



ILLINOIS CHAMBER



103rd General Assembly 2023-2024 Legislative Ratings



About the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Legislative Ratings

At the conclusion of each General Assembly, the Illinois Chamber provides ratings based on each legislator's votes on key business legislation. Votes on bills to be considered key business legislation of the 103rd General Assembly were determined by staff and the Illinois Chamber's Government Affairs Committee.

All votes used for scoring in the 103rd General Assembly are floor votes. While committee work is critical, only final action on the House and Senate floor is used for ratings. None of the bills used in the report are weighted.

Legislators were given a positive, color-coded green highlight on their scorecard for bills in which they voted in favor of the Illinois Chamber position. Legislators were given a negative, red highlight where they voted against the position of the business community. Illinois Chamber bill position is provided on the top row of the scorecard. All Chamber positions within this document are public record and were formally submitted through oral testimony or the witness slip process.

To best advocate for our collective interests, business leaders must educate themselves on the record of their representatives. These ratings provide a measure of accountability.

To view the scorecard for members of the House of Representatives, click [here](#).

To view the scorecard for members of the Senate, click [here](#).

Illinois Chamber of Commerce Legislative Awards

To recognize the contribution of legislators aligned with the Chamber's pro-growth, pro-business, pro-Illinois platform, we provide three key categories of awards. The Champion of Free Enterprise Award, Outstanding Freshman of the Year, and our *new* Bridge Builder Award.

Legislators with Illinois Chamber ratings averaging 85% or better over the previous two General Assemblies have demonstrated their commitment to legislation that frees the entrepreneurial spirit and qualify for the Champion of Free Enterprise Award.

The Illinois Chamber would also like to thank freshmen legislators from each house who provided outstanding voting and sponsorships records and a collaborative spirit in their first two years of office. One first-term member from both the House and Senate is selected for our Outstanding Freshman of the Year award. Freshmen legislators serving in this General Assembly will be eligible for the Free Enterprise awards after the 104th General Assembly.

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce believes that sound policy and legislation are most likely to be successfully developed when our elected officials work together in the spirit of bipartisanship. This approach of finding ways to marry policy ideas and political principles from both sides often produces something greater than the sum of its parts. With our new Bridge Builder award, the Illinois Chamber recognizes two legislators from each chamber, one from each caucus, who display a willingness and effectiveness in reaching across the aisle to work together to make Illinois a more attractive place to conduct business. Pro-growth. Pro-business. Pro-Illinois.

2023-2024 Champion of Free Enterprise Award Recipients

Senate Award Winners

- **Senator Neil Anderson**
- **Senator Tom Bennett**
- **Senator Terri Bryant**
- **Senator Andrew Chesney**
- **Senator Don DeWitte**
- **Senator Dale Fowler**
- **Senator Seth Lewis**
- **Senator Steve McClure**
- **Senator Dan McConchie**
- **Senator Jason Plummer**
- **Senator Sue Rezin**
- **Senator Chapin Rose**
- **Senator Win Stoller**
- **Senator Dave Syverson**
- **Senator Jill Tracy**
- **Senator Sally Turner**

House Award Winners

- **Leader Tony McCombie**
- **Representative Dan Caulkins**
- **Representative CD Davidsmeyer**

- **Representative Amy Elik**
- **Representative Randy Frese**
- **Representative David Friess**
- **Representative Amy Grant**
- **Representative Jackie Haas**
- **Representative Brad Halbrook**
- **Representative Norine Hammond**
- **Representative Paul Jacobs**
- **Representative Jeff Keicher**
- **Representative Martin McLaughlin**
- **Representative Charles Meier**
- **Representative Chris Miller**
- **Representative Adam Niemerg**
- **Representative Steven Reick**
- **Representative Dave Severin**
- **Representative Joe Sosnowski**
- **Representative Ryan Spain**
- **Representative Dan Swanson**
- **Representative Dan Ugaste**
- **Representative Tom Weber**
- **Representative Blaine Wilhour**
- **Representative Patrick Windhorst**

