



ICCTA Action Alert

January 9, 2009

House votes to impeach Gov. Blagojevich

Late this morning, the Illinois House of Representatives voted to approve [House Resolution 1671](#), a resolution to impeach Governor Rod Blagojevich, by a vote of 114-1-1. The process will be forwarded to the Senate, where a trial must be conducted. The Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court will preside over the trial, which could begin soon after the 96th General Assembly is organized on January 14, 2009.

Prior to the vote on HR 1671, the House Impeachment Committee issued a 78-page final report listing the causes for impeachment that were considered during the House vote and will become the basis for the Senate trial. The Final Impeachment Report is a large document that could require several minutes to download; it is available for viewing [here](#).

The Illinois Constitution provides that the 96th General Assembly seat its new members on January 14, 2009. Secretary of State Jesse White is required to preside over the House during the seating and swearing in of new members and the election of a Speaker of the House.

The Illinois Constitution further provides that Governor Rod Blagojevich is required to preside over the Senate and swear in the new Senate to the 96th General Assembly. The Governor is additionally required to preside over the election of a new Senate President. Once Governor Blagojevich has completed his role of presiding over the organization of the Senate, the Senate will begin the trial to determine the Governor's Innocence or guilt. If the Senate finds the Governor to be guilty, he will be removed from office. 40 votes are required in the Senate to remove the Governor from office. There are 59 Senators.

Also, once both houses of the General Assembly are organized, the 96th General Assembly will begin to conduct business and new bills will begin to be filed. The House will begin by filing House Bill 1, and the Senate will begin by filing Senate Bill 1. The 96th General Assembly will conduct business for two years and will conclude its business on January 12, 2011.

ICCTA is preparing legislation to be introduced into the 96th General Assembly. These bills are designed to advance the issues of community colleges. Simultaneously, we will be monitoring the introduction of legislation that is unfavorable for community colleges. The Trustees Association will keep you informed of further developments as they occur.

*** For additional legislative updates, call ICCTA at 1-800-454-2282 ***

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ICCTA ACTION ALERT

April 8, 2009

The Illinois General Assembly adjourned last week after completing the halfway point for the spring 2009 session. Senate bills that passed out of the Senate now go to the House for further consideration, and House bills that passed out of the House now go to the Senate for review. Both the Senate and the House broke for a two-week spring break and are scheduled to return to Springfield on April 21. Final adjournment for the spring session is scheduled for May 30.

PENSION REFORM AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Before adjourning for spring break, the General Assembly passed the following measures of interest to many in state government:

Senate Bill 364, a pension reform bill sponsored by Senator Jeff Schoenberg and House Speaker Michael Madigan, is the first product of the Joint Committee on Government Reform, which is co-chaired by Speaker Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton. The legislation calls for the removal of all of the board members of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) and the removal of all previous gubernatorial board appointees and the Executive Director of the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), State Employees Retirement System (SERS), and the Illinois State Board of Investment. The bill passed the General Assembly on April 2 and was signed by Governor Pat Quinn the next day. It is now **Public Act 96-0006**. The Speaker has referred to this and future "house cleaning" as "fumigating state government."

On April 2, the General Assembly also passed a \$3 billion mini-capital package, of which \$2 billion would be used for road and bridge maintenance projects, while \$1 billion would be used for mass transit. **House Bill 289**, sponsored by Speaker Madigan and Senator John Sullivan, is the bonding portion of the mini-capital bill.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The following is a list of legislation impacting community colleges. Included are staff recommendations for ICCTA positions on each bill; the recommendations are based upon historical ICCTA positions and the actual issues.

**HB 150 21st Century Scholars Program (Miller / Maloney)
ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Creates the 21st Century Scholars Act to provide an incentive for low-income students in the 8th grade to improve their academic preparation for post-secondary education. Sets forth provisions concerning annual tuition scholarships to applicants who qualify; requiring the state, the participating school district, and the student to enter into a three-part compact; rules to implement the Act; and reporting to the General Assembly on awards. **Passed the House 115-0-0.**

Amends the Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. Provides that the inter-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional campus violence prevention plan shall also include coordination and communication with surrounding governmental agencies and school districts. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement. **Passed the House 102-0-0.**

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HB 437 **Community College Health/Safety Tax Bonds (Bieser)**

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Allows Lewis and Clark and Southwestern Illinois community college districts to levy a tax or issue bonds for alteration or repair of physical facilities for certain health, safety, energy conservation, environmental protection, and handicapped accessibility purposes. Removes a provision allowing the district to borrow money not in excess of \$4.5 million in the aggregate at any one time. Provides that the district may borrow money if, among other conditions, a certified estimate of a licensed architect or engineer stating the estimated amount (instead of stating the estimated amount of not less than \$25,000) has been secured by the district. **Passed the House 75-41-0.**

HB 461 Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Jakobsson)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Provides that each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the three previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. Effective July 1, 2010. **Passed the House 109-0-0.**

HB 615 Cosmetology School Refunds (Coulson)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Amends the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology Act of 1985. In a provision concerning school refund policies, provides that refunds shall be in accordance with the requirements of the school's regional or national accrediting agency, if any, or rules that the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation shall promulgate. Effective immediately.

HB 656 Harper College Baccalaureate Degree (Crespo)

HB 656 ISCTA Position

Identical to **Senate Bill 244** (which did not pass in the Senate), this bill provides that William Rainey Harper College may establish and offer a pilot program under which the district may offer bachelor's degrees in two fields of study if: (1) the degree programs do not compete with any nearby public university and the public universities in Illinois have the right of first refusal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree programs on the community college campus or a community college extension site, (2) that the district identify and document unmet workforce needs, (3) that the degree programs not require any additional funding from local taxes, the state, or the community college students not enrolled in the program, (4) that the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the offering of the degree programs, and (5) that the pilot program expire four years after the initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise extended by law. Prohibits Harper College from becoming a primarily baccalaureate degree-granting, four-year institution of higher learning. Effective July 1, 2009. **Passed the House 69-47-0.**

HB 725 Sign Language Requirements (Watson)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the School Code to encourage school boards to implement American Sign Language (ASL) courses into school foreign language curriculum. Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. In provisions concerning admissions requirements, provides that ASL may constitute a foreign language for the purposes of meeting those requirements. Allows the governing board of each public university to award academic credit for the successful completion of any ASL course offered or approved by the university, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the university. **Passed the House 114-0-0.**

HB 862 Community College Electronic Bidding (Black)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Identical to **Senate Bill 277**, this ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that electronic bid submissions shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt for bids. Requires electronic bid submissions to be authorized by specific language in the bid documents in order to be considered and to be opened in accordance with electronic security measures in effect at the community college at the time of opening. Provides that unless the electronic submission procedures provide for a secure receipt, the vendor assumes the risk of premature disclosure due to submission in an unsealed form. **Passed the House 106-0-0.**

