

TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL 25

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



JOHN T. COLI, PRESIDENT

MARCH 15, 2010

Gov. Quinn Proposes 2011 Budget

Education, Human Services Face Potentially Significant Cuts

Gov. Pat Quinn proposed drastic cuts to educational and human service spending last week as he unveiled his budget proposal for the 2011 fiscal year.

Quinn's budget would cut \$2 billion in state spending—mostly to education—while borrowing \$4.7 billion. An additional \$6 billion in backlogged bills would be rolled over to the 2012 fiscal year.

The proposal also calls for the state to underfund its pension contribution by more than \$300 million. Furlough days, renegotiated contracts and restricted state employee travel are recommended to generate more than \$200 million.

Quinn's budget would reduce local governments' share of state income tax revenue from 10 percent to seven, generating an additional \$300 million.

Additional key components of the budget include:

- More than \$2 billion in various spending cuts;
- \$1.3 billion in educational cuts;
- Reduced per-pupil funding;
- \$400 million cut from grants for special education and student transportation;

- \$100 million in cuts to state community colleges and universities;
- \$276 million in cuts to human services, including mental health services, adult home care and child care;
- \$325 million cut from prescription drug assistance programs, retiree group health and managed care;
- \$4 billion generated through short-term borrowing; and
- Additional assistance requested from the federal government.

Quinn has challenged the General Assembly to consider a one-percent income tax increase to avoid the costly educational cuts outlined. Legislative leaders immediately felt such a tax increase would be unlikely to succeed.

LAYOFFS THREATEN STATE POLICE

State police were also on the chopping block in Quinn's proposal. Headcount reductions—including laying off sworn officers—were included, with the elimination of vacant positions and more than 100 retiring personnel.

Quinn's budget suggested closing three district headquarters as well, which could lead to the loss of more than \$12 million in citation revenue and leave more than 24 counties without 24-hour police protection.

Teamsters Joint Council 25 has taken positions on the following bills for the second session of Illinois' 96th General Assembly.

SUPPORTED BILLS

HB 4644 CREDITS FOR FURLOUGH DAYS Rep. Raymond Poe (R)

The bill amends the State Employee Article and the State Universities Article of the State Pension Code. It would allow a union member to establish service credit for a specified amount of voluntary or involuntary furlough used to address a state fiscal emergency. HB 4644 would also establish required employee contributions. *Status: Passed House 115-0-1; currently in Senate awaiting committee assignment*

HB 4673 COMPANY NAME DISPLAYED ON TRUCKS

**Rep. John D'Amico (D),
Sen. Tony Munoz (D)**
HB 4673 amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. It would find a construction contractor or subcontractor who fails to display on the side of a commercially operated second

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division vehicle or its trailer the name of the company for which it is employed guilty of a petty offense. The fine would be not less than \$500 (it is currently \$100).
Status: Passed House 70-38-0; currently in Senate awaiting committee assignment

HB 5154 PROHIBITS THE RELEASE OF PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia (D)

As amended in committee, the bill amends the Freedom of Information Act and would prohibit the disclosure of personnel evaluations of public employees.
Status: Passed House 70-39-00; currently in Senate awaiting committee assignment

HB 5839 DROP PENSION PLAN Rep. Dan Burke (D)

The bill amends the State Employee Article of the Illinois Pension Code. It would provide a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) to members of the State Employees' Retirement System who are eligible to receive the alternative formula. Members could effectively retire and have their retirement accumulate after applicable taxes in the system while they continue covered employment for up to five years.
Status: Awaiting House committee assignment

HB 5319 MANNING LEVELS Rep. Kevin Joyce (D)

HB 5319 amends the Public Labor Relations Act. It would include manning and staffing levels to terms and conditions subject to collective bargaining agreements. It would place manning levels within scope of arbitration for peace officers.
Status: Awaiting House committee assignment

HB 5929 STATE FACILITY – MANDATORY OVERTIME Rep. Emily McAsey (D)

HB 5929 would create the State Facility Overtime Act. It would provide that the director of the state agency responsible for the operation of specified state facilities may not require an employee to accept work in excess of an agreed upon, predetermined and scheduled daily work shift, not to exceed 40 hours per week. Exceptions are included; employer would be required to post a summary and applicable rules; and the Illinois Department of Labor would oversee complaint processes.
Status: Awaiting House committee assignment

