

## Legislation of the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

### PENSION ISSUES

#### Bills/Resolutions passed by both Houses / sent to the Governor:

- HB 49:** Modifies the Illinois Pension code to include adopted children's rights to all benefits, including survivor's benefits that biological children receive. Passed both houses May 23, 2007; sent to the Governor June 21, 2007.
- HB 804:** Changes Pension Code to increase military service eligibility from 24 months to 48 months. Adopted by both houses; sent to Governor July 3, 2007.
- HB 857:** Replaces references in the Illinois Pension Code to service in the military forces with references to service in a capacity essentially similar or equivalent to that of a teacher. Passed both chambers; sent to Governor June 14, 2007.
- HB 1960:** SERS partial-refund for IGAP interns / service for which contributions are permitted. Passed both Houses June 13, 2007.
- SB 377:** Change to the IL Pension Code to include the IL Century Network. – changed to address only Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve Pension Articles of the Code.

#### Resolutions passed only in the House or Senate:

- HR 134:** Encourages and supports action by the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act, or reduce the effects thereof. Adopted by the House April 19, 2007. *See SR85.*
- HJR 69:** Task Force on Higher Education and the Economy. Adopted by the House June 20, 2007. *See SJR57.*
- SR 85:** Encourages and supports action by the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act. Adopted by the Senate May 18, 2007. *See HR 134*

#### Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

- HB 948:** IL Cares Rx-covered drugs. **Passed** the House on April 20, 2007; referred to Senate Rules Committee on April 24, 2007.
- HB 1930:** IMRF elected officials - allows certain annuitants to hold elective office without participating in the Fund or losing their retirement annuities. Passed the House, April 25, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee, May 15, 2007.
- SJR 2:** Extension of college insurance task force. Passed the Senate March 21, 2007; Referred to House Education Committee May 18, 2007
- SJR 57:** Requires the Board of Higher Education to create a *Task Force on Higher Education and the Economy* to study the challenges and opportunities facing higher education, the State's workforce needs, demographic trends, and higher education funding and student financial aid. Adopted June 15, 2007. Referred to House Rules Committee June 27, 2007. *See HJR 69* (adopted June 20, 2007).

#### Bills/Resolutions in Rules Committee:

- HB 159:** Prevents convicted felons from collecting state retirement benefits.
- HB 562:** Pension fund investment in Illinois economic opportunity investments.
- HB 582** (see HB284 below): Social security, old age and disability retirement benefits are not considered disqualifying income for unemployment insurance.
- HB 823:** Extends sick leave credit to two years.
- HB 902:** No income from social security will be considered disqualifying income for unemployment benefits.
- HB 945:** Spousal qualification for Medicaid eligibility.
- HB 1005:** TRS exclusion of earnings increases in excess of 6% resulting from negotiated salary schedule
- HB 1440:** IMRF requirements allow certain annuitants to hold elective office without participating in the Fund or losing their retirement annuities

**HB 1494:** Lottery sale proceeds to fund pension  
**HB 1515:** Pension credit for military service  
**HB 1970:** TRS – 6% exemption for extracurricular earnings  
**HB 3069:** Federal and out-of-state service credit for employment  
**HB 3381:** Unemployment Insurance not disqualifying income for retirement income  
**HB 3400:** Pension board trustees required to have financial experience  
**HB 3435:** Pension related service claim for military service  
**HB 3606:** Changes provisions for assessing employer payment for amount due for salary increases in excess of 6%.  
**HB 3651:** Exempts participants’ employers from having to pay present value of salaries that are increased more than 6% in any academic year for persons earning \$30,00 or below.  
**HB 4090:** Change to the Pension code regarding election of Medicare coverage  
**HB 4096:** Task force to study QILDRO system.  
**HJRCA 24:** Pension benefit increases to require two-thirds votes of both Houses  
**SB 22:** Licensing of naturopathic medical practitioners  
**SB 240:** SERS credit for federal employment  
**SB 480:** TRS employer contributions for salaries over \$150,000  
**SB 517:** Pension fund environmental real estate investment plans  
**SB 621:** Pension change to self-managed plan  
**SB 1240:** Changes to the pension code to allow for defined contribution plans  
**SB 1500:** Education reform and funding.  
**SB 1598:** Pension fund disclosure statement requirements  
**SR 88:** Social Security Fairness. Urges the U.S. Congress to pass legislation to eliminate both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the provisions of the Social Security Act.