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HB 898 Faculty / Staff Freedom of Expression (Jakobsson)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Provides that all faculty and staff members of a university or community college are free to communicate their views on any matter of private or public concern to any member of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of government, state or federal, without notice to or prior approval of the university or community college, so long as they do not represent that they are speaking for or on behalf of the university or community college. **Passed the House 115-0-1.**

HB 899 Political Paraphernalia on Campus (Jacobsson)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Provides that a university or community college may not prohibit any faculty or staff member from (1) displaying political buttons, stickers, or patches while on university or community college property, provided that such display by any member of the faculty in an instructional setting is for a purpose relevant to the subject of instruction; (2) attending a partisan political rally, provided that the employee is not on duty; or (3) displaying a partisan bumper sticker on his or her motor vehicle. **Passed the House 115-1-0.**

HB 972 Veterans Day Moment of Silence (Chapa La Via)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Provides that if a public school, university, or community college holds any type of event at the institution on November 11, Veterans' Day, the governing board of the institution shall require a moment of silence at that event to recognize Veterans' Day. **Passed the House 114-0-0.**

HB 1013 Green Buildings Act (Boland)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Creates the Green Buildings Act to require that state-funded building construction and major renovations of existing state-owned facilities must meet certain energy and environmental standards of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) program rating system, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes rating system, or an equivalent rating system. Permits waiver of the standards by the Illinois Capital Development Board or another agency. Specifies the criteria for waivers. Requires the Board to analyze and evaluate the Act's green building standards after the earlier of five years or the completion of 10 Board green projects. **Passed the House 114-0-0.**

HB 1079 Dual Credit Quality (Eddy)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Requires the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education to develop policies to permit multiple appropriate measures using differentiated assessment for granting eligibility for dual credit to students (a dual credit course being a college course taken by a high school student for credit at both the college and high school level). Sets forth provisions concerning policies to protect the academic standing of students who are not successful in dual credit courses, standards that institutions of higher learning must meet if offering dual credit courses, oversight and review of dual credit programs, and a statewide longitudinal data system to identify high school students who participate in dual credit courses and track their success in high school and postsecondary education. **Passed the House 116-0-0.**

HB 2235 Faculty and Administrators Salary Reports (Davis)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Amends the School Code and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Requires the governing board of each school district, university, and community college to report to the State Board of Education or IBHE, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of all administrators and teachers or faculty employed by the school district, university, or community college district. **Passed the House 116-0-0.**

HB 2253 Community College Police Appointments (Pritchard)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Removes provisions allowing the board of trustees of a community college district to appoint persons to be members of the security department of the community college. Allows instead for the appointment of sworn and non-sworn members of the community college district police department, department of public safety, or security department. Sets forth requirements and other provisions concerning both law enforcement officers and non-law enforcement officers. Allows the board of trustees to establish regulations that are determined to be necessary for the protection of community college students, staff, visitors, properties, and interests or for the proper maintenance, operation, or development of any community college or colleges under the jurisdiction of the board and to prescribe fines and penalties for the violation of these regulations. **Passed the House 116-0-0.**

HB 2330 Student Trustee Term of Office (Black)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Identical to **SB 1580**, this ICCTA shell bill currently provides that the student member of the board of trustees of a community college district may serve for only one term. This bill will be held in the Senate, pending other uses for which ICCTA may wish to use the bill. **Passed the House 103-13-0.**

HB 2352 Student Credit Cards (Joyce)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Identical to **SB 1524**, this bill creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act. **Passed the House 115-0-1.**

HB 4122 Community College Peace Officers (Chapa LaVia)

ICCTA Position: **OPPOSE**

Amends the Criminal Code to provide that it is unlawful for any institute of higher learning that employs peace officers to prohibit a peace officer from carrying a firearm in the performance of his or her duties, unless the peace officer fails to qualify with the firearm, is declared unfit for duty, and is unable to be armed. **Passed the House 92-21-3.**

SB 204 Emergency Building Use (Demuzio)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Requires (instead of allows) a board of trustees of a community college district to make mutually agreed buildings of the college available for emergency purposes, upon the request of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or the state-accredited emergency management agency with jurisdiction, and to cooperate in all matters with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management agencies, state-certified, local public health departments, the American Red Cross, and federal agencies concerned with emergency preparedness and response. Adds a similar provision for universities. Provides that a school board shall make school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters for all persons; cooperate with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local organizations for civil defense, disaster relief organizations, and federal agencies concerned with civil defense relative thereto; cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the use of other resources, equipment, and facilities; and cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the construction of new buildings to the end that the buildings be so designed that shelter facilities may be provided.

Passed the Senate 59-0-0.

SB 277
ICSTA Positions
Community College Electronic Bidding (Demuzio)
SUPPORT

ICCIA Position: SUPPORT

Identical to **HB 862**, this ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that electronic bid submissions shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt for bids. Requires electronic bid submissions to be authorized by specific language in the bid documents in order to be considered and to be opened in accordance with electronic security measures in effect at the community college at the time of opening. Provides that unless the electronic submission procedures provide for a secure receipt, the vendor assumes the risk of premature disclosure due to submission in unsealed form. **Passed the Senate 59-0-0.**

SB 1485 Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Hunter)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act. Provides that when contacting or being contacted by prospective clients, each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the 3 previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. **Passed the Senate 57-0-0.**

SB 1524 Student Credit Cards (Trotter)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Identical to **HB 2352**, this bill creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

SB 1570 **Wind Solar Generation Program (Pankau)**

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Creates the School Wind and Solar Generation Program to fund wind generation projects and solar generation projects for school districts and community college districts. Requires the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to implement and administer the program; allows DCEO to award full or partial grants for, without limitation, engineering studies, feasibility studies, research studies, and construction costs. For each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014, requires the State Treasurer to transfer \$5 million to the School Wind and Solar Generation Fund, a special fund in the state treasury. Provides that all money in the Fund must be used for the purposes of the program. Allows school districts and community college districts to own and operate solar generation turbine farms (not just wind generation turbine farms) that directly or indirectly reduce energy or other operating costs. **Passed the Senate 54-0-0.**

SB 1580 **Student Trustee Term of Office (Demuzio)**

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Identical to **HB 2330**, this ICCTA-initiated shell bill currently provides that the student member of the board of trustees of a community college district may serve for only one term. **The bill has been held in the Senate pending ICCTA future plans.**

SB 1624 Higher Education Veterans Coordinator (Kotowski)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Requires all public colleges and universities to conduct a survey of the services and programs that are provided for veterans, active duty military personnel, and their families, at each of their respective campuses; sets forth the survey requirements. Requires each public college and university to appoint a Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services on each campus of the college or university that has an onsite, daily, full-time student headcount above 1,000 students; sets forth requirements concerning the coordinator. Provides that IBHE and the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue a best practices report to highlight those programs and services that are most beneficial to veterans and active duty military personnel. Sets forth additional provisions concerning a college's or university's best efforts and the fiscal impact of programs and services. **Passed the Senate 55-0-1.**

