



Senate Floor Reports

Bills that passed the Senate May 3, 2018

Solar Energy Assessment Standardization (SB 486): Standardizes the assessment of commercial solar energy systems. Updates the definition of “solar energy system” to mean that it uses solar energy for generating electricity that is primarily consumed on the property on which the solar system resides; or for heating/cooling gases, solids, liquids, or other materials for the primary benefit of the property on which the system resides. Provides the real property components can depreciate over a 25 year schedule and calculates fair market value of real property at \$199,000/MW. Removes the freehold/leasehold portions. Adds that the owner of the commercial solar energy system shall be liable for the real estate taxes for the land and real property improvements of a ground installed commercial solar energy system. In addition, the bill adds that any taxing district may, after the determination of the assessed valuation as set forth, order the clerk of the appropriate municipality or county to abate any portion of real property taxes otherwise levied or extended by the taxing district on a commercial solar energy system. Additionally, the bill removes provisions that the governing body of a municipality or county and the owner of a commercial solar energy system may enter into a voluntary agreement to make payments in lieu of taxes.

Historically Underutilized Business Zone Business Codification (SB 2675): Removes provisions in Senate Bill 3467 that provides a HUBZone small businesses’ price bid for a state contract shall be deemed lower, if their bid is within 10 percent of a competitors bid. The legislation also codifies Federal HUBZone definitions and allows procurement officers to establish rules relating to HUBZones into the IL Procurement Code.

Property Tax Code Changes (SB 2744): Makes changes concerning qualifications for township or multi-township assessors and supervisors of assessments. Provides that certain notices shall be posted on the Department of Revenue’s official website. Provides that the effective date of a certificate for designation as a pollution control facility shall be the date of recommendation by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Also, moves the application process for qualified water treatment facilities from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Revenue.

Prescription Monitoring Program (SB 2952): Amends the Illinois Controlled Substances Act to modify the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). This specifies that individuals designated to check the PMP database by either licensed prescribers or pharmacists can be either licensed or unlicensed. The designees, however, must have undergone training in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). As well as, restores the pharmacists’ representation on the peer-review subcommittee to two members and the physicians’ representation to three members, and still provides for the addition of a dentist, an advanced practice nurse, a physician assistant, and an optometrist or an ophthalmologist to the subcommittee.

Liquor Sales Near Church/School (SB 3114): Provides exemptions to the 100-foot liquor license law, to allow for liquor sales in establishments near a church and two schools in Chicago.

House bills passed by Senate

Payroll Offshoring (HB 5121): Provides that for



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appropriations for the Office of the Governor enacted after the effective date of this act, no intergovernmental or interagency agreement or contract may be entered into to circumvent any limitation established by law pertaining to payroll certification under the State Finance Act or to authorize the payment of employees of the Office of the Governor out of appropriations other than those established for that purpose. Provides that, for appropriations for the Office of the Governor enacted after the effective date of this act, the certification on every State payroll voucher shall be required for expenditures from amounts appropriated to the Office of the Governor for payment of salaries of Governor's Office employees and executed by the Governor, or his or her designee. Further provides that in no event shall salaries of employees of the Office of the Governor be paid from appropriations other than those established for that purpose.