Bills/Resolutions with deadline extensions:

**HB 1331:** TRS qualification of domestic partner for survivor and death benefits. Deadline extended to July 1, 2007.  
**SB 147:** Pharmaceutical Discount Prescription Drugs

Tabled Bills/Resolutions:

**HB 284:** Primary social security old age and disability retirement benefits do not count as disqualifying income for unemployment compensation.  
**HB 482:** Increases creditable years of service for military personnel

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## HEALTH

### Medical

Bills/Resolutions that passed both by Houses / sent to the Governor:

**HB 517:** Illinois long-term care partnership program. Passed both houses May 22, 2007; sent to the Governor, June 20, 2007.  
**HB652:** Department on Aging provision of services to prevent unnecessary institutionalization. Includes personal assistant services, flexible senior services, medication management, and emergency home response in the Program. Passed both Houses June 5, 2007.  
**HB 1257:** Eligibility requirements for pharmacy assistance . Passed both Houses May 22, 2007; Sent to the Governor June 20, 2007.  
**HB 1301:** Long-term care ombudsman. Passed both houses June 20, 2007.  
**HB 1708:** Mental health-income limitations for family support. Passed both Houses, May 16, 2007; sent to the Governor June 14, 2007.  
**SB 6:** Medicaid psychiatric services via telepsychiatry. Passed both Houses May 24, 2007; Sent to the Governor June 22, 2007.

- SB 19:** Stem Cell Cord Banks. Passed both Houses May 28, 2007; Sent to the Governor June 28, 2007.
- SB 233:** Hospital requirement for Staphylococcus-free control program. Passed both Houses May 25, 2007; Sent to Governor June 22, 2007.
- SB 234:** Involuntary admittance to mental health facility. Passed by both Houses, June 14, 2007.
- SB 593:** Human rights regarding persons with disabilities. Approved by both Houses May 31, 2007; Sent to Governor June 29, 2007.
- SB 595:** Assistance with medication management. Passed both Houses May 29, 2007; Sent to Governor June 29, 2007.
- SB 654:** Public Health diabetes initiative. Passed both Houses May 29, 2007; Sent to Governor June 27, 2007.
- SB 1739:** Medicaid authorization of social worker services. Passed both Houses May 31, 2007; sent to the Governor June 29, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

- HB 1351:** Demonstration trial of the emergency home response program. Passed the House May 5, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 13, 2007.
- HB 1452:** Mental health institutionalization based on written statements from professionals. Passed the House March 22, 2007; Re-referred to Senate Rules Committee May 11, 2007.
- HB 1533:** Reporting requirements for premiums and other costs associated with the All-Kids health insurance program. Passed the House May 2, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 29, 2007.
- HB 2285:** Comprehensive health insurance coverage. Passed the House, May 15, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee, May 16, 2007.
- HB 3508:** Provides for an Ombudsman to assist with long-term care. Passed the House May 17, 2007; referred to Senate Rules Committee May 18, 2007.
- SB 1324:** Stem Cell Research Act. (Predicated on SB19 (above) becoming law) Passed the Senate April 19, 2007; Re-referred to House Rules Committee May 31, 2007.
- SB 1415:** Medicaid –no prior approval required for immunosuppressive drugs. Passed the Senate April 19, 2007; Referred to House Rules Committee May 31, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions in Rules Committee:

- HB 311:** Universal health care
- HB 684:** Prohibition of hospital discriminatory pricing.
- HB 1248:** Description of illness symptoms on prescription labels
- HB 1296:** Pharmaceutical assistance income cap for seniors
- HB 1429:** Authorization for licensed practical nurses to prescribe drugs
- HB 1459:** Prescription drug privacy requirements
- HB 1461:** Senior citizen pharmaceutical assistance-covered prescription drugs
- HB 1513:** Circuit breaker income threshold
- HB 1531:** Council to study health care plan implementation
- HB 1541:** Designation of Primary Stroke Centers
- HB 1953:** Telemedicine
- HB 1987:** Insurance consumer choice benefits
- HB 3389:** Consumer Services Health Care Act
- HB 3061:** Redefines “household income” for IL Cares Rx - does not include amounts paid for medical expenses.
- HB 3724:** Refines definition of telemedicine.
- HJR 35:** Health Insurance for part-time employees and graduate employees/assistants of public colleges and universities.
- SB 361:** Hospital nurse staffing plans
- SB 422:** Insurance coverage of breast examinations
- SB 559:** Consumer Choice Health Plan Benefits
- SB 1519:** Insurance Consumer Advocate
- SB 1585:** Primary stroke centers