SB 1796 Re-Enrollment of High School Dropouts (Lightford)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program to develop a comprehensive system in this state to re-enroll significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs that will enable them to earn their high school diploma. Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer the IHOPE Program. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall award grants to educational service regions and the Chicago school district from appropriated funds to assist in establishing instructional programs and other services designed to re-enroll high school dropouts. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall provide incentive grant funds for regional offices of education and the Chicago school district to develop partnerships with school districts, public community colleges, and community groups to build comprehensive plans to re-enroll high school dropouts in their regions or districts. Sets forth requirements for programs funded through the IHOPE Program. Provides for an IHOPE Plan, sub-grants, how funding is distributed, state aid, categories of programming, the evaluation of programs, and rules. **Passed the Senate 53-0-0.**

SB 1828 Longitudinal Educational Data System (Stearns)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. Requires the State Board of Education, ICCB, and IBHE to jointly establish and maintain a longitudinal data system by entering into one or more agreements that link early learning, elementary, and secondary school student unit records with institution of higher learning student unit records. **Passed the Senate 56-0-0.**

SB 1847 Community College Construction Act (Harmon)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Creates the Community College Construction Act. Contains only a short title provision. This is a shell bill for community college use. **Passed the Senate 58-0-0.**

SB 1883 IBHE Baccalaureate Program Grants (Burzynski)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Provides that IBHE shall implement and administer the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, four-year colleges or universities. Provides that IBHE shall require that each partnering institution (both the community college and the four-year institution or institutions) must also invest in the partnership. **Passed the Senate 58-0-0.**

SB 2044 Whistleblower Act Referendum (Kotowski)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act. Provides that the electors of any school district, public community college district, municipality, municipal corporation, or unit of local government may pass, by initiative petition and referendum, a binding ordinance adopting the provisions of the Act (at present, these entities may adopt the provisions of the Act by ordinance or resolution). Provides the requirements for filing a petition and hearing an objection to a petition.

Passed the Senate 59-0-0.

House Resolution 97 Sustainability Network (Reitz)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Urges the U.S. Congress to fund the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network's request for \$648.6 million from the federal government for the training and development of a green-collar workforce and the creation of green-collar jobs through community college renewable energy and energy conservation projects. **Adopted by the House.**

*** ICCTA Lobby Day is April 29 – register today by calling 1-800-454-2282 ***

ICCTA ACTION ALERT

May 27, 2009

The Illinois General Assembly is conducting business in what is scheduled to be the final week of the spring 2009 legislative session. Several major issues dominate the remaining days of the session, including several income tax increase proposals, approval of a state budget, public pension system reforms, and possible ethics reforms.

Last week lawmakers approved a \$29 billion capital construction program funded mostly by fee increases, expanding lottery sales, and legalizing video gaming. The capital program will provide community colleges with \$357 million in state construction funds if approved by the Governor. Final adjournment for the session is scheduled for May 31.

During the past few weeks, several bills affecting community colleges have been passed by both houses of the General Assembly and will be sent to the Governor for his consideration. Those bills are listed below.

NEW INCOME TAX PROPOSAL

While Gov. Quinn recently modified his proposal to increase the current 3% Illinois income tax rate to 4.5%, **Senate Bill 750** (sponsored by Senator James Meeks) passed the Senate Education Committee and is generating some attention. SB 750 increases the current 3% income tax rate to 5% and makes significant changes to tax and school funding:

- The bill reduces reliance on property taxes to fund schools by doubling the Illinois residential property tax credit.
- The Invest in Illinois Fund is created and funded with \$1 billion each year to provide funding for debt service and fees on bonds for capital projects, such as roads and schools, throughout the state.
- The bill also mandates a \$300 million annual appropriation (indexed for inflation) for grants to institutions of higher education.
- Increases for early childhood education are phased in, from \$45 million in FY 2010 to \$180 million in FY 2013.
- Increases to the foundation level are phased in, raising it to \$8,410 over four years (from \$5,959). The foundation level and supplemental General State Aid (Poverty Grants) are automatically tied to increases to the Employment Cost Index to control for inflation.
- Doubles the special education personnel reimbursement rate.
- Maintains and expands grants for high-poverty schools.
- Funds teacher and principal mentoring programs.
- Provides funding for science, math and technology programs.
- The personal income tax is increased to 5% (from 3%).
- Expands the sales tax base to include only what Illinois' neighbor states tax.
- A Family Tax Credit is provided to low and middle income taxpayers to help offset the income tax increase.
- Triples the Earned Income Tax Credit to offset any tax increase on the working poor.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEGISLATION APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

House Bill 336 Higher Education Campus Security (Pritchard)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Amends the Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. Provides that the inter-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional campus violence prevention plan shall also include coordination and communication with surrounding governmental agencies and school districts. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

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HB 2253 Community College Police Appointments (Pritchard)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Removes provisions allowing the board of trustees of a community college district to appoint persons to be members of the security department of the community college. Allows instead for the appointment of sworn and non-sworn members of the community college district police department, department of public safety, or security department. Sets forth requirements and other provisions concerning both law enforcement officers and non-law enforcement officers. Allows the board of trustees to establish regulations that are determined to be necessary for the protection of community college students, staff, visitors, properties, and interests or for the proper maintenance, operation, or development of any community college or colleges under the jurisdiction of the board and to prescribe fines and penalties for the violation of these regulations.

HB 2352 Student Credit Cards (Joyce)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Identical to **SB 1524**, this bill creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

Senate Bill 204**Emergency Building Use (Demuzio)****ICCTA Position:****MONITOR**

Requires (instead of allows) a board of trustees of a community college district to make mutually agreed buildings of the college available for emergency purposes, upon the request of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or the state-accredited emergency management agency with jurisdiction, and to cooperate in all matters with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management agencies, state-certified, local public health departments, the American Red Cross, and federal agencies concerned with emergency preparedness and response. Adds a similar provision for universities. Provides that a school board shall make school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters for all persons; cooperate with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local organizations for civil defense, disaster relief organizations, and federal agencies concerned with civil defense relative thereto; cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the use of other resources, equipment, and facilities; and cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the construction of new buildings to the end that the buildings be so designed that shelter facilities may be provided.

SB 1485**Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Hunter)****ICCTA Position:****MONITOR**

Creates the Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act. Provides that when contacting or being contacted by prospective clients, each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the 3 previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom.