Outstanding Freshmen of the Year

- **Senator Erica Harriss**
- **Representative Bradley Fritts**

Bridge Builder Award Recipients

- **Senator Meg Loughran Cappel**
- **Senator Jill Tracy**
- **Representative Jeff Keicher**
- **Representative Eva Dina Delgado**

Legislation used for the 103rd GA Legislative Ratings

[HB 219:](#) (Hoffman/Harmon) Punitive Damages

HB 219 amends the Wrongful Death Act to allow recovery of punitive damages. Punitive damages are not available in actions against: (i) the State or an employee of the State in his or her official capacity; (ii) a unit of local government or an employee of a unit of local government in his or her official capacity, or (iii) healing art malpractice or legal malpractice. The Chamber opposed this measure as it represents another setback for the Illinois legal environment.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 75-40-0

Senate Vote: 37-19-1

Outcome: Public Act [103-0514](#)

[HB 2231:](#) (Gong-Gershowitz/Martwick) Transportation Network Companies/Common Carrier

HB 2231 amends the Transportation Network Providers Act. Provides that a provision which specifies that TNCs and TNC drivers are not common carriers, contract carriers, or motor carriers and do not provide taxicab or for-hire vehicle service becomes inoperative on January 1, 2024. We opposed this legislation with serious concern for its cost impact.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 74-38-0

Senate Vote: 38-18-0

Outcome: Public Act [103-0527](#)

[HB 2246:](#) (Moylan/Murphy) Expressway Camera Funds

HB 2246 establishes that funds from the Illinois State Tollway Highway Authority must be used for installation and maintenance of the camera systems, telecommunications costs, and for camera warranties. Provides that the provision exempting images from cameras under the Expressway and Highway Camera Act are inoperative on and after July 1, 2025 (rather than 2023).

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 99-8-0

Senate Vote: NA

Outcome: Held in the Senate

[HB 2288](#) (Rosenthal/Porfirio) Veteran-Owned Small Business Procurement

HB 2288 amends the Illinois Procurement Code as it establishes procurement goals for veteran-owned small businesses. For this purpose, the term "small business" means a business that has annual gross sales of less than \$150,000,000 (rather than less than \$75,000,000). Simply put, this bill doubles the gross sales cap for businesses participating in the veteran owned business program. While this bill did not pass the Senate, its contents were put into the annual procurement omnibus. This initiative restored parity between veteran-owned firms and firms participating under the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with Disabilities Act as existed before the 102nd GA lame-duck session.

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 110-0-0

Senate Vote: NA

Outcome: Held in the Senate (bill content included in 2023 procurement omnibus)

[HB 2520](#): (Harper) Environmental Justice

In Spring 2023, expectations lingered all session regarding a desire to adopt legislation dealing with Environmental Justice (EJ). Numerous bills were filed by environmental activists. HB 2520 was placed on postponed consideration after its first failed attempt to pass the House, then when a second attempt was made, the bill failed to receive the number of required votes to move to the Senate chamber. The Chamber and IERG continue to advocate for a EJ solution that prioritizes the economic health of a region, its businesses, and residents.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: Lost 57-48-0

Senate Vote: NA

Outcome: Failed to pass the House

[HB 2547](#): (Olickal/Villanueva) Warehouse Workers

HB 2547 creates the Warehouse Worker Protection Act. Provides that each employer shall provide to each employee, upon hire or within 30 days after the effective date of the Act, whichever is later, a written description of each quota to which the employee is subject, including the quantified number of tasks to be performed or materials to be produced or handled, within a defined time period, and any potential adverse employment action that could result from failure to meet the quota. The legislation gives the enforcement authority to the AG's office and creates a private right of action.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 69-37-0

Senate Vote: NA

Outcome: Held in the Senate

[HB 2845](#): (Vella/Cappel) Prevailing Wage, Transportation of Biosolids

HB 2845 amends the Prevailing Wage Act to add the removal, hauling, and transportation of biosolids, lime sludge, and lime residue from a water treatment plant or facility and the disposal of biosolids, lime sludge, and lime residue 20 removed from a water treatment plant or facility at a landfill.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 78-32-2

Senate Vote: 34-19-0

Outcome: Public Act [103-0327](#)

[HB 3017](#): (Yednock/Villivalam) DCEO Permit Portal

HB 3017 amends the Business Assistance and Regulatory Reform Act to improve the permitting process in the State by creating an online permitting portal for new and existing environmental permit applicants with a qualified investment of \$20 million or greater. Businesses seeking certain permits for industrial projects will be able to access a website to better understand the timeline and process for agency approval, track the status of their permits, and navigate the complexities of environmental permitting for large-scale projects.