Bills/Resolutions with deadline extensions:

**SB 1237:** Hospital discriminatory pricing . 3<sup>rd</sup> reading deadline extended to December 31, 2007.

**SB 1497:** Medicaid inpatient personal needs allowance. 3<sup>rd</sup> reading deadline extended to December 31, 2007.

Tabled Bills/Resolutions:

**HB 966:** Department on Aging's 24-hour emergency home response service

**HB 1791.** Long-term care insurance partnership program

Defeated Bills/Resolutions:

**SB 650:** Medical marijuana. Defeated in 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

## **Nursing homes, assisted living & long-term care**

**Public Act 95-005** (SB 244): Health Facilities-Nursing Homes

Amends the Health Facilities Planning Act to require updating of existing bed inventory and projection of future needs and establishment of a Task Force on Health Planning Reform to study and develop recommendations regarding planning and provision of health services. Effective May 31, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to the Governor:

**HB 808:** Requires background checks for assisted-living staff. Passed both houses; sent to Governor June 14, 2007

**HB 809:** Assessment required prior to hospital discharge to skilled nursing facility. Passed both chambers; sent to the Governor June 14, 2007.

**SB 574:** Community-integrated living arrangement nursing services. Passed both Houses June 6, 2007; Sent to Governor July 5, 2007.

**SB 640:** Supportive living facilities nursing assistants , habilitation aides and child care aides included for long-term care. Passed both Houses May 29, 2007; Sent to Governor June 27, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 954:** Creation of a Veteran's home for those with Alzheimer's. **Passed** the House April 20, 2007; referred to Senate Rules Committee April 26, 2007.

**HB 2043:** Nursing home care survey. Passed the House, May 18, 2007; Placed on Senate calendar order of first reading May 18, 2007.

**SB 591:** Department of Aging client-focused services and care coordinators program. **Passed** the Senate March 31, 2007; Sent to House Rules Committee May 31, 2007

Bills/Resolutions in Rules Committee:

**HB 1034:** Nursing home prescreening

**HB 1350:** Funding of assisted living services for seniors

**HB 1632:** Long-term care insurance program

**SB 136:** Nursing Home Tax Deduction

**SB 605:** Nursing care and quality of service nursing standards.

## **Elder abuse**

### Bills/Resolutions sent to the Governor:

**HB 734:** Changes to elder abuse and neglect reporting response requirements-24/7. Passed both Houses; sent to the Governor July 3, 2007.

**SB 340:** Elder abuse report response requirements/ provisions of the Community Care Program Advisory Committee. Passed both Houses May 31, 2007; Sent to the Governor June 29, 2007.

## **Miscellaneous**

### Bills/Resolutions in Rules Committee:

**HB 3386:** Amber alters for the elderly

## **Tax credits**

### Bills/Resolutions in Rules Committee:

**HB 1436:** Home health care tax deduction for seniors

### Tabled Bills/Resolutions:

**HB 589:** Long-term care tax credit

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## **CHILDREN**

### **Custody**

#### Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 3675:** Provides for joint-custodial residence of children. Passed the House May 17, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 28, 2007.

#### Bills/Resolutions sent to Rules Committee:

**HB1087:** Stepparent custody and visitation rights

**HB 3660:** Changes child custodial and guardianship requirements.

**SB 466:** Grandparent child care

**SB 491:** Interim adoption order

#### Bills/Resolutions with deadline extensions:

**SB 1230:** Restrictions to statutory custodial claims. 3<sup>rd</sup> reading deadline extended to December 31, 2007.

## **Health**

### Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 1534:** Children's insurance task force. Passed the House May 17, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 18, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Rules Committee:

**HB 1435:** Children's mental health screening

**HB 3407:** Creates the Children's Nutritional Health Act

**HB 3429:** Insurance coverage extended to dependent children under 30

**SB 707:** Parental payment of pregnancy and delivery expenses

Defeated Bills/Resolutions:

**HB 1769:** No smoking in cars with children

**SB 554:** Kidcare – Medicare managed care

## Miscellaneous

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**SB 388:** Savings accounts for children. Passed the Senate March 29, 2007; Referred to House Rules Committee May 31, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Rules Committee:

**SB 427:** Child safety car seat requirement.

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## PROPERTY TAX / PROPERTY ISSUES

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 2352:** Community Investment Corporation Act- *Permits pilot projects that delegate eminent domain powers to citizens.* Passed the House, May 16, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee, May 22, 2007.

