



Legislative Report

By Taylor Anderson

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FACING THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS of adjourning spring session with no budget there was hope that this session, the last year of the 100th General Assembly, would see a different outcome. 2018 marks Illinois' celebration of its bicentennial anniversary and few things could damper the joyous occasion like another budget impasse. The income tax increase, passed last year, seemed to ensure most of the hard work and votes had already been taken to pass a balanced budget; but in a gubernatorial election year there were questions of potential political gamesmanship to be played with the State's finances.

However, that turned out not to be the case and for the first time in a long time the four leaders were able to work together with the Governor to craft a budget. The bi-partisan budget was a result of a lot of hard work and compromise by legislators, including a nearly \$2 billion supplemental for the current year (FY 18). The hard work and compromise from both parties paid off as the bill received an overwhelming number of votes to pass.

Receiving 54 yes votes to 2 no votes in the Senate and 98 yes votes in the House and only 18 no votes.

With the passage of a balanced budget both the House and Senate adjourned on May 31st and are not scheduled to return to Springfield for veto session until November 13, a week after the general election. The budget was sent to the Governor's desk on June 1 and the Governor signed it into law on June 4th. Below is a brief recap of the budget:

HB 109 (PA 100-0586) – Budget Bill Highlights:

The funding for public safety remains largely flat in this budget and reflects most of the suggestions outlined in the Governor's proposal. There is funding for a new State Police cadet class and the fills in a budget gap for the two cadet classes from FY 18.

The FY 19 budget also provides for \$7.7 billion in new capital appropriations and \$13.06 billion re-appropriated capital projects from prior years.

- Includes a CPPRT diversion increased from \$295

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million and \$302 million;

- *Transportation: \$2.9 billion for FY 19 multi-year plan and other projects;*
- *DCEO: \$1.4 billion for grants to local communities for capital improvements;*
- *IEMA: \$6.6 million for safety and security improvements.*

HB 3342 (PA 100-0587) – Budget Implementation Bill (BIMP) Highlights:

- *LGDF reduction of 5% (was 10% last year).*
- *Administration fee for Department of Revenue on sales tax collection reduced to 1.5% from 2%.*

There were also many bills dealing with townships this year. Due to the hard work by TOI, our legislative allies and all of you many of the bills aimed to negatively impact townships did not advance. Below are a few of the bills TOI tracked this year that managed to pass both Chambers and will now be sent to the Governor's desk.

HB 5749 (*Natalie Phelps Finnie/ Sen Fowler*) – Provides that a special permit issued by the Department of Transportation (rather than upon declaration by the Governor that an emergency harvest situation exists) shall be required from September 1 through December 31 for a vehicle that exceeds the maximum axle weight and gross weight limits or exceeds the vehicle's registered gross weight, provided that the vehicle's axle weight and gross weight do not exceed 10% above the maximum limits under the Code and does not exceed

the vehicle's registered gross weight by 10%. Makes conforming changes. **Update: Passed Both Houses**

SB 2299 (*Sen. Dave Syverson/ Rep. Robert Pritchard*) – provides that any elected township official would be prohibited from being employed by the township in a second position. **Update: Passed Both Houses**

SB 2923 (*Sen. James Claybourne/ Rep. Anthony DeLuca*) – provides that if a township supervisor issues a payout from the township treasury for any purpose, the township clerk shall attest to all moneys paid out. **Update: Passed Both Houses**

SB 2940 (*Sen. Cristina Castro/ Rep. Anna Moeller*) – provides that the electors may delegate the power to purchase, sell, or lease property to the township board for a period of up to 12 months and the township board may specify properties being considered. **Update: Passed Both Houses**

SB 3009 (*Sen. Dan McConchie/ Rep. Sauer*) – Provides that the board of trustees of a cemetery located in DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, or Will county shall provide notice of vacancies to the township supervisor rather than the presiding officer of the county. Requires appointments by the township supervisor to be made with the advice and consent of the township board. Provides that if a township is dissolved, the appointment authority is vested in the presiding officer of the county board. **Update: Passed Both Houses**



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