SB 1624**Higher Education Veterans Coordinator (Kotowski)****ICCTA Position:****MONITOR**

Requires all public colleges and universities to conduct a survey of the services and programs that are provided for veterans, active duty military personnel, and their families, at each of their respective campuses; sets forth the survey requirements. Requires each public college and university to appoint a Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services on each campus of the college or university that has an onsite, daily, full-time student headcount above 1,000 students; sets forth requirements concerning the coordinator. Provides that IBHE and the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue a best practices report to highlight those programs and services that are most beneficial to veterans and active duty military personnel. Sets forth additional provisions concerning a college's or university's best efforts and the fiscal impact of programs and services.

SB 1796**Re-Enrollment of High School Dropouts (Lightford)****ICCTA Position:****SUPPORT**

Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program to develop a comprehensive system in this state to re-enroll significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs that will enable them to earn their high school diploma. Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer the IHOPE Program. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall award grants to educational service regions and the Chicago school district from appropriated funds to assist in establishing instructional programs and other services designed to re-enroll high school dropouts. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall provide incentive grant funds for regional offices of education and the Chicago school district to develop partnerships with school districts, public community colleges, and community groups to build comprehensive plans to re-enroll high school dropouts in their regions or districts. Sets forth requirements for programs funded through the IHOPE Program. Provides for an IHOPE Plan, sub-grants, how funding is distributed, state aid, categories of programming, the evaluation of programs, and rules.

SB 1828**Longitudinal Educational Data System (Stearns)****ICCTA Position:****MONITOR**

Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. Requires the State Board of Education, ICCB, and IBHE to jointly establish and maintain a longitudinal data system by entering into one or more agreements that link early learning, elementary, and secondary school student unit records with institution of higher learning student unit records.

SB 1883

IBHE Baccalaureate Program Grants (Burzynski)

ICCTA Position:

SUPPORT

Provides that IBHE shall implement and administer the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, four-year colleges or universities. Provides that IBHE shall require that each partnering institution (both the community college and the four-year institution or institutions) must also invest in the partnership.

▪ Call ICCTA at 1-800-454-2282 for legislative updates ▪

ICCTA ACTION ALERT

March 6, 2009

The 96th Illinois General Assembly convened on January 14. Deadlines for the introduction of new bills have passed in both the Senate and the House. Committee hearings are being held to consider the fate of legislative proposals. The following is a list of legislation impacting community colleges. Included are staff recommendations for ICCTA positions on each bill; the recommendations are based upon historical ICCTA positions and the actual issues.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING COMMUNITY COLLEGES

House Bill 79 Higher Education Scholarship Act (Lang)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Allows scholarships to be awarded to entering freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors at community colleges, colleges, and universities, whether public or private, located in Illinois. Establishes Illinois residency requirements, minimum grade point average requirements, and other requirements that the student must meet to be eligible for a scholarship.

HB 150 21st Century Scholars Program (Miller / Maloney)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Creates the 21st Century Scholars Act to provide an incentive for low-income students in the 8th grade to improve their academic preparation for post-secondary education. Sets forth provisions concerning annual tuition scholarships to applicants who qualify; requiring the state, the participating school district, and the student to enter into a three-part compact; rules to implement the Act; and reporting to the General Assembly on awards. **Passed the House 115-0-0.**

HB 169 **Income Tax Credit for College Savings Plan (Verschoore)**

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Authorizes the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to establish systems and programs to encourage employers to match employee contributions to prepaid college savings programs. Creates an income tax credit for employers who, during the taxable year, make a matching donation on behalf of an employee. Provides that the credit is 25 percent of the matching donation, but not to exceed \$500 per employee. Provides that the credit may be carried forward for three taxable years.

HB 336 Higher Education Campus Security (Pritchard)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Amends the Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. Provides that the inter-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional campus violence prevention plan shall also include coordination and communication with surrounding governmental agencies and school districts. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

HB 437 **Community College Health/Safety Tax Bonds (Bieser)**

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Allows a community college district to levy a tax or issue bonds for alteration or repair of physical facilities for certain health, safety, energy conservation, environmental protection, and handicapped accessibility purposes. Removes a provision allowing the district to borrow money not in excess of \$4,5 million in the aggregate at any one time. Provides that the district may borrow money if, among other conditions, a certified estimate of a licensed architect or engineer stating the estimated amount (instead of stating the estimated amount of not less than \$25,000) has been secured by the district.

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www.communitycolleges.org (web site)

HB 461 Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Jakobsson)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Provides that each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the three previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. Effective July 1, 2010.

HB 556 Veterans Preference in Higher Education Admissions (Chapa La Via)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that, beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year, the minimum admission standards established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education for public community colleges and universities must provide for a preference for persons who were engaged in the active military or naval service of the United States for a period of at least one year and who were honorably discharged and for persons who were engaged in such military or naval service who are currently or may thereafter be on inactive or reserve duty in such military or naval service, not including, however, persons who were convicted by court-martial of disobedience of orders.

HB 615 Cosmetology School Refunds (Coulson)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Amends the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology Act of 1985. In a provision concerning school refund policies, provides that refunds shall be in accordance with the requirements of the school's regional or national accrediting agency, if any, or rules that the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation shall promulgate. Effective immediately.

HB 656 Harper College Baccalaureate Degree (Crespo)

ICCTA Position MONITOR

Identical to Senate Bill 244, this bill provides that William Rainey Harper College may establish and offer a pilot program under which the district may offer bachelor's degrees in two fields of study if: (1) the degree programs do not compete with any nearby public university and the public universities in Illinois have the right of first refusal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree programs on the community college campus or a community college extension site, (2) that the district identify and document unmet workforce needs, (3) that the degree programs not require any additional funding from local taxes, the state, or the community college students not enrolled in the program, (4) that the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the offering of the degree programs, and (5) that the pilot program expire four years after the initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise extended by law. Prohibits Harper College from becoming a primarily baccalaureate degree-granting, four-year institution of higher learning. Effective July 1, 2009.

HB 689 ISAC Bond Issue (Miller)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that bonds issued in accordance with the Act may be designated by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission as guaranteed by the state of Illinois. Proceeds from the bonds will be used to fund ISAC's participation in the federal Rehabilitation Loan Program, resulting in a stream of federal revenue for ISAC of approximately \$11 million to 15 million over 12-14 months.

HB 725 Sign Language Requirements (Watson)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the School Code to encourage school boards to implement American Sign Language (ASL) courses into school foreign language curriculum. Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. In provisions concerning admissions requirements, provides that ASL constitutes a foreign language for the purposes of meeting those requirements. Requires the governing board of each public university to award academic credit for the successful completion of any ASL course offered or approved by the university, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the university.

HB 732 SURS Sick Leave Accumulation (Jakobsson)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Provides that a public university or community college employee under the State Universities Retirement System is entitled to receive service credit for up to two years (now up to one year) of unused sick leave.

