HB 900 was signed into law on April 19, 2022. While the FY23 state operations budget appropriations won’t become effective until July 1, 2022; the reauthorization of the capital construction projects will take effect upon HB 900 becoming law.

[HB 4700 \(Harris/Sims\)](#) – contains the Budget Implementation (or BIMP) legislation that provides the substantive language to implement the FY23 budget appropriations and programs. Among various other changes, some of the key changes made within the BIMP bill are as follows:

- Creates new Illinois Climate Jobs Institute at the University of Illinois;
- Creates new Broadband Infrastructure Advancement Act to submit/award project grants with oversight by the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget;

- Permanent 0.1% increase in funding for local governments through the Local Government Distributive Fund;
- Expands DCEO tourism and convention bureau grant program (and extends local 50% match);
- Creates new hotel and restaurant recovery grant programs within DCEO;
- Extends Illinois Internet Lottery program through July 1, 2025 and allows sports betting via Illinois lottery;
- Creates new 9-8-8 statewide hotline for suicide prevention and mental health support;
- Authorizes various inter-fund transfers;
- Increases amount of annual MAP grant for higher education students; and
- Increases various Medicaid reimbursement rates.

HB 4700 was signed into law on April 19, 2022.

2022 Tax Relief Package

[SB 157 \(Hastings/Zalewski\)](#) – Estimated \$1.8 billion “consumer tax relief” package that includes: (a) one-year freeze of the state’s 1% sales tax on groceries (local taxes still apply); (b) six-month freeze of the state’s gas tax at \$.39/gallon (July 1, 2022 through Jan. 1, 2023); (c) new 10-day sales tax holiday on back to school items in August 2022; (d) one-time, limited income tax rebate to eligible taxpayers who will receive direct payments of \$50 per adult and \$100 per child; (e) one-time property tax rebate of up to \$300 for qualifying homeowners; and (f) expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from 18% to 20% of the federal credit. SB 157 was signed into law on April 19, 2022.

[SB 1975 \(Martwick/Kifowit\)](#) – provides for various property tax relief measures, including: (a) restructure how tax levies are calculated for all taxing districts; (b) increase the General and Senior homestead exemptions for Cook and collar counties; and (c) increase annual increase for Senior Deferral limitation. Makes minor changes to fund reporting for schools and a study on the impact of exemptions for disabled veterans.

Public Safety/Crime Package

Car Hijacking

[HB3699 \(Delgado/Martwick\)](#) – Mandates the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Preventing and Insurance Verification Council will provide grants and financial support to help identify, apprehend, and prosecute hijackers and recovery hijacked and stolen vehicles. The council also must develop strategies for combating hijackings and improving how laws are administered.

[HB 3772 \(Delgado/Aquino\)](#) – amends the Vehicle Code to ensure vehicle owners are not responsible for any red light tickets as a result of a car hijacking.

Retail Theft

[HB 1091 \(Buckner/Hilton\)](#) – Initiative to enhance penalties for retail theft to deter smash-and-grab thefts and moves to resell stolen goods online. HB 1091 creates a new organized retail theft crime and gives the Attorney General and local prosecutors additional tools to prosecute offenders.

[HB 601 \(Andrade/Gillespie\)](#) – Updates the definition of burglary tools to include new technologies.

Firearms

[HB 4383 \(Buckner/Collins\)](#) – Prohibits the sale and possession of firearms which are untraceable due to lack of a serial number (a/k/a “ghost guns”).

[HB 4729 \(Willis/Morrison\)](#) – Requires the Illinois Department of Public Health must conduct a multi-year safe gun storage campaign.

Expressway cameras

[HB 4481 \(Greenwood/Murphy\)](#) – Amends the Expressway Camera Act to cover 21 additional counties.

[HB 260 \(Williams/Feigenholtz\)](#) – Amends the Expressway Camera Act (as expanded by HB 4481) to include Lake Shore Drive and allows the use of images from all cameras to investigate and prosecute car hijackings, terrorism, or any forcible felony.

Assistance for first responders

Multiple bills were approved to require the Illinois Department of Human Service (“DHS”) to provide new grant programs for various services for first responders, including:

- [HB 1571 \(Manley/Glowiak Hilton\)](#) – grants for childcare centers to provide late night care for children of first responders and other late-shift workers;
- [HB 1321 \(LaPointe/Hastings\)](#) – grants to local law enforcement, fire districts, schools, hospitals, and ambulance services to provide behavioral health services for first responders;
- [HB 4364 \(Tarver/Cappell\)](#) – grants to local governments for mental health and substance use prevention for individuals who are incarcerated and individuals in county jails or recently discharged (note: HB 4364 is expected to receive final legislative approval during the fall veto session); and
- [HB 3863 \(Vella/Morrison\)](#) – grants to departments for officer hiring and training and retention strategies.

