



United Counties Council of Illinois

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W. Michael McCreery, Executive Director

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MEMO TO: UCCI Membership  
 FROM: Mike McCreery, Executive Director  
 DATE: June 1, 2021  
 SUBJECT: 2021 Spring Session Legislative SUMMARY

The Illinois General Assembly wrapped up their Spring legislative session this afternoon after the Senate went one day into overtime. The House and Senate passed the budget around midnight, worked until 2:30 A.M. and 3:10 A.M., respectively, and then adjourned. The General Assembly undertook significant legislation, and below is a high-level overview of the issues.

**FY 2022 Budget**

- \$42.2B in General Revenue Funds
- \$2.5B from the American Rescue Fund Act (ARPA) applied to this budget
- The remaining \$5.6B from the ARPA will be spent after legislative action in FY2023-2025

*The Governor’s office relied upon reducing tax incentives in order to fill the budget shortfall. These included:*

- Eliminate accelerated depreciation allowed under the Federal Tax Cut & Jobs Act
  - Savings Estimate \$214M
- Cap corporate net operating loss (NOL) deduction at \$100,000 per year
  - Savings estimate \$314M
- Align treatment of foreign-source dividends to treatment of domestic source dividends
  - Savings estimate \$107M
- Stop the corporate franchise tax phase out
  - Savings estimate \$20M

*GRF Funding Appropriations*

- K-12 Education - \$9.2B
- Higher Education - \$1.9B
- Public Safety - \$1.9B
- Human Services - \$7.5B
- General Operations - \$1.4B

*The FY 2022 budget fully funds the K-12 education evidence-based funding formula, and **it does not reduce the Local Government Distributive Fund**, and it does not rely on interfund borrowing.*

## **Energy**

Stakeholders were unable to reach an agreement on an omnibus energy bill. The bill will likely be negotiated over the coming weeks. It had appeared that Exelon had cut a deal and that the language was ready to be introduced well before adjournment, but a last-minute request of a carve-out for the Prairie State Energy Campus in the Metro East derailed the discussions. Senate President Don Harmon insisted that the campus be exempt from the 2035 decarbonization targets and the discussions fell apart.

## **Sweeping Omnibus Packages**

- Ethics - Increased lobbying/fundraising restrictions
- Gaming - Limits home rule communities to a fee of no more than \$250 per video gaming machine; prohibits communities from imposing a “push tax” on video gaming; allows qualified fraternal and veterans organizations deriving charters from national organizations to apply for video gaming licenses in communities or counties where video gaming is banned (excluding Cook County and Chicago)
- Elections - Pushes back the 2022 Primary election to June 28, 2022; candidate petition-passing to begin on January 13, 2022; broadens ability to vote-by-mail; requires county jails to set up voting booths for non-convicted inmates

## **Other Areas of Interest**

- Trailer Fees - Reduced utility trailer registration fees from \$118 to \$36
  - Criminal Justice Reform Trailer Bill - This bill was a follow up to HB3653 that passed during the Lame Duck session in January. Most stakeholders were brought to “neutral” or “support” after negotiations. The bill passed the House but then a “motion to reconsider the vote” was filed, essentially blocking its ultimate passage to the Governor’s desk for signature.
  - FOID “fix” - This legislation stalled with the point of contention being “mandatory” vs “voluntary” fingerprinting in order to receive a FOID card.
  - Congressional Remap - The new maps will be revealed after the U.S. Census data is made available in early Fall.
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UCCI will keep you advised as these and/or other issues arise.