ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Governor Action on Legislation from 2018 Spring Session

The Illinois Chamber requested Governor Rauner act on 14 pieces of legislation. Of those 14 bills, we asked the Governor to sign 8, veto 3 and amendatorily veto 3. Of the 14 bills, the Chamber received positive action on 11 bills, while falling short of a desired outcome on two (SB 1737 and HB 3648). Only one bill remains on the Governor's desk (HB 4163). Below contains the list of legislation that we requested the Governor to take action on with a description, position, and status. Members with questions or additional information are encouraged to contact Tyler Diers at tdiers@ilchamber.org

HB 1595 (Stuart/Haine) – Mothers' Nursing Act

Description: This bill amends the Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act and provides for reasonable break time (instead of "unpaid break time each day") during the first year after the child's birth each time the employee needs to express milk. The break time may run concurrently with any break time already provided to the employee and an employer may not reduce an employee's compensation for time used for the purpose of expressing milk or nursing a baby. An employer shall provide reasonable break time as needed by the employee unless to do so would create an undue hardship as defined by the Illinois Human Rights Act. The Chamber worked out an amendment and was neutral on its passage.

Chamber Position: Neutral – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 3648 (C. Mitchell/Mulroe) – Kim Foxx Private Attorney Bill

Description: This bill, backed by Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, would codify existing practices of permitting state's attorneys from appointing private counsel to serve as Special Assistant State's Attorneys when the public interest so requires.

Chamber Position: Opposed – asked Governor to amendatorily veto

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 4163 (Moeller/Castro) – Wage History Bill

Description: This bill amends the Equal Pay Act of 2003 prohibiting an employer from inquiring about salary and wage history by adding new standards that limit employer defenses and adding new compensatory and punitive damage penalties on businesses who are not compliant.

Chamber Position: Opposed – asked Governor to amendatorily veto

Status: On Governor's Desk (Governor likely to veto)

HB 3248 (Fortner/Althoff) – E-Waste Cleanup

Description: This bill was critical for the success of the state's new electronic waste program through the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act (CERA). CERA imposes deadlines on the counties, manufacturers, and manufacturing clearinghouse created under the Act, in order to prepare the program for the 2019 calendar year. With the Governor's signature on HB 3248, there are significant elements of the program that can now be implemented.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 4428 (Meier/Althoff) – Milk Inspections

Description: This bill amends the Grade-A Pasteurized Milk and Milk Products Act. Provides that the Department of Public Health or a unit of local government electing to administer and enforce the Act shall provide a dairy farm with a paper copy of the dairy farm's inspection report.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 4508 (Sauer/Clayborne) – SVA Legislation

Description: This bill extends the Systems Viability Act (SVA). This law provides the option for municipalities to recover market value for their water or wastewater assets when partnering with a Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) regulated utility.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

HB 4572 (Guzzardi/Castro) – Human Rights Violation

Description: HB 4572 amends the Illinois Human Rights Act to redefine "employer" to include any person employing one (currently fifteen) or more employees within Illinois during twenty or more calendar weeks within the calendar year of or preceding the alleged violation.

Chamber Position: Opposed – asked Governor to veto

Status: Governor vetoed

SB 20 (Steans/Currie) – Human Rights Reform

Description: Hailed as one of the Chamber's legislative victories this year, the Governor signed SB 20 (Steans/Currie). This bill contains extensive procedural changes to the Illinois Humans Rights Act and significant structural changes to the Illinois Human Rights Commission to provide for full-time,

professional commissioners. The Chamber heavily pushed these reforms, especially addressing the backlog at the Human Rights Commission.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 904 (Hastings/Hoffman) – Med Society Bill

Description: This bill would have allowed medical providers to pursue the 1% per month interest penalty on unpaid workers' compensation medical bills in circuit court.

Chamber Position: Opposed – asked Governor to amendatorily veto

Status: Governor amendatorily vetoed

SB 1737 (Munoz/Hoffman) – Captive Insurance Bill

Description: This bill does several things, among them include: updating the captive insurance regulatory structure to help Illinois overcome its competitive disadvantage in this area; adds new rate regulation for workers' compensation insurance; increases clarity for domestic stock companies undergoing corporate divisions; establishes new regulations for short-term limited-duration health plans (STLDs) and workers' compensation insurance; and made changes in collateral requirements to bring Illinois in equivalence with international regulatory frameworks. The Governor's amendatory veto eliminated from the bill the new workers' compensation rate regulation changes and the new regulation of STLD health insurance policies. While the Chamber did not support the workers' comp provisions in the bill, we urged the Governor the sign to bill due to the necessary changes to captive insurance.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Governor amendatorily vetoed

SB 2332 (Morrison/Lilly) – Tobacco 21+

Description: This bill would raise the age to purchase tobacco products to 21. The bill also eliminates the penalties for underage possession of tobacco products.

Chamber Position: Oppose – asked Governor to veto

Status: Governor vetoed

SB 2921 (Cunningham/Welch) – Treasurer's Building Purchase

Description: This legislation amends the State Treasurer Act to authorize the Treasurer to purchase and renovate a building. The State Finance Act is amended to divert funds collected from Illinois businesses

under the deeply flawed Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act ("RUUPA") enacted over the 32% tax increase last year (SB9).

Chamber Position: Opposed – asked Governor to amendatorily veto

Status: Governor amendatorily vetoed

SB 2999 (Van Pelt/Conyears-Ervin) – Employee Expenses

Description: This bill requires an employer to reimburse an employee for all necessary expenditures or losses incurred by the employee directly related to services performed for the employer. It requires that the expenditure must be within the scope of employment, authorized or required and appropriate documentation is provided. The Chamber worked out an amendment to remove our opposition and were neutral on its passage.

Chamber Position: Neutral – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor

SB 3291 (Clayborne/Evans) – Drone Preemption

Description: This legislation ensures uniform regulation across the state while complying with federal law in the area of unmanned aerial systems (UAS), also known as drones.

Chamber Position: Support – asked Governor to sign

Status: Signed by Governor