



# Senate Committee Action

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## Agriculture

**Study of the Supplemental Deer Feeding (SB 2493):** Creates a 2 year study to study the health effects of supplementally feeding deer, including the effects on communicable diseases within deer population; done in conjunction with U of I College of Veterinary Medicine and DNR. Also, reports findings and recommendations to General Assembly within 60 days of study conclusion.

**Adulterated Meat Regulation (SB 2752):** Amends the Meat and Poultry Inspection Act and brings Illinois in line with the federal definitions and regulations regarding what is considered "adulterated" meat or food.

**Department of Agriculture Program Repeals (SB 2875):** Repeals a number of programs that are no longer functioning, and transfers the responsibility of some to other programs to make administering them easier for the Department. The programs effected include: Anhydrous Ammonia Security Grants Program, the Dairy Statistics Act, the Forever Green Illinois Program, the Illinois AgriFIRST Program Act of 2001, The Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act, and the Local Food, Farms, Jobs Act Labeling & Certification Program and additionally repeals the Trichinosis Control Act.

## Commerce and Economic Development

**Regional development authority counties (SB 2589):** Amends numerous Economic Development Authority Acts. Adds 16 counties into their respective regional development authority. Also makes confirming changes to board sizes to accommodate regions gaining

one or two more counties into their authority. In addition, the bill removes an outdated line that requires DCEO to pay the compensation of the Executive Director of the Eastern Illinois Development Authority, and makes a technical change putting a county in the correct Authority Region. Also adds language into each Economic Development Authority Act to allow each Authority to issue bonds and other forms of indebtedness to local government projects.

**PACE Amendment (SB 2773):** Amends the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act (PACE), and enables local units of government to permissively use IFA for bond financing of Property Assessed Clean Energy ("PACE") projects on privately-owned commercial, industrial, non-residential, agricultural, or multi-family (of 5 or more units) real estate, lowering the costs of such projects and creating clean energy jobs across the State.

**Tourism Promotion Fund Corrections (SB 2899):** Reduces the amount of tourism funds that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and local tourism groups can reserve for administrative purposes from 10 to 3 percent.

**Rebate Cards Changes (SB 3102):** Amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to prohibit the issuance of rebate cards that charge dormancy or other post-issuance fees. These fees can sometimes deplete the entire value of these rebate cards.

## Telecommunications and Information Technology

**911 Board Member Increase (SB 2727): 911 Board Member Increase (SB 2727):** Increases the number of elected officials on joint 911 boards (ETSB Boards). Provides that if a joint board includes a county that was part of a 9-1-1 Governing Board established in 1988, then three members of the county board shall be appointed on the board with the remaining members being elected officials or representatives of the 9-1-1 community.

## Energy

**ICC Tech Changes (SB 3131):** Amends the Public Utilities Act and changes references to "hearing examiner" to references to "administrative law judge" throughout the act. As well as, repeals numerous obsolete provisions concerning emission allowances, conducting a study on billing practices and policies, conducting a study on strategic options for changing the structure of energy service markets, conducting a study on the feasibility of wheeling electricity in the State, rules for recovering costs of canceled facilities, recovery of additional charges refunded to customers, conducting a study on implementing promotional rates for industrial and commercial customers, alternative rate regulations, and conducting a study on patterns of entry and exit for each relevant market for telecommunications services.

## Environment and Conservation

**Mahomet Aquifer Task Force (SB 274):** Amends the Mahomet Aquifer Protection Task Force and extends the sunset date to December 31, 2018.

**Compostable Bag Tax (SB 1597):** Creates the Compostable Bags in Retail Establishments Act, and bans the use of non-compostable bags tinted green in retail establishments for

customers to bag their own products, as take-out bags, or carry-out bags and imposes a \$0.05 fee on each plastic bag used at retail during checkout.

**IL Underground Natural Gas Storage (SB 2706):** Creates the Underground Natural Gas Storage Safety Act and brings Illinois into line with Federal regulations on natural gas storage. Also, it will make it easier for the State and private entities to apply for federal grants related to improving natural gas storage and transportation infrastructure.

**Volkswagen Settlement Task Force (SB 3101):** Requires IEPA to establish the Volkswagen Settlement Task Force, these 10 members are appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of the Senate. Also, requires 6 public meetings during the extended comment period, and requires the IEPA to revise any plan submitted prior to the passage of this legislation.

**IEPA Referrals to Attorney General (SB 3156):** Amends the Environmental Protection Act, this forces the IEPA to refer violations to the Attorney General's Office and State's Attorney, even if the IEPA is negotiating an agreement with the violator which may resolve the issue. Strips many due process provisions that allow an alleged violator to resolve the matter with the IEPA.

**Pollinator Friendly Solar Site (SB 3214):** Creates the Pollinator Friendly Solar Site Act and allows certain solar sites to obtain a certification from DNR allowing the sites to designate themselves as "Pollinator Friendly". This means they maintain practices that promote the habitat and populations of native pollinators (i.e. birds, insects, etc.). As well as, includes the U of I's Department of Entomology in evaluation criteria.

**Natural Gas Leak Public Notice (SB 3548):** Provides that a company operating a natural gas storage field operating about a US EPA designated sole source aquifer must notify public and private individuals, including emergency

management services and operators of water supplies that a gas leak has occurred. Also, provides for the type of notifications and time table of when notifications must be made and limits public notices of natural gas leaks to those above Mahomet Aquifer.

**Natural Gas Storage Field Inspections (SB 3549):** Amends the Oil and Gas Act, but limits inspections to natural gas storage fields operating above US EPA designated sole source aquifers (Mahomet Aquifer).

**E-Waste Drop-off Sites (SB 3550):** Amends the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act, states that nothing prevents a manufacturer from collecting e-waste through drop-off sites that are created in agreement between a third party (i.e. waste hauler) and unit of local government.