HB 862 Community College Electronic Bidding (Black)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Identical to Senate Bill 277, this ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that electronic bid submissions shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt for bids. Requires electronic bid submissions to be authorized by specific language in the bid documents in order to be considered and to be opened in accordance with electronic security measures in effect at the community college at the time of opening. Provides that unless the electronic submission procedures provide for a secure receipt, the vendor assumes the risk of premature disclosure due to submission in an unsealed form. Effective immediately.

HB 898 Faculty / Staff Freedom of Expression (Jakobsson)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Provides that all faculty and staff members of a university or community college are free to communicate their views on any matter of private or public concern to any member of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of government, state or federal, without notice to or prior approval of the university or community college, so long as they do not represent that they are speaking for or on behalf of the university or community college. Effective immediately.

HB 899 Political Paraphernalia on Campus (Jacobsson)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Provides that a university or community college may not prohibit any faculty or staff member from (1) displaying political buttons, stickers, or patches while on university or community college property, provided that such display by any member of the faculty in an instructional setting is for a purpose relevant to the subject of instruction; (2) attending a partisan political rally, provided that the employee is not on duty; or (3) displaying a partisan bumper sticker on his or her motor vehicle. Effective immediately.

HB 972 Veterans Day Moment of Silence (Chapa La Via)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that if a public school, university, or community college holds any type of event at the institution on November 11, Veterans' Day, the governing board of the institution shall require a moment of silence at that event to recognize Veterans' Day. Effective immediately.

HB 1013 Green Buildings Act

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the Green Buildings Act to require that state-funded building construction and major renovations of existing state-owned facilities must meet certain energy and environmental standards of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) program rating system, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes rating system, or an equivalent rating system. Permits waiver of the standards by the Illinois Capital Development Board or another agency. Specifies the criteria for waivers. Requires the Board to analyze and evaluate the Act's green building standards after the earlier of five years or the completion of 10 Board green projects. Effective immediately.

HB 1028 ICCB Workforce Development Grant (Flider)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Appropriates \$10 million from the General Revenue Fund to the Illinois Community College Board for manufacturing curricula and workforce development.

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Requires ICCB and IBHE to develop policies to permit multiple appropriate measures using differentiated assessment for granting eligibility for dual credit to students (a dual credit course being a college course taken by a high school student for credit at both the college and high school level). Sets forth provisions concerning policies to protect the academic standing of students who are not successful in dual credit courses, standards that institutions of higher learning must meet if offering dual credit courses, oversight and review of dual credit programs, and a statewide longitudinal data system to identify high school students who participate in dual credit courses and track their success in high school and postsecondary education.

HB 2235 Faculty and Administrators Salary Reports (Davis)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Amends the School Code and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Requires the governing board of each school district, university, and community college to report to the State Board of Education or IBHE, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of all administrators and teachers or faculty employed by the school district, university, or community college district.

HB 2253 Community College Police Appointments (Pritchard)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Removes provisions allowing the board of trustees of a community college district to appoint persons to be members of the security department of the community college. Allows instead for the appointment of sworn and non-sworn members of the community college district police department, department of public safety, or security department. Sets forth requirements and other provisions concerning both sworn and non-sworn members. Allows the board of trustees to establish regulations that are determined to be necessary for the protection of community college students, staff, visitors, properties, and interests or for the proper maintenance, operation, or development of any community college or colleges under the jurisdiction of the board and to prescribe fines and penalties for the violation of these regulations.

HB 2330 Student Trustee Term of Office (Black)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Identical to SB 1580, this ICCTA-initiated legislation that provides that the student member of the board of trustees of a community college district may serve for only one term.

HB 2352 Student Credit Cards (Joyce)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Identical to SB 1524, this bill creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

HB 2484 All-American Energy Student Referendum (May)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Creates the Student Referendum All-American Energy Act. Provides that students at a public institution of higher education may, by a majority vote of the students participating in a referendum, authorize the imposition of an All-American Energy Fee on students. Provides that the revenues of an All-American Energy Fee must be used for energy conservation measures in student residence halls or purchasing renewable energy resources to provide power for student residence halls or both. Provides that the referendum for an All-American Energy Fee must be submitted to a vote of the student body if a petition for such a vote is signed by no fewer than 300 students currently enrolled. If approved, the fee, which must not exceed \$10 per full-time student per term, must be imposed on students at the start of the next following term. Requires IBHE to report to the Governor and General Assembly no later than two years following the effective date of the Act concerning the fee.

HB 2504 Community College Jobs Training Bond (Washington)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Identical to SB 2124, this bill allows a board of trustees of a community college district to enter into an agreement with an employer concerning an arrangement to provide new jobs training program services, including (1) new jobs training; (2) adult basic education and job-related instruction; (3) vocational and skill-assessment services and testing; (4) training facilities, equipment, materials, and supplies; and (5) on-the-job training. Requires the agreement to provide for program costs that may be paid from property taxes, tuition, student fees, or special charges. Allows the board to borrow money and issue and sell certificates payable from a sufficient portion of the future receipts of payments authorized by the agreement to provide funds for the present payment of the costs of a new jobs training program. Provides that the board shall, by resolution, provide for the assessment of an annual levy of a standby tax upon all taxable property within the community college district to further secure the payment of the certificates.

HB 2623 Open Meetings Act Clarification (Jacobsson)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Amends the Open Meetings Act. Provides that the Act is not violated when, without notice or minutes, a majority of the quorum of one public body attends and discusses public business at a meeting of another public body that complies with the Act's notice and minutes requirements. Effective immediately.

HB 3652 College Insurance Program (Currie)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Identical to SB 1638, this bill increases rates that the employee, employers and the state must pay into the College Insurance Program Fund (from 0.5% to 0.75%) in order to maintain the financial solvency of the retirees health insurance program for community college retirees. Beginning July 1, 2010, includes the City Colleges of Chicago to the College Insurance Program for community college retirees.

Senate Bill 86 Tuition, Fees Income Tax Exemption (Jones)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates a deduction in an amount equal to the amount paid by an individual taxpayer during the taxable year for unreimbursed expenses related to tuition, fees, and on-campus room and board at any college, university, or community college. Provides that the taxpayer is entitled to the deduction if the taxpayer is (I) a student at the college, university, or community college during the taxable year, or (ii) the parent or legal guardian of a student at the college, university, or community college. Exempts the deduction from the sunset provisions. Effective immediately.

SB 204 Emergency Building Use (Demuzio)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Requires (instead of allows) a board of trustees of a community college district to make the buildings of the college available for emergency purposes, upon the request of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or the state-accredited emergency management agency with jurisdiction, and to cooperate in all matters with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management agencies, State-certified, local public health departments, the American Red Cross, and federal agencies concerned with emergency preparedness and response. Adds a similar provision for universities. Provides that a school board shall make school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters for all persons; cooperate with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local organizations for civil defense, disaster relief organizations, and federal agencies concerned with civil defense relative thereto; cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the use of other resources, equipment, and facilities; and cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the construction of new buildings to the end that the buildings be so designed that shelter facilities may be provided.

