



# Legislative Report

By Taylor Anderson

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**T**HE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR is quickly running out of days and as the end of the spring session nears the faster the process moves. TOI is tracking numerous pieces of legislation, most of which seek to harm townships in some form or fashion. We continue our efforts of talking to staff, speaking with legislators and working the various committees to advocate on behalf of the townships of Illinois.

Below are some of the legislative measures we are currently tracking that still have an opportunity to advance. Some of the bills you may already be familiar with due to the legislative alerts TOI has sent, others you may receive alerts regarding in the near future. At TOI we believe that our strength comes from our mission and the unity of all of us working together. As these bills continue to advance and as legislative alerts are sent out we ask that you help us by taking the action contained in the alerts. It is only when we all act together that we can successfully defend townships.

**HB 3133** (*Sam Yingling*) – Provides that all townships in a county may be dissolved by referendum, through either citizen petition or county board ordinance. Provides for petition, ordinance, and notice requirements. Further provides for transfer of property, assets, personnel, contractual obligations, liabilities, tax levies, records, and rights and duties from the township to county. Further provides for procedures the county board may employ if a township has outstanding debt on the date of dissolution of the township. Amends the Township Code. Abolishes of office of township collector and transfers all powers and duties to the county collector. **TOI Opposes**

**HB 4244** (*David McSweeney*) – Allows township electors in McHenry County to petition for a referendum to dissolve a township. **TOI Opposes**

**HB 4583** (*Brad Halbrook*) – Requires that certain notice provisions that currently only apply to regular meetings of a public body shall also apply to special meetings or emergency meetings of a public body. **TOI Opposes**

**HB 4637** (*David McSweeney*) – Provides that the board of trustees of any township located in McHenry County may submit a proposition to dissolve the township to the township electors or township electors may petition for a referendum to dissolve a township. Provides that all road districts wholly within the bound-

aries of the dissolving township are dissolved on the date of dissolution and the powers and responsibilities of the road district are transferred to McHenry County. Limits extensions of specified property tax levies to 90% of the original property tax levy and within the boundaries of the dissolved township. Further provides that any township in Lake County or McHenry County shall abolish a road district of that township if the roads of the road district are less than 15 miles in length, as determined by the county engineer or county superintendent of highways. **TOI Opposes**

**HB 4838** (*Jeanne Ives*) – requires local governments with a budget of \$1 million or more to maintain a website and expands information which must be reported. **TOI Opposes**

**HB 5764** (*Sam Yingling*) – Provides that, for the 2018 and 2019 levy years, the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law applies to all non-home rule taxing districts. Provides that, for the 2018 and 2019 levy year, the extension limitation under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law is 0% or the rate of increase approved by the voters. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement. **TOI Opposes**

**SB 2918** (*Martin Sandoval*) – provides that except for a municipality with 1,000,000 or more inhabitants, a unit of local government may not impose a fee for a permit in excess of the fees provided for in specified provisions of the Code. **TOI Opposes**

**SB 3098** (*Martin Sandoval*) – provides that the Department of Transportation may issue a special permit authorizing an applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified by the Code or otherwise not in conformity with the Code upon any State or local highway. Deletes language providing that local authorities may issue a special permit. **TOI Opposes**

Note: In the March issue we highlighted HB 4252 (*Rep Thomas Bennett*) which sought to remove the General Assistant fund from current law which caps township funds at 2.5 times the average of the previous 3 fiscal year expenditures. TOI supports HB 4252 and hopes this note clears any confusion about HB 4252.

