



# Legislative Report

By Timothy S. Bramlet

TOI Legislative Consultant

## Capitol (Re-) Organization begins in Springfield

**T**HE HALLS OF the Capitol Building went quiet again following a hectic week of gubernatorial and legislative initiations last month. A brand new governor and an almost-the-same General Assembly are now ensconced in office and set to tackle what promises to be a monumental agenda this spring. But this month, activity will pick up again as lawmakers return to session.


Republican **Governor Bruce Rauner** will be giving us some initial specifics in his "State of the State" and budget addresses in the coming days as to what his plans are for tackling a massive budget deficit for the last six months of the current fiscal year. Next year's budget, which must be approved before adjournment this spring, projects even greater red numbers without major cuts or revenue redistribution. It is a daunting task.

Legislative leadership teams are now in place, with all four leaders having been re-elected in January. Few changes will occur for assistant leader spots under **Senate President John Cullerton (D-Chicago)**, **House Speaker Michael Madigan (D-Chicago)**, **Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno (R-Lemont)** and **House Minority**

**Leader Jim Durkin (R-Western Springs)**. Committee assignments, where much of the early work really gets done, have yet to be announced. Once the members have been assigned, they will begin work on culling through thousands of legislative proposals.

The Rauner team is still being rolled out somewhat slowly. Several of the key agency directorships have been named, but several are still awaiting appointment. And the Governor's new inner circle have taken their places in the Capitol Building.

Once all of these activities are finalized—and it will happen very quickly—it will be similar to a starter's pistol commencing the race. Within a few short weeks, we will know much more where the next few months—and years—will lead us.

Next month's *Perspective* will carry a list of all Cabinet appointments and legislative committee assignments that are important and relevant to townships. 

### It's time to renew your subscription to the TOI Legislative Reports for 2015!

These reports are sent to subscribers regularly and offer detailed information on legislation introduced and acted on by the Illinois General Assembly. Subscribers also receive an End of Session report that provides easy-to-read information on legislation passed by the General Assembly affecting township officials and their duties.

- I wish to receive the reports through the postal service
- I wish to receive the reports via email ... my email address is \_\_\_\_\_

To subscribe, send your check for \$110.00, payable to TOI, with this form to:

TOI Legislative Reports  
3217 Northfield Dr.  
Springfield, IL 62702

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Township \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, call TOI toll free 1-866-897-4688.

**RAWLINGS**  
South of Hopedale, on I-155, at Exit 15

**TRAILER SALES**  
www.rawlingstrailersales.com

**Ph. 309-449-3309**

 **A • HORSE**  
**L • LIVESTOCK**

 **T • UTILITY**  
**P • CARGO**  
**E • FLATBEDS**  
**S • DUMP**

**Monday - Friday 8-5 • Saturday 9-3**  
Give us a call at Rawlings,  
Where pleasing you, pleases us.

**NEW • USED • BUY**  
**SELL • TRADE**