SB 244 Harper College Baccalaureate Degree (Kotowski)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Identical to HB 656, this bill provides that William Rainey Harper College may establish and offer a pilot program under which the district may offer bachelor's degrees in two fields of study if: (1) the degree programs do not compete with any nearby public university and the public universities in Illinois have the right of first refusal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree programs on the community college campus or a community college extension site, (2) that the district identify and document unmet workforce needs, (3) that the degree programs not require any additional funding from local taxes, the state, or the community college students not enrolled in the program, (4) that the IBHE approve the offering of the degree programs, and (5) that the pilot program expire four years after the initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise extended by law. Prohibits Harper College from becoming a primarily baccalaureate degree-granting, four-year institution of higher learning. Effective July 1, 2009.

SB 277 Community College Electronic Bidding (Demuzio)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Identical to HB 862, this ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that electronic bid submissions shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt for bids. Requires electronic bid submissions to be authorized by specific language in the bid documents in order to be considered and to be opened in accordance with electronic security measures in effect at the community college at the time of opening. Provides that unless the electronic submission procedures provide for a secure receipt, the vendor assumes the risk of premature disclosure due to submission in an unsealed form. Effective immediately

SB 1373 Ban on Community College Employee Residency Requirements (Kotowski)

ICCTA Position: **MONITOR**

Prohibits residence within a community college district or outside a community college district from being considered in determining whether to retain or not retain any employee of a community college or in assigning, promoting, or transferring an employee (now, permitted if employed on or after July 1, 1977 or after the adoption by the community college board of a resolution making residency within the district a condition of employment). Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

SB 1485 Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Hunter)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act. Provides that when contacting or being contacted by prospective clients, each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the 3 previous editions of the textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. Effective July 1, 2010.

SB 1524 Student Credit Cards (Trotter)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Identical to HB 2352, this bill creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act.

SB 1570 **Wind Solar Generation Program (Pankau)**

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Creates the School Wind and Solar Generation Program to fund wind generation projects and solar generation projects for school districts and community college districts. Requires the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to implement and administer the program; allows DCEO to award full or partial grants for, without limitation, engineering studies, feasibility studies, research studies, and construction costs. For each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014, requires the State Treasurer to transfer \$5 million to the School Wind and Solar Generation Fund, a special fund in the State treasury. Provides that all money in the Fund must be used for the purposes of the program. Allows school districts and community college districts to own and operate solar generation turbine farms (not just wind generation turbine farms) that directly or indirectly reduce energy or other operating costs. Effective immediately.

SB 1580 Student Trustee Term of Office (Demuzio)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Identical to HB 2330, this ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that the student member of the board of trustees of a community college district may serve for only one term.

SB 1624 Higher Education Veterans Coordinator (Kotowski)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Requires all public colleges and universities to conduct a survey of the services and programs that are provided for veterans, active duty military personnel, and their families, at each of their respective campuses; sets forth the survey requirements. Requires each public college and university to appoint a Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services on each campus of the college or university that has an onsite, daily, full-time student headcount above 1,000 students; sets forth requirements concerning the coordinator. Provides that IBHE and the Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue a best practices report to highlight those programs and services that are most beneficial to veterans and active duty military personnel. Sets forth additional provisions concerning a college's or university's best efforts and the fiscal impact of programs and services. Effective immediately.

SB 1638 College Insurance Program (Trotter)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Identical to SB 1638, this bill increases rates that the employee, employers and the state must pay into the College Insurance Program Fund (from 0.5% to 0.75%) in order to maintain the financial solvency of the retirees health insurance program for community college retirees. Beginning July 1, 2010, includes the City Colleges of Chicago to the College Insurance Program for community college retirees.

SB 1696 DCEO Job Training Grant (Delgado)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Appropriates \$10 million, or so much thereof as may be necessary, from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for the expansion of its Job Training and Economic Development Grant Program. Effective July 1, 2009.

SB 1796 Re-Enrollment of High School Dropouts (Lightford)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program to develop a comprehensive system in this state to re-enroll significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs that will enable them to earn their high school diploma. Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer the IHOPE Program. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall award grants to educational service regions and the Chicago school district from appropriated funds to assist in establishing instructional programs and other services designed to re-enroll high school dropouts. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall provide incentive grant funds for regional offices of education and the Chicago school district to develop partnerships with school districts, public community colleges, and community groups to build comprehensive plans to re-enroll high school dropouts in their regions or districts. Sets forth requirements for programs funded through the IHOPE Program. Provides for an IHOPE Plan, sub-grants, how funding is distributed, state aid, categories of programming, the evaluation of programs, and rules. Effective July 1, 2009.

SB 1828 Longitudinal Educational Data System (Stearns)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. Requires the State Board of Education, ICCB, and IBHE to jointly establish and maintain a longitudinal data system by entering into one or more agreements that link early learning, elementary, and secondary school student unit records with institution of higher learning student unit records.

SB 1847 Community College Construction Act (Harmon)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Creates the Community College Construction Act. Contains only a short title provision. This is a shell bill for community college use.

SB 1879 ICCB Technical Bill (Burzynski)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Amends the Public Community College Act. Makes a technical change in a section concerning the Illinois Community College Board.

SB 1883 IBHE Baccalaureate Program Grants (Burzynski)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Provides that IBHE shall implement and administer the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, four-year colleges or universities. Provides that the Board shall require that each partnering institution (both the community college and the four-year institution or institutions) must also invest in the partnership.

SB 2013 ICCB Baccalaureate Program Grants (Demuzio)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Provides that ICCB shall implement and administer the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, 4-year colleges or universities. Provides that the Board shall require that each partnering institution (both the community college and the 4-year institution or institutions) must also invest in the partnership.

SB 2018 Elimination of Sales Tax on Textbooks (Bivins)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Provides that, beginning July 1, 2009, the tax with respect to textbooks required for use at state universities and public community colleges or certain other institutions of higher learning is imposed under these Acts at the rate of 1.25% (eliminating the state's portion of the tax). Authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules. Amends the State Finance Act to adjust the distribution with respect to this tax. Effective immediately.

SB 2044 Whistleblower Act Referendum (Kotowski)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Amends the Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act. Provides that the electors of any school district, public community college district, municipality, municipal corporation, or unit of local government may pass, by initiative petition and referendum, a binding ordinance adopting the provisions of the Act (at present, these entities may adopt the provisions of the Act by ordinance or resolution). Provides the requirements for filing a petition and hearing an objection to a petition.

