

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee
CHAIRPERSON: John Lang
DATE/TIME February 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
PRESENT:

☒ John Lang ☐ Dan Holcomb ☒ LaDon Trost ☒ Darcy Wild
☐ John Schultz ☐ John Creighton ☒ Don Zillig

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members: Michael Holt and Diane Gallagher

Others: Tessa Moore

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approval:**
 - a) Minutes of the November 9, 2023 Legislative Committee meeting –
 - b) Minutes of the January 25, 2024 Legislative Committee meeting – **Zillig made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2023 and January 25, 2024 Legislative Committee meetings. Seconded by Wild and motion carried by voice vote.**
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) Discussion and possible action on sending a Thank-You note to Senator Chesney – **Zillig made a motion to approve sending a Thank-You note to Senator Chesney. Seconded by Trost and motion carried by voice vote.**
5. **New Business:**
 - a) Status of County Bills
 - i. SB1746 – Jo Daviess 1% Service Tax – The Committee looked up SB1746 – the bill currently in the Senate regarding the Hotel/Motel 1% Service Tax. The bill was recently re-assigned to Revenue.
 - ii. SB2141 – ATV/UTV – on Public Roads – This bill was briefly discussed.
 - b) Governor's Budget – February 21 and pressures on the Budget:
 - i. Public Act 103-0102 allowed Governor to cut State medical programs as needed-
 - (a) State Budget had \$550 million for two immigrant insurance programs –
 - (b) This fall, Pritzker put in copays and raised the age for health benefits for non-seniors – This past fall, the expenses exceeded the budget and the age requirement had to be raised.
 - (c) Representative Elizabeth Hernandez is State Democratic Chair – Pritzker backed Hernandez.
 - (d) State insurance for immigrants is expected to cost \$1.1 billion in 2024 – Based upon costs for migrant insurance alone, it will take a least \$1.1 billion to fund. Migrants are currently getting out of the cities and heading to more rural areas to find jobs for cash.
 - ii. Federal House just passed a Bill to increase Child Tax Credit- Representatives want Illinois to have a \$300 credit – This item was briefly discussed.

- iii. Illinois State Board of Education Budget request has an increase of \$653 million – The committee talked about the State Board of Education’s increase in their budget request.
 - iv. State pension systems still grossly underfunded - \$140 billion – These pensions include teachers’ retirements.
 - v. Given present State spending, a Budget deficit is very possible – With increases everywhere, a deficit is more than likely going to happen.
 - c) Bills of interest to County Government – The committee went over the list of bills provided in the packet. Of the many, a few they focused on were: HB4497, HB4567, HB4681 and SB1723.
 - d) Bills on Law Enforcement from Sheriff’s Association – The committee discussed each of the bills regarding Law Enforcement: HB4603, HB4604, HB4621, HB4623 and HB4630.
 - e) Article on ranking Illinois for starting a business – This item was briefly discussed.
6. **Legislative issues Committee members or County Officials want the Committee to be aware of and take action on** – None.
 7. **Citizens’ Comments:** None.
 8. **Board Member Concerns:** None.
 9. Next regular meeting – Thursday, March 14, 2024.
 10. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m. following a motion made by Zillig. Seconded by Wild and motion carried by voice vote.