Additionally, two bills were approved to provide retention/recruitment assistance to first responders:

- [HB 1568 \(Vella/Martwick\)](#) – creates a program to review the standards for transferring credits from community colleges to 4-year colleges to satisfy requirements for law enforcement positions, and allow officers to purchase their guns and badges; and
- [HB 4608 \(Delgado/Bennett\)](#) – creates a waiver process for out-of-state officers wishing to work in Illinois (note: HB 4608 is expected to receive final legislative approval during the fall veto session).

Law Enforcement Procedures

[HB 4736 \(Rep. Gordon-Booth, D-Peoria/Sen. Peters, D-Chicago\)](#) – Creates the Crime Reduction Task Force and provides that the Task Force shall develop and propose policies and procedures to reduce crime in the State of Illinois. Requires the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) to establish a grant program for organizations and units of local government for the purposes of providing an anonymous tip

hotline. Creates the Co-Responder Pilot Program Division in the Illinois Municipal Code and provides that the East St. Louis Police Department, Peoria Police Department, Springfield Police Department and Waukegan Police Department shall establish, subject to appropriation, a co-responder unit no later than 6 months after the effective date of the amendatory Act.

[HB 4608 \(Delgado/Bennett\)](#) – Allows officers to identify body camera video they believe has evidentiary value and clarifies when an officer does not have to have a camera turned on (note: HB 4608 is expected to receive final legislative approval during the fall veto session).

[HB 3893 \(Hernandez/Joyce\)](#) – Extends the sunsets on laws that allow investigators to recording conversations for qualified sex and drug offenses (extended to January 1, 2027), and the Illinois Street Gang and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Law (extended to June 11, 2023).

[SB 2364 \(Harmon/Slaughter\)](#) – “trailer bill” making a series of technical changes to the Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity – Today (SAFE-T) Act, including delaying the effective dates of some provisions (note: SB 2364 is expected to receive final legislative approval during the fall veto session).

Medicaid/Hospital Assessment

[HB 1950 \(Harris/Gillespie\)](#) – Reauthorizes and extends the Hospital Assessment Program which brings \$3.9 billion federal dollars to the Illinois Medicaid program. This reauthorization also continues and expands the Hospital Transformation Program to reduce healthcare disparities through community and provider collaboration, strengthens the Safety Net Hospital Pool funds, and funds the Poison Control center among other items.

[HB 4343 \(Harris/Gillespie\)](#) – Medicaid Omnibus which makes numerous changes to increase equity in the Medicaid program, reduces artificial bureaucratic barriers to enrollment, and expands coverage and services. Some of the major changes include:

- Continues 12-month redetermination after the end of the Public Health Emergency to maintain continuity of coverage for individuals and families who have frequent fluctuations in monthly income;
- Reduces the penalizing and inequitable consequences of Medicaid liens and estate recovery;
- Increases outpatient pediatric psych rates to allow children’s hospitals to expand behavioral health services to meet COVID related demand;
- Requires Medicaid to cover midwifery, peer support, and acupuncture services;
- Expands access to healthcare for undocumented persons to those 42 years old and up;
- Creates mental health wellbeing screening program for grades 7-12 in schools; and
- Increases rates for Medicare.

Conclusion

The 2022 spring session was intentionally scheduled to adjourn on April 8 (though it adjourned in the early morning of April 9) for two reasons: (a) the 2022 primary election was delayed until June 28, 2022, and the leaders wanted to provide sufficient time for incumbent legislators to be back in the district before the election (as all 177 legislators are up for re-election in 2022); and (b) the State Capitol building begins its next phase of major renovation that will completely remodel the entire north section of the Capitol building (where the Senate offices and Senate chamber are located) for the next two years. The Senate

is expected to convene session in the Howlett Building for the upcoming 2022 veto session and the spring/veto sessions for 2023 and 2024.

The majority of legislators are now focused on their re-election campaigns; however, as of this writing, there are 17 current legislators that have either announced they are not running for re-election or are running for a different elected office (two legislators previously resigned and were replaced with appointees to finish the legislative term). It is anticipated that the 2022 election cycle will result in many new elected officials, but it is still expected that the Democratic Party will retain control of the Illinois General Assembly due to the advantages of the 2022 legislative redistricting map.