**SB 389:** Disposal of distressed condominium property. Passed the Senate March 29, 2007; Referred to House Rules Committee May 31, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions referred to Rules Committee:

**HB 543:** Annual Increases in Senior Citizens Homestead Exemptions

**HB737:** Senior citizens' property tax homestead assessment freeze

**HB 1272:** Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption-exemption in income calculation for payment to life care facilities.

**HB 1358:** Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption -exemption from reapplication requirements

**HB 1513:** Circuit breaker income threshold

**HB 1549:** Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption residence requirements

**HB 1794:** Senior citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption income ceilings

**SB 95:** Property tax exemption for former farmland

**SB 297:** Non-probate property transfers

**SB 1485:** Authorization to levy real estate transfer tax in non-home rule municipalities.

**SB 1681:** Redefines base year for senior citizen assessment freeze homestead exemption.

Bills/Resolutions with deadline extensions:

**HJRCA 16:** Elimination of property tax to fund education. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading calendared for March 1, 2007.

**SB 537:** Interest on mortgage escrow accounts

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## **INCOME TAX / FINANCIAL ISSUES**

Bills/Resolutions that have passed both houses and/or have been sent to the Governor:

**SB 101:** Property tax assessment freeze homestead exemption for disabled persons. Passed both Houses May 22, 2007; Sent to the Governor June 20, 2007.

**SB 531:** Termination of small trusts. Passed both Houses June 14, 2007.

**SB 1544:** FY 2008 Budget Implementation (Revenue) Act (originally, film production services tax credit). Makes changes concerning income modifications with respect to real estate investment trusts. Passed both Houses May 31, 2007; sent to Governor June 29, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 2425:** DECO grants to women entrepreneurs. Passed the House, May 16, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 17, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Rules Committee:

**HB 1511:** Endowment donation credit

**HB 1806:** Lead abatement tax credit

**HB 1996:** Long-term health care credit

**HB 3417:** Income tax voting credit

**HJRCA 8:** State estate tax and transfer tax limited to amount of federal deduction

**HJRCA 23:** Replacement of current income tax structure with graduated rates

**SB 136:** Nursing Home Tax Deduction

**SB 235:** Confidentiality of bank account records

**SB 399:** Earned Income tax credit

**SB 536:** Unclaimed wills deposited with State Treasurer

**SB 1500:** Education reform and funding.

**SB 1512:** Expansion of Capital Development Board's goals for funding minority and female-owned businesses.

**SB 1602:** Re-linking of state estate tax to federal tax.

**SB 1852:** Restoration of bond interest deduction (see SB1544)

Bills/Resolutions with extended deadlines:

**HB 750:** Increases income taxes to 5% for individuals and 8% for corporations to provide property tax relief. Deadline extended to July 31, 2007.

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## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 1805:** Lead poisoning-clean windows program. Passed the House, April 25, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee May 15, 2007.

**HB 1958:** Cell phone lemon law. Passed the House April 26, 2007; referred to Senate Rules Committee May 1, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions In Rules Committee:

**HB 1352:** Proceeds of lottery sale to fund education

**HB 1438:** Illness certification requirements to prevent disconnection of utilities for nonpayment

Bills/Resolutions with extended deadlines:

**SB 378:** Public-private transportation partnerships.\_3<sup>rd</sup> reading deadline extended to December 31, 2007.

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## LEGISLATIVE / CONSTITUTIONAL

Bills/Resolutions that have passed only one Chamber:

**HR 25:** Urges the support of the voters on the question of whether a Constitutional Convention should be called and encourages the voters' attention to this initiative. Passed in the House June 7, 2007; evidence of a similar resolution in the Senate.

Bills/Resolutions sent to Opposing Chamber Committees:

**HB 1959:** Springfield residency requirements for state constitutional, executive and management employees. Passed the House April 19, 2007; Referred to Senate Rules Committee April 20, 2007.

Bills/Resolutions In Rules Committee:

**HJRC A 10:** Constitutional amendment to require state to guarantee equality of educational opportunity as a fundamental right.

**SB 506:** Legislative member initiative limit

**SB 1154:** Requirements for Education appropriations

**SB 1278:** Community College exemption from State Officials and Employees Ethics Act

**SB 1500:** Education reform and funding.

**SB 1534:** State budget long-term planning requirements

**SB 1853:** Appropriations transparency-requires internet posting at least 4 days prior to vote