



Senate Committee Action

Public Health

Lactation Wellness Rooms (HB 1042):

Requires the Architect of the Capitol to designate at least one lactation and wellness room in each of the following buildings: the State Capitol Building, the Howlett Building, and the Stratton Building. The rooms must comply with the recommendations of the American Institute of Architects. Removes the clause mandating that the lactation/wellness rooms comply with the recommendations of the American Institute of Architects. This should significantly decrease the cost of the project by removing the requirement for a sink with running water, soundproofing, etc.

Prescription Drug Task Force (HB 4707):

Creates the Prescription Drug Task Force. The task force will: study prescription opioid abuse in Illinois; study the over-prescription of opioids, such as Hydrocodone and Oxycodone; and recommend whether prescriptions should be restricted. This bill specifies number of members on the task force and requires the task force to report to the General Assembly by December 31, 2019.

Veterans Affairs

Legionnaires' Notification (HB 4310):

Provides that a Veterans' Home must notify the residents, families, employees, and contractors within 24 hours of a Legionnaires' Outbreak. Defines outbreak as two or more people exposed to legionella who are sick at the same place and about the same time. Notification can be sent by mail or electronically.

Veteran ID Designation (HB 4332): Amends the Illinois Identification Card Act. Provides that, for purposes of issuing an identification card with a veteran designation under the Act, the acceptable forms of proof for an applicant include:

- a Department of Defense form DD-2 (Retired);
- an identification card issued under the federal Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015; or
- a United States Department of Veterans Affairs summary of benefits letter.

Quincy Nursing Home (HB 5683): Provides that if the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs purchases a nursing home in the city of Quincy for the purpose of housing veterans, then that housing will fall under the purview of the Department.

IDVA home quarterly report (HB 5784): Amends the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act. Requires that the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs submit a quarterly report about the health and welfare of residents at the Veterans' Homes to the General Assembly by January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year.

Education

Special Ed Due Process (HB 4193): For special education due process hearings, changes the timeline for when the hearing officer must issue a written decision from "within 10 days" to "within 10 calendar days, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and any State holiday."

UV Exposure in Children (HB 4685): Allows children at schools and camps to use sunscreen, allows employees to help apply, and requires districts to allow children to wear sun-protective clothing including hats. Allows schools to incorporate curriculum on skin cancer prevention.

School Board Member Oath (HB 4768): Adds numerous requirements to the oath sworn by school board members when taking office.

Pedestrian & Bike Safety (HB 4799): Requires districts to educate students of traffic safety for walking and biking. FA#1 requires districts update policies every 2 years.

Teacher Evaluations (HB 4927): Requires Chicago Public Schools to provide all copies of teacher evaluations to the Chicago Teachers Union within seven days after issuing the evaluations. Under current law, the teacher must give consent first.

Sex Ed Sexual Consent (HB 5148): Requires that sex education course materials and instruction must include, with an emphasis on the workplace environment and life on a college campus, discussion on what constitutes sexual consent and what may be considered sexual harassment or assault.

High School Military Uniform (HB 5561): Gives students, who have completed basic training, are an active member of the U.S. military and who are in good standing with the US military the right to wear their military uniforms during graduation ceremonies.

In School Suspension (HB 5786): Allows school districts to use in-school suspension programs that promote non-violent conflict resolution and positive interaction with others and allows a school district to employ a school social worker or licensed mental health professional to oversee in-school suspension programs.

Mental Health Services (HB 5770): Incorporates into existing statute a requirement to notify, through the school district website and student handbook or newsletter, that students with disabilities, who do not qualify for an IEP, may qualify for a 504 plan if they: have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; has a record of physical or mental impairment or is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

Educator Licensure (HB 5627): Illinois State Board of Education initiative to address teacher shortage issue. Changes include:

- Provides for full reciprocity for out-of-state applicants for a Professional Educator License (PEL). This will allow out-of-state licensed educators to teach in Illinois without meeting additional requirements.
- For a five-year period beginning July 1, 2018, creates a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Applicants must hold an associate's degree or have completed at least 60 credit hours from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- For a five-year period beginning July 1, 2018, allows a retired teacher to return to work for 120 days (or 600 hours) per school year without impairing their retirement status. Under this provision, the retired teacher is prohibited from teaching for more than 100 days in the same classroom. This is 20 days or 100 hours more than current law provides.
- Clarifies that an individual who holds a valid PEL or Educator License with Stipulations (ELS) does not need to also have a Substitute Teaching License to teach as a substitute teacher.
- Provides that an individual who holds a lapsed PEL due to failure to complete professional development can hold Substitute Teaching License.