SB 2124 Community College Jobs Training Bond (Garrett / Link)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Allows a board of trustees of a community college district to enter into an agreement with an employer concerning an arrangement to provide new jobs training program services, including (1) new jobs training; (2) adult basic education and job-related instruction; (3) vocational and skill-assessment services and testing; (4) training facilities, equipment, materials, and supplies; and (5) on-the-job training. Requires the agreement to provide for program costs that may be paid from property taxes, tuition, student fees, or special charges. Allows the board to borrow money and issue and sell certificates payable from a sufficient portion of the future receipts of payments authorized by the agreement to provide funds for the present payment of the costs of a new jobs training program. Provides that the board shall, by resolution, provide for the assessment of an annual levy of a standby tax upon all taxable property within the community college district to further secure the payment of the certificates.

House Resolution 50 Post-Secondary Education Guarantee (Miller)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Resolves that the state of Illinois must guarantee up to two years of post-secondary education or training for all Illinoisans.

HR 97 Sustainability Network (Reitz)**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

Urges the U.S. Congress to fund the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network's request for \$648.6 million from the federal government for the training and development of a green-collar workforce and the creation of green-collar jobs through community college renewable energy and energy conservation projects.

Senate Joint Resolution 8 Higher Education Minorities Task Force (Lightford)**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Commissions a bi-partisan task force on the status of underrepresented minorities in higher education to evaluate the status of traditionally underrepresented populations, specifically African-Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans, in this state's public and private institutions of higher education.

ICCTA ACTION ALERT

August 31, 2009

The Illinois General Assembly concluded much of its business for the spring 2009 legislative session in mid-July. Legislation approved by lawmakers was sent to Governor Pat Quinn for his consideration within 30 days after passage. The Governor has 60 days from the date he receives the legislation to take action on the bills. For most legislation affecting community colleges, the deadline for the Governor to take action was near the end of August. The Governor may take one of four actions on legislation sent to his desk:

- 1) *Sign the bill* - The legislation becomes law and is assigned a Public Act number;
- 2) *Veto the bill* - The bill is sent back to the General Assembly and does not become law unless the General Assembly votes to override the Governor's veto;
- 3) *Amendatorily veto the bill* - The Governor makes recommendations for changes that must be approved by the General Assembly during the fall veto session (otherwise the bill does not become law); or
- 4) *Do nothing* - the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEGISLATION APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

The following is a listing of community college legislation approved by the Illinois General Assembly and enacted by Gov. Quinn. The Governor did not sign any bills that ICCTA opposed, nor did he veto any bills that ICCTA supported.

House Bill 336 **Higher Education Campus Security (Pritchard)**
ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Amends the Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008. Provides that the inter-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional campus violence prevention plan shall also include communication with governmental agencies and contiguous school districts. **Public Act 96-0356**

HB 437 **Community College Health/Safety Tax Bonds (Bieser)**
ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Allows Lewis and Clark and Southwestern Illinois community college districts to borrow money not in excess of \$20 million in the aggregate at any one time if approved by the local board of Trustees and the Illinois Community College Board. Under certain circumstances, a referendum is required to sell the bonds. **Public Act 96-0561**

**HB 461 Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act (Jakobsson)
ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

Provides that each publisher of college textbooks shall disclose, at that time and in writing, to the faculty member or, if applicable, the other adopting entity in charge of selecting textbooks for courses taught at a public institution of higher education (1) the copyright dates of the three previous editions of the college textbook, if any; (2) a description of the substantial content changes made between the current edition of the college textbook or supplemental materials and the previous edition, if any; and (3) the existence and price of alternative formats of the college textbook or supplemental materials. Provides that publishers of college textbooks are required to offer all bundled textbooks for sale as individual unbundled textbooks and supplemental materials. Contains a provision concerning institutional autonomy and academic freedom. Effective July 1, 2010. **Public Act 96-0359**

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HB 615 Cosmetology School Refunds (Coulson)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Amends the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology Act of 1985. In a provision concerning school refund policies, provides that refunds shall be in accordance with the requirements of the school's regional or national accrediting agency, if any, or rules that the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation shall promulgate. **Public Act 96-0506**

HB 725 Sign Language Requirements (Watson)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the School Code to encourage school boards to implement American Sign Language (ASL) courses into school foreign language curriculum. Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. In provisions concerning admissions requirements, provides that ASL may constitute a foreign language for the purposes of meeting those requirements. Allows the governing board of each public university to award academic credit for the successful completion of any ASL course offered or approved by the university, which may be applied toward the satisfaction of the foreign language requirements of the university. **Amendatory Veto**

HB 852 Workforce Development Grants (Davis)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Provides that the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity must make competitive grants to support workforce development strategies based on outlined priorities. Creates the 21st Century Workforce Development Fund Advisory Committee to review, advise, and recommend for approval or denial all grant requests from the Fund. **Public Act 96-0771**

HB 862 Community College Electronic Bidding (Black)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

This ICCTA-initiated legislation provides that electronic bid submissions (except for construction projects) shall be considered a sealed document for competitive bid requests if they are received at the designated office by the time and date set for receipt for bids. Requires electronic bid submissions (except for construction projects) to be authorized by specific language in the bid documents in order to be considered and to be opened in accordance with electronic security measures in effect at the community college at the time of opening. Provides that unless the electronic submission procedures provide for a secure receipt, the vendor assumes the risk of premature disclosure due to submission in an unsealed form. **Public Act 96-0380**

HB 898 Faculty / Staff Freedom of Expression (Jakobsson)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that all faculty and staff members of a university or community college are free to communicate their views on any matter of private or public concern to any member of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of government, state or federal, without notice to or prior approval of the university or community college, so long as they do not represent that they are speaking for or on behalf of the university or community college. **Public Act 96-0147**

HB 899 Political Paraphernalia on Campus (Jacobsson)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that a university or community college may not prohibit any faculty or staff member from (1) displaying political buttons, stickers, or patches while on university or community college property, provided that such display by any member of the faculty in an instructional setting is for a purpose relevant to the subject of instruction; (2) attending a partisan political rally, provided that the employee is not on duty; or (3) displaying a partisan bumper sticker on his or her motor vehicle. **Public Act 96-148**

HB 972 Veterans Day Moment of Silence (Chapa La Via)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that if a public school, university, or community college holds any type of event at the institution on November 11, Veterans' Day, the governing board of the institution shall require a moment of silence at that event to recognize Veterans' Day. **Public Act 96-0084**

HB 1013 Green Buildings Act (Boland)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the Green Buildings Act to require that state-funded building construction and major renovations of existing state-owned facilities must meet certain energy and environmental standards of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) program rating system, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes rating system, or an equivalent rating system. Permits waiver of the standards by the Illinois Capital Development Board or another agency. Specifies the criteria for waivers. Requires the Board to analyze and evaluate the Act's green building standards after the earlier of five years or the completion of 10 Board green projects. **Public Act 96-0073**

HB 1079 Dual Credit Quality (Eddy)