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 108-0-0

Senate Vote: 55-0-0

Outcome: Public Act [103-0538](#)

[HB 3595](#): (Mah/Villanueva) Power Plant Demolition

HB 3595 includes a provision on demolition of thermal power plants. This bill repeals Public Act 102-631 signed into law on August 27, 2021, creating a new section on notice of power plant demolition. The bill requires the owner/operator that plans to initiate demolition of a thermal power plant via implosion to obtain an air quality plan including air dispersion modeling, air monitoring,

dust mitigation plan, among other onerous requirements. The Chamber opposed this matter in committee.

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 63-47-1

Senate Vote: NA

Outcome: Held in the Senate

HB 5005: (Vella/Stadelman) Tax Credits and Incentives

HB 5005 was this spring's credits and Incentives omnibus legislation. The bill provides a series of incentives for locating a quantum computing campus in Illinois and amends the CHIPS credit to extend the credit to quantum computer manufacturers. The EDGE credit is amended to provide that certain credits may be taken against a taxpayer's income tax withholding liability. The REV credit is modified concerning credits for R & D activities related to aircraft. The sunset date for the research and development credit is extended.

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 90-19-0

Senate Vote: 51-5-0

Outcome: Public Act [103-0595](#)

HB 5189: (Davidsmeyer/Villivalam) Railroad Fatalities, Personal Identify Information

HB 5189 provides that personally identifying information of train crew members contained in reports involving railroad fatalities and contained in communications between police officers and train crew members involved in those occurrences shall be redacted from any public reports and shall be maintained in a manner that ensures the confidentiality of the train crew's personally identifying information. Provides that unredacted copies of such reports and communications containing personally identifying information shall be accessible at all reasonable times to the host or employing railroad, by court order, to law enforcement, State's Attorneys, and others.

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 107-0-0

Senate Vote: 57-0-0

Outcome: Sent to the Governor

HJR23: (Stava-Murray/Cunningham) I-55 Managed Lane Project

This resolution supports the "I-55 Managed Lane Project" and IDOT's efforts to pursue the project as a Public-Private Partnership (P3).

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 88-3-0

Senate Vote: 39-11-1

Outcome: Resolution Adopted

SB 3649: (Peters/Evans) Employer Speech

SB 3649 creates the Worker Freedom of Speech Act to prohibit an employer or the employer's agent, representative, or designee to discharge, discipline, or otherwise penalize, threaten to discharge, discipline, or otherwise penalize, or take any adverse employment action against an employee: (1) because the employee declines to attend or participate in an employer-sponsored meeting or declines to receive or listen to communications from the employer or the agent, representative, or designee of the employer if the meeting or communication is to communicate the opinion of the employer about religious or political matters; (2) as a means of inducing an employee to attend or participate in meetings or receive or listen to communications; or (3) because the employee, or a person acting on behalf of the employee, makes a good faith report, orally or in writing, of a violation or a suspected violation of the Act. Provides for a private right of action to enforce the provisions of the Act. Requires placement of a notice,

Chamber Position: Oppose

House Vote: 79-30-0

Senate Vote: 39-18-0

Outcome: Sent to the Governor

SB 3679: (Feigenholtz/Buckner) Business Improvement Districts

SB 3679 creates the Business Improvement District Law. Provides for the establishment of business improvement districts by a municipality by ordinance after petition by property owners, creation of a district plan, notice, and hearings. Provides that a business improvement district may impose district charges on property owners whose real properties are located within the business improvement district. Provides that the board of directors of a business improvement district shall administer or implement activities and improvements specified in the district plan unless the board contracts with a district management association to do so. The Act applies only to municipalities having a population exceeding 500,000.

Chamber Position: Support

House Vote: 96-14-0

Senate Vote: 59-0-0

Outcome: Public Act [103-0646](#)