

| Defending Democracy |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HB1860              | ELEC<br>CD-DECEPTIVE<br>MATERIAL                                        | Deceptive campaign practices suppress participation as voters lose trust in the electoral system. Election law must evolve to protect voters from misinformation of fake images, videos and audio                                                                                                                                                      |
| SB2004              | Ranked Choice<br>Voting for<br>Municipalities                           | Allowing RCV simply gives local governments another tool for elections that fit local needs. Communities could choose whether or not to adopt RCV through their own democratic processes. RCV can combine multiple election rounds into one single election, potentially reducing administrative costs.                                                |
| SB2101              | Lowers threshold<br>of signatures for<br>citizen initiatives            | Petitioning is one of the most direct forms of democracy. Barriers should be reasonable, NOT prohibitive. Lower requirements simply allow voters the opportunity to consider an issue. Lower barriers strengthen democracy. Petition requirements should prove community interest – not prevent communities from being heard.                          |
| HB4339/SB1786       | Opportunity for<br>High School<br>Seniors to register<br>to vote        | This bill has PASSED the house. We await passage in the Senate to ensure the next generation can fully participate. Offering registration in a familiar setting reduces disparities and ensures success isn't dependent on time, transportation, family support or knowing where to go. But most importantly it builds towards a lifelong civic habit. |
| SB2726              | Allow all<br>registered voters<br>to vote with fear<br>and intimidation | The presence of federal immigration enforcement at polling places risks deterring eligible voters from participating. Even the perception of enforcement activity can suppress turnout you don't need arrests for intimidation to work. Polling places should be neutral, trusted civic spaces.                                                        |

## Defending Democracy (cont.)

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| SB3170                                                          | Voters Rights Act of 2026                                           | The ILVRA will ensure elections in Illinois are fair and accessible, strengthen legal tools to combat voter suppression, create stronger protections against unfair districts or election systems that prevent voters having a real chance to elect the candidates they prefer. It will also expand language access requirements for voters with limited English proficiency.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Advocate for inclusion in an election omnibus bill this session | Allow completed VBM ballots to be submitted at local polling places | The United States Supreme Court could possibly eliminate the grace period for counting VBM ballots. The Post Office can no longer be relied on to provide postmarks and timely delivery of VBM. Many drop boxes are not conveniently located. Allowing completed VBM ballots be surrendered to polling places will be more convenient and ensure they will be counted                                                                                                                                                                  |
| SB0053                                                          | Lobbyists offer Promises                                            | Reduces conflicts of interest and undue influence by promoting more transparent and ethical interactions between lobbyists and public officials. Prohibits promises of value—campaign contributions, endorsements, or in-kind support—in exchange for official action, while preserving lawful voluntary contributions. Given Illinois’ relatively weak lobbying regulations, recent corruption cases, and the high number of lobbyists per legislator, these reforms are necessary to protect the integrity of state decision-making. |

## Equity of Opportunity

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| HB5409/SB3701 | SCH CD-FULL FUNDING LEVELS     | Requires the General Assembly to provide full adequate funding for education through the Evidence Based Formula and Mandated Categoricals                                          |
| SB3567        | INC TX-CHILD TAX CREDIT        | Makes the Illinois Child Tax Credit more accessible to new parents by removing the income phase-in requirements. This allows access to full state benefits at lower income levels. |
| SB3776        | EDUCATION CHOICE FOR CHILD ACT | LWV OPPOSES this bill to require the state to opt in to the federal school voucher program in HR1                                                                                  |

## Equity of Opportunity (cont.)

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| SB3966        | PROHIBIT FED VOUCHER PROGRAM   | LWV supports this bill to prohibit the state from opting in to the federal school voucher program in HR1                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| HB5390/SB3976 | PATIENT BILL & OUTSOURCED CARE | Will help prevent medical debt and financial hardship, promote transparency and fairness in hospital billing, align financial assistance policies with increased cost of living expenses, and ensure hospitals fulfill their community benefit responsibilities.                                                                      |
| HB5626        | MUNI-CD ACCESSORY DWELLINGS    | The bill (SB4060 through 4064) eliminates zoning and building-code obstacles to constructing desperately needed housing--not just subsidized units but all residential construction.                                                                                                                                                  |
| HB5198        | AFFORDABLE HOUSING-CILAS       | Strengthens the Affordable Housing Planning Act by increasing number of municipalities subject to it, requiring plans for 25% affordable (subsidized) housing, and providing remedies to assure compliance with a statute long ignored                                                                                                |
| HB4894/SB3353 | DIGITAL AD TAX ACT             | Imposes a 10% tax on digital ad revenue for corporations making over \$150 million from digital ads                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| HB5125/SB3796 | REVENUE-CREDITS-DEDUCTIONS     | Continues decoupling Illinois tax law from corporate tax loopholes that were created by federal HR1 corporate tax changes, and closes other existing loopholes.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| HB5215/SB3376 | MARK-TO-MARKET TAX ACT         | Ensures the super-rich pay their fair share of taxes by requiring billionaires to report the value of covered holdings annually and pay Illinois personal income tax on the appreciation of those assets.                                                                                                                             |
| HB5318/SB3486 | INC TAX-COMBINED REPORTING     | Requires multinational companies to include the income of their foreign subsidiaries, including those located in tax havens like Ireland, Bermuda, or the Cayman Islands, when calculating Illinois' share of taxable profits, leveling the playing field for small and medium-sized businesses that do not have foreign subsidiaries |

## Emerging Issues of Impact

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| HB4367<br>/SB1266 | CRIM<br>PRO-VACATING<br>SENTENCE    | Will give people who have claims of actual innocence or people who would not have pled guilty if they had known the immigration consequences of a plea deal a legal pathway to challenge those convictions. This will: Allow anyone, regardless of immigration status, who has a claim of actual innocence to pursue post-conviction relief—even if they are no longer in custody. End the double punishment of immigrants who have already served their time. Stop the unnecessary separation of families across Illinois.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| HB3509<br>/SB0086 | CD<br>CORR-PAROLE-25<br>YRS         | See Above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| HB5513/<br>SB4016 | HYPERSCALE DATA<br>CENTERS          | Without minimum guardrails, community officials will get locked in a competitive race to the bottom. The winners will be those who will get the least from the development and leave their community the most exposed and of course, the biggest winner will be the data center developers. Special note: the impacts are on two distinct communities. 1 - the local community and 2 - all of the residents of Illinois, regardless of where it is located.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| SB1531            | DISPOSABLE<br>FOOD CONTAINER<br>ACT | <b>Plastics</b> are a lifeline for the Fossil Fuel Industry. Plastics are subsidized by taxpayer dollars making plastic products artificially cheap. Plastics cause environmental and human health harms at each stage of their life cycle. Increased production of plastic is detrimental to global goals of transitioning away from fossil fuels. <b>Polystyrene foam food ware</b> does not biodegrade nor is it recyclable. Foam food ware is made with styrene which is a probable human carcinogen. Restaurant & Retailer Associations are neutral. State agencies, facilities and vendors have already transitioned away from foam foodware. Alternative products are cost comparable especially given the long phase in timeline |
| HB3596<br>/SB2401 | WETLANDS<br>PROTECTION ACT          | Following a rollback of federal protections, this bill would create state-level safeguards for wetlands—protecting over 500,000 acres that help filter water, prevent flooding, support wildlife and act as a carbon sink. Illinois has only 10% of its historic wetlands left.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |