

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee
CHAIRPERSON: John Lang, Chairperson
DATE/TIME: February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

☒ John Lang	☐ Michael Dittmar	☒ John Schultz
☒ Lynn Gallagher	☒ Peggy Bastian	☐ Don Zillig
☐ LaDon Trost		

A quorum was established.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Angela Kaiser

1. **Call to Order:** Chairperson Lang called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approval:**
 - a) Minutes of the January 29, 2025 Legislative Committee meeting – **Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2025 Legislative Committee meeting. Seconded by Bastian and motion carried by voice vote.**
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None
3. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) FY2023/FY2024 Strategic Goals and Plans – The members reviewed the goals and plans.
4. **New Business:**
 - a) Review of introduced legislation and possible action to support or oppose:
 - i. UCCI priority issues – The Committee discussed the literature from United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) provided in the packet. One of the priority policy issues was Local Government Distributive Fund. Counties are requesting an incremental restoration of the full 10% of State Income Tax revenue collected by the state and shared with counties and municipalities on a per capita basis. This percentage reduced in 2011 and currently is 6.47% of State Income Tax collections. Another issues discussed was SAFE-T Act Funding. The SAFE-T Act imposed additional costs on counties. For example, one of the additional costs includes additional personnel necessary to fulfill the new requirements under the Pre-Trial Fairness Act. The last issue listed was Wind and Solar Siting Flexibility. There was county authority removed over the siting of wind and solar facilities. Counties do not desire to repeal the provision; however, they are requesting that the Governor and General Assembly work with counties on some modifications and to clarify the existing law.
 - ii. Bills UCCI has identified as of interest to local government – There was extensive discussion on each of the local government bills listed in the meeting packet. Of the list, some of the bills discussed were HB1067, HB1201, HB1352, HB1583, SB24, SB1254 and SB1365.
 - iii. Bills introduced by Senator Chesney – The Committee discussed the list of bills introduced by Senator Andrew Chesney.

- iv. Bills introduced by Representative McCombie – The Committee discussed the list of bills introduced by Representative Tony McCombie.
 - v. Other bills of interest – Some of the other bills of interest discussed were HB1146, HB1328, HB1455 and HB1143.
- b) The budget implications of fixing Tier 2 pensions – Lang referenced an article included in the meeting packet that reported Illinois’ pension debt to personal income ratio is the second worst in the nation. The State of Illinois’ unfunded pension liability is \$206.5 billion when including other post-employment benefits. State Representative Wilhour of Beecher City said that the public sector special interests are rallying here to make Tier II into Tier I.
- c) Illinois sanctuary policies and the Federal Government – There was discussion on Trump’s Department of Justice suing Illinois and other sanctuary states over sanctuary policies. The complaint specifically referenced the Illinois Way Forward Act and the 2017 TRUST Act. It names Pritzker, Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and other Chicago and Cook County Officials.
- 5. Legislative issues Committee Members or County Officials want the Committee to be aware of and take action on at another meeting:** None.
- 6. Citizens’ Comments:** None.
- 7. Board Member Concerns:** None.
- 8. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made at 7:31 p.m. by Schultz and seconded by Bastian. Motion passed by voice vote.

Next regular meeting will be on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.