ICCTA Position: SUPPORT

Requires the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education to develop policies to permit multiple appropriate measures using differentiated assessment for granting eligibility for dual credit to students (a dual credit course being a college course taken by a high school student for credit at both the college and high school level). Sets forth standards that institutions of higher learning must meet if offering dual credit courses, oversight and review of dual credit programs, and a statewide longitudinal data system to identify high school students who participate in dual credit courses and track their success in high school and postsecondary education. **Public Act 96-0194**

HB 2235 Faculty and Administrators Salary Reports (Davis)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the School Code and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and community colleges in Illinois. Requires the governing board of each school district, university, and community college to report to the State Board of Education or IBHE, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of all administrators and teachers or faculty employed by the school district, university, or community college district. **Public Act 96-0266**

HB 2253 Community College Police Appointments (Pritchard)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Removes provisions allowing the board of trustees of a community college district to appoint persons to be members of the security department of the community college. Allows instead for the appointment of law enforcement officers and non-law enforcement officers of the community college district police department, department of public safety, or security department. Sets forth requirements and other provisions concerning both law enforcement officers and non-law enforcement officers. Allows the board of trustees to establish regulations that are determined to be necessary for the protection of community college students, staff, visitors, properties, and interests or for the proper maintenance, operation, or development of any community college or colleges under the jurisdiction of the board and to prescribe fines and penalties for the violation of these regulations. Provides that law enforcement officers of a community college district police department must complete the minimum basic training requirements of a police training school under the Illinois Police Training Act. **Public Act 96-0269**

HB 2352 Student Credit Cards (Joyce)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009. Requires that institutions of higher education that enter into an agreement to market credit cards to students pursuing an education, or that allow their student groups, alumni associations, or affiliates to enter into agreements must make a financial education program available to all students. Contains provisions requiring institutions of higher education to disclose certain agreements with credit card companies. Prohibits certain gifts and inducements. Prohibits the distribution of personally identifiable student information for the purpose of marketing credit cards. Provides that the Attorney General may enforce the Act. **Public Act 96-0261**

HB 2573 Human Rights Notices (Mell)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Provides that every institution of higher education shall post in a prominent and accessible location a poster stating sexual harassment laws and policies; that the poster shall be (i) posted and kept posted at each campus in common areas positions easily accessible to all students including, but not limited to residence halls, administration buildings, student unions, cafeterias, and libraries or (ii) posted annually in similar locations with an electronic copy of the sexual harassment laws and policies also sent to each student at the time that registration materials are emailed. **Public Act 96-0574**

Senate Bill 1894 Freedom of Information Act (Raoul)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the Freedom of Information Act. Makes changes concerning: the Act's purpose, policy, and presumptions; defined terms; procedures for responding to requests for disclosure of public records; fees; public body freedom of information officers; denial of requests; exemptions from disclosure; exempted security information; and civil penalties. Effective January 1, 2010. **Public Act 96-0542**

Senate Bill 204 Emergency Building Use (Demuzio)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Requires (instead of allows) a board of trustees of a community college district to make mutually agreed buildings of the college available for emergency purposes, upon the request of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency or the state-accredited emergency management agency with jurisdiction, and to cooperate in all matters with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management agencies, state-certified, local public health departments, the American Red Cross, and federal agencies concerned with emergency preparedness and response. Adds a similar provision for universities. Provides that a school board shall make school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters for all persons; cooperate with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, local organizations for civil defense, disaster relief organizations, and federal agencies concerned with civil defense relative thereto; cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the use of other resources, equipment, and facilities; and cooperate with these agencies and organizations in the construction of new buildings to the end that the buildings be so designed that shelter facilities may be provided. **Public Act 96-0057**

SB 587 County-Provided Student Housing (Frerichs)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the Counties Code. Authorizes counties with a population of 100,000 or less and a public building commission organized by the county seat of the county, to cause to be erected or otherwise provided, and to maintain or cause to be maintained, suitable facilities to house students pursuing a post-secondary education at an academic institution located within the county. **Public Act 96-0622**

SB 1570 Wind and Solar Generation Program (Pankau / Kosel)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act, the Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Coal Resources Development Law of 1997, the State Finance Act, the School Code, and the Public Community College Act. Creates the School Wind and Solar Generation Program to fund wind generation projects and solar generation projects for school districts and community college districts. Allows the Illinois Finance Authority to implement and administer the program. **Public Act 96-0725**

SB 1624 Higher Education Veterans Coordinator (Kotowski)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Requires all public colleges and universities to conduct a survey of the services and programs that are provided for veterans, active duty military personnel, and their families, at each of their respective campuses; sets forth the survey requirements. Requires each public college and university to appoint a Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services on each campus of the college or university that has an onsite, daily, full-time student headcount above 1,000 students; sets forth requirements concerning the coordinator. Provides that IBHE and the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue a best practices report to highlight those programs and services that are most beneficial to veterans and active duty military personnel. Sets forth additional provisions concerning a college's or university's best efforts and the fiscal impact of programs and services. **Public Act 96-0133**

SB 1796 Re-Enrollment of High School Dropouts (Lightford)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Establishes the Illinois Hope and Opportunity Pathways through Education (IHOPE) Program to develop a comprehensive system in this state to re-enroll significant numbers of high school dropouts in programs that will enable them to earn their high school diploma. Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer the IHOPE Program. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall award grants to educational service regions and the Chicago school district from appropriated funds to assist in establishing instructional programs and other services designed to re-enroll high school dropouts. Provides that the IHOPE Program shall provide incentive grant funds for regional offices of education and the Chicago school district to develop partnerships with school districts, public community colleges, and community groups to build comprehensive plans to re-enroll high school dropouts in their regions or districts. Sets forth requirements for programs funded through the IHOPE Program. Provides for an IHOPE Plan, sub-grants, how funding is distributed, state aid, categories of programming, the evaluation of programs, and rules. **Public Act 96-0106**

SB 1828 Longitudinal Educational Data System (Stearns)

ICCTA Position: MONITOR

Creates the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. Requires the State Board of Education, ICCB, and IBHE to jointly establish and maintain a longitudinal data system by entering into one or more agreements that link early learning, elementary, and secondary school student unit records with institution of higher learning student unit records. **Public Act 96-0107**

SB 1883 IBHE Baccalaureate Program Grants (Burzynski)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Provides that IBHE shall implement and administer the Collaborative Baccalaureate Degree Development Grant Program, to help deliver upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by existing public community colleges. Provides that a grant application must be jointly submitted by one public community college and one or more public or private, not-for-profit, four-year colleges or universities. Provides that IBHE shall require that each partnering institution (both the community college and the four-year institution or institutions) must also invest in the partnership. **Public Act 96-0535**

Sen. Resolution 303 Community College System Study (Toi Hutchison)

ICCTA Position: **SUPPORT**

Creates a Task Force on Illinois Community College System Funding for the purpose of reviewing the present community college system and making recommendations to the Senate pertaining to whether the community college system is adequately funded. **Adopted 58-0**

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