

Illinois Community College Trustees Association Action Alert

August 8, 2007

Movement on FY 2008 Budget?

The Illinois General Assembly and the Governor have not yet reached an agreement regarding a state budget for Fiscal Year 2008. The Governor has now called a dozen special sessions to require state lawmakers to meet and resolve the budget issues, but no resolution has occurred.

The Illinois House of Representatives has scheduled a budget hearing for 5 PM this afternoon (Wednesday, August 8). One possible scenario is that the House committee will attempt to approve a Fiscal Year 2008 state budget today, and the full House would vote to send that proposal to the Illinois Senate on Thursday. The Senate could then approve a budget before the weekend. The scenario calls for the possibility that a capital appropriations bill could be developed either soon after a budget is approved or later in the year. These efforts could soon resolve the budget impasse.

The major budget issue for community colleges is the proposed funding level and allocation of any funding increase that is included in a budget agreement. ICCTA is recommending that funds should be added to Credit Hour and Equalization funding.

Community colleges are not immediately impacted by a delay in adopting a state budget. The first portion of a local community college budget that is provided from the state often times arrives at the college during mid September or later. Community colleges receive their state support quarterly during the fiscal year.

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

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