



Senate Committee Action

Agriculture

Wearing Blaze Pink (HB 4231): Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that hunters may wear blaze pink during firearm deer season and upland game season.

The Farm Equity Act (HB4234): Creates the Farm Equity Act. Requires the Department of Agriculture to ensure the inclusion of socially disadvantaged farmers in urbanized areas and requires the Department to create a new position to support this initiative.

Cat/Dog Breeder Classification (HB5029): Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that those persons who have in their possession 5 female cats or dogs capable of reproduction shall be classified as a dog breeder or cat breeder, rather than a kennel operator.

Increased Poaching Costs (HB5317): Amends the Wildlife Code. Increases the costs a person must pay the Department of Natural Resources for illegally taking various species protected under the Act.

Illinois Horse Conceived/Foaled Regulations (HB 5459): This allows the Department of Agriculture to certify horses as Illinois conceived and foaled for this breeding year. Also amends the Illinois Horse Racing Act to change the qualification requirements for stallions in Illinois conceived and foaled Standardbred harness races.

Animal Control Intake/Disposition Statistics (HB5477): Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Adds new license-renewal requirements for animal control facilities and animal shelters, including breakdowns of incoming animals and the ultimate disposition of those animals in the previous calendar year.

Season Limits for River Otter by Rule (HB5692):

Amend the Wildlife Code. Allows the Department of Natural Resources to annually set the taking limits for River Otter by administrative rule, as is the case for other fur-bearing mammals in Illinois based on science and an animal's population dynamics. The Code currently imposes a state-wide taking limit of 5 River Otter each season.

Appropriations II

District Broadband Expansion Appropriation (SB 2312): Appropriates \$16.3 million from the School Infrastructure Fund to the Illinois State Board of Education for costs associated with District Broadband Expansion in FY19.

Commerce and Economic Development

Physical Fitness Services (HB 4275): Removes provisions prohibiting certain basic gym membership services. Prohibits contracts for basic physical fitness services in excess of \$2,500 per year, per person. Requires these contracts to be in writing. Prohibits financing of a contract for physical fitness services over a period of more than three years. Also prohibits contracts measured by the life of the consumer. Finally, prohibits a gym membership of greater than one year.

Removes Olympic Prohibition (HB 4578): Amends the Business Corporation Act of 1983 and the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986. Removes a prohibition on the use of the word "Olympic" and similar words in corporate names. Amends the Limited Liability Company Act. Reduces penalties regarding violations of the Act.

Rebate Cards (HB 4922): Provides that it is an unlawful practice to offer to consumers at retail a rebate made on a rebate card, rather than a stored-value card, that charges dormancy fees or other post-issuance fees. Excludes gift cards issued under the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, payroll cards issued under the Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act, certain stored-value cards, and cards issued for in-store credit from the scope of the term "rebate card."

Tourism Fund Extension (HB 4990): Amends the Illinois Promotion Act. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may make grants from the Tourism Promotion Fund until July 1, 2022. Currently, July 1, 2020. Also provides that a report by DCEO concerning convention center and sports facility grants must be provided electronically.

Economic Impact Analysis Changes (HB 5253): Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. Modifies certain provisions requiring State agencies to issue an economic impact analysis when proposing new rules or amendments to rules that affect small businesses. Provides specific identifiers that the analysis must include. Provides that when any rule or amendment to an existing rule is proposed and a small business economic impact analysis is required, the adopting State agency must provide the information specified as part of its filing, and that information will be published in the Illinois Register.

Environment and Conservation

Natural Gas Regulatory Review (SR 1534): Requires the Department of Natural Resources to review the current regulations regarding gas pipelines and well operations in Illinois, including the underground storage of natural gas. DNR shall create a report and submit to the General Assembly by December 31, 2018.

Foxconn Environmental Concerns (SR 1600): Urges Wisconsin to reconsider the waiving of certain environmental protections that were allowed for the Foxconn factory in Racine County. Urges Illinois agencies to take whatever steps necessary to prevent any public health hazards or environmental impacts caused by the building of the Foxconn facility. States that Illinois should not waive similar environmental protections for any developments seeking to locate in our State.

Illinois Waterway Cleanup Week (SJR 60): Declares September 9 through 15, 2018 as "Illinois Waterway Cleanup Week" in the State of Illinois.

Above Ground Gas Storage (HB 4569): Amends the Gasoline Storage Act. States that for agricultural purposes and certain commercial purposes, an above ground gas storage tank holding 12,000 gallons of fuel may be used for refueling equipment and vehicles.

Compost-Amended Soil in Construction Projects (HB 4790): Provides that any State agency that undertakes a landscaping project that requires the use of new or offsite soil for landscape-related use and that is located within 10 miles of any Illinois Environmental Protection Agency-permitted compost facility shall request a base bid with an alternative for compost-amended soil for that project.

Ivory Ban Act (HB 4843): Creates the Ivory Ban Act. Bans the import and sale of most ivory and ivory products in Illinois; exempts antique guns and knives that are over 100 years old, and also exempts musical instruments containing ivory that were produced before 1975. Allows the Department of Natural Resources to set rules for allowing the sale or transfer of ivory if it is for educational or scientific purposes.

Contaminants of Emerging Concern Report (HB 5741): Amends the University of Illinois Scientific Surveys Act. As soon as practicable upon this Act becoming law, the Prairie Research Institute will identify any chemical that is commonly found in waste water that has been listed as a contaminant of emerging concern by the U.S. EPA, and any recommended actions to address environmental or public health concerns associated with that chemical. The report must be submitted by June 30, 2020.

Energy and Public Utilities

Renewable Energy Facilities Agricultural Impact Mitigation Act (SB 2591): Amends the current law Wind Energy Facilities Agricultural Impact Mitigation Act. Provides that the Act may be cited as the Renewable Energy Facilities Agricultural Impact Mitigation Act. Also provides that solar companies must do an impact mitigation agreement.

ARES Suppliers Rules (SB 3577): Creates new tools at the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) to regulate and enforce customer complaints about bad actor Alternative Retail Electric Suppliers (ARES). Increases fines, additional certification standards for ARES, and starts new consumer education fund at the ICC.

Telecommunications and Information Technology

Broadband Advisory Council (HB 5752): Amends the Public Utilities Act. Creates the Broadband Advisory Council to be administered by DCEO. The specific goal of the Council is to explore ways to expand broadband access throughout the State, including unserved areas. Provides for specifics on council membership and other powers and duties of the Council.