HB 6112 PREVAILING WAGE FOR AGGREGATE HAULERS Rep. Bob Flider (D)

HB 6112 would mandate a laborer, worker or mechanic engaged in

the transportation of aggregate or excavated materials or the operation of equipment to haul such materials to or from the site of a building or construction job. The Department of Labor shall take into consideration applicable prevailing wage rates and the Department of Transportation's current method of establishing equipment rates for trucks on public works projects.
Status: Passed House Labor Committee 15-7-0; currently on second reading in House

SB 2808 ALTERNATIVE PENSION FORMULA Sen. Don Harmon (D)

The bill amends the State Employee Article of the Illinois Pension Code. It would provide the alternative retirement formula for certain tollway employees, automotive mechanics, mechanic/autobody technicians, automotive attendants, sign hangers and sign hanger foremen. It would make changes to reflect obsolete job designations of the Toll Highway Authority.
Status: Assigned to Senate Pensions Committee

SB 3314 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS - FIREARMS Sen. Brad Burzynski (R)

The bill amends the Criminal Code of 1961, the Unified Code of Corrections and the County Jail Act. It would permit employed and retired state and county correctional

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officers to carry their own firearms off duty without being in violation of the unlawful use of weapons and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon statutes. Certain training requirements would need to be met. *Status: Assigned to Senate Public Health Subcommittee on Special Issues*

OPPOSED BILLS

HB 5297 **PROPERTY TAX LEVIES FOR** **DOWNSTATE POLICE/FIREFIGHTER** **PENSION PAYMENTS**

Rep. Karen May (D)

The bill would cap property tax levies made by municipalities to cover their share of downstate police and fire pensions at 10 percent for a two-year period. This would reduce employer pension contributions for more than 30 municipal police and fire units represented by the Teamsters. This bill is identical to SB 2574.

Status: Assigned to House Personnel and Pensions Committee; has not been called for vote

SB 2574 **PROPERTY TAX LEVIES FOR** **DOWNSTATE POLICE/FIREFIGHTER** **PENSION PAYMENTS**

Sen. Pam Althoff

This bill is identical to HB 5297, which the Teamsters oppose. *Status: Passed Senate Pensions Committee 9-0-0; currently on second reading in Senate*

HB 6127 **MANNING LEVELS OF COLLECTIVE** **BARGAINING AGREEMENTS**

Rep. Dave Winters (R)

The bill amends the Public Labor Relations Act. It would exempt manning levels as a required subject of collective bargaining. With respect to peace officers, firefighters and security employees, it would provide that, in absence of an agreement, an arbitration panel's consideration of a unit's ability to meet costs is limited to existing revenues in a non-home rule municipality with a population in excess of 140,000, excluding levels from successor firefighter agreements. *Status: Assigned to House Labor Committee*

HB 6207 **ALLOW PRIVATE COMPANIES** **TO PERFORM EVICTIONS**

Rep. Ron Wait (R)

The bill amends the Code of Civil Procedure and would provide a person entitled to possession of land or a building be restored under identified circumstances; when forcible entry occurs, entry and restoration of possession may be made under the supervision of a law enforcement officer or a private security agency certified under the Private Detective, Private Alarm, Private Security, Fingerprint Vendor and Locksmith Act. *Status: Assigned to House Judiciary Civil Procedure Committee*

SB 3294 **POLICE LICENSING**

Sen. Tim Bivins (R)

The bill amends the Illinois Police Training Act. It would require full- and part-time police officers be licensed rather than certified; It would provide the board has the power to require local governmental units to furnish personnel rosters, employment reports and training plans; and provide a police officer who has been licensed, certified or granted a valid waiver shall be decertified or have license or waiver revoked upon determination. *Status: Assigned to Senate Local Government Committee*

BILLS BEING MONITORED

HB 4900 **MCCORMICK PLACE REFORM** **LEGISLATION**

Rep. Will Burns (D)

The bill amends the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act. It would provide employees of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority to be considered public employees and the Authority considered a public employer. The bill details aspects of employment subject to collective bargaining agreements, work strike prohibitions and the number of agreements the agency can enter into with labor organizations. *Status: Has not yet been heard in a standing house committee*