



# Legislative Report

By Timothy S. Bramlet

TOI Legislative Consultant

## *Legislative committees begin hearing TOI-tracked bills*

**T**HE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS, once again this year, are tracking numerous bills that impact the operation of township government ... most in a negative way. Legislators are making their way through hundreds of bills they face for hearings in their respective standing committees.

The following rundown highlights the most prominent bills that are in the process of receiving committee review. Those that receive favorable votes move onto the House or Senate floor for further consideration.

**HB 174** (*McSweeney, R-Barrington Hills*) allows for abolition of non-home rule units of government by referendum. House Executive Committee. TOI opposes.

**HB 177** (*McSweeney*) freezes property tax extensions for three years. House Revenue Committee. TOI opposes.

**HB 178** (*McSweeney*) freezes township property tax assessments for one year. House Revenue Committee. TOI opposes.

**HB 261** (*Sosnowski, R-Rockford*); **HB 3090** (*Demmer, R-Dixon*) eases requirements for publishing various types of information by local governments in newspapers. House Counties and Townships Committee. TOI supports both.

**HB 435** (*Sullivan, R-Mundelein*) requires units of local government of 5,000 or more population to maintain an Internet website. House Counties and Townships Committee. TOI opposes; **HB 1323** (*Yingling, D-Round Lake*) removes stipulation that a local government has a full-time staff operating a website before it is required to post meeting notices and minutes. House Counties and Townships Committee. TOI opposes.

**HB 1434** (*Franks, D-Woodstock*) prohibits a public official from holding more than one public office. House Judiciary Committee; subcommittee. TOI opposes.

**HB 1524** (*Steward, R-Freeport*); **HB 2580** (*Costello, D-Belleville*) place restrictions on township road commissioners from posting weight limits on township roads. 1524 in House Rules Committee; 2580 in House Transportation Committee. TOI opposes both.

**HB 3225** (*Mautino, D-Spring Valley*) removes requirement that local governments, including townships, file petitions of exemption every year for property

owned with the county assessor. House Revenue Committee. TOI supports.

**SB 30** (*Morrison, D-Deerfield*) eliminates stipend for township assessors who meet state-set performance levels. Passed Senate Local Government Committee; Senate floor. TOI opposes.

**SB 40** (*Althoff, R-Crystal Lake*) allows for abolition of townships that are coterminous with cities and have the same executive or trustees as the city by referendum. Senate Local Government Committee; placed in subcommittee. TOI opposes.

**SB 656** (*Murphy, R-Palatine*) places a two-year freeze on individual property tax bills. Senate Revenue Committee; subcommittee. TOI opposes.

**SB 857, 858, 859** (*McConnaughay, R-St. Charles*) all mandate any unit of local government located in a county of 100,000 or more population maintain a website; the bills differ with each delineating particular items that must be posted on said website. Senate Executive Committee. TOI opposes.

**SB 1390** (*McConnaughay*) increases from 55 to 65 feet the permissible length of a truck on non-state highways. Senate Executive Committee. TOI opposes.

**SB 1430, Amendment #1** (*Bush*) allows for abolition of township assessors by county-wide referendum. Senate Local Government Committee. TOI opposes.

**SB 1704** (*Sullivan, D-Rushville*) clarifies that the 90-day posting law for township roads does not have to be executed consecutively. Senate Transportation Committee. TOI supports.

**SB 1815** (*McCarter, R-Lebanon*); **HB 3309** (*Kay, R-Edwardsville*) places restrictions on the permissible amount of charges for local sewer hook-up. Senate Assignments Committee; House second reading. TOI opposes.

