

Illinois Community College Board

**SPRING 2018 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY  
100<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The 2018 spring legislative session adjourned May 31<sup>st</sup> after adopting a bipartisan budget for fiscal year 2019 and enacting a series of measures to strengthen Illinois' higher education system and stem the tide of out migration. This agenda item highlights significant legislation that passed the General Assembly with implications for the Board or the community college system. These bills now go to the Governor for his consideration.

A complete list of tracked bills is included at the end of this summary document.

**2018 Spring Session ICCB Initiatives**

**[SB 2905](#)** (McGuire/Hays)

**Community College Act – Various**

**ICCB Position: Support**

This legislation follows a detailed review of the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805) to identify statutory language that is outdated in either language or processes, programs and statutory functions no longer operational, and areas of ambiguity within the statute. This legislation provides community college administrators, students, and taxpayers with enhanced clarity within the statutes governing community colleges. The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 3 to engage with all stakeholders to align board policies to improve student outcomes and increase access to public information on system effectiveness.

Among the highlights is a provision that the Board may review, approve, and monitor any educational services contract or agreement for academic credit that community colleges enter into. The bill provides that any student outside a community college district (i.e. East St. Louis) may attend any public community college in this State at the in-district tuition rate and requires the Board to pay the college the difference in tuition. The bill clarifies that for tuition purposes, a student shall be classified as a resident of a district after meeting the 30-day residency requirement of that district. Additionally, the bill repeals provisions governing indemnification, deferred maintenance grants, the College and Career Readiness Pilot Program, a directory of graduating vocational and technical school students, and other items.

**Higher Education Work Group Initiatives**

**[HB 4781](#)** (Brady/McGuire)

**College and Career Interest Task Force**

**ICCB Position: Neutral**

This bill creates the College and Career Interest Task Force. Membership of the Task Force includes a representative from each of the public universities, ICCB, IBHE, ISBE, and school districts from across the state. The Task Force shall study the feasible methods by which the college or career

interest data of a high school student in this State may be collected and shared amongst public institutions of higher education. The Task Force is to submit the findings of the study to the General Assembly on or before January 30, 2019.

**HB 5020** (Welch/Bennett)

**MAP Renewal Priority Deadline**

**ICCB Position: Support**

The bill requires ISAC to establish a priority deadline for students renewing their Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant that would guarantee renewal if the student still meets the eligibility requirements. Specifically, beginning with the processing of MAP applications for the 2020-2021 academic year, a renewing applicant who files by the published priority deadline date shall receive a grant, subject to appropriation, if he or she continues to meet the program's eligibility requirements. A renewing applicant's failure to apply by the established priority deadline date does not disqualify him or her from receiving a grant if sufficient funding is available to provide awards after that date. The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education.

**SB 2354** (McGuire/Stuart)

**Degree Advising, Reverse Transfer, and IBHE Tuition Waiver Limits**

**ICCB Position: Support**

Starting in 2019-2020, each public college and university student with 30 academic credit hours completed must disclose their degree programs of interest to their college or university for a possible advisement session. Additionally, the bill provides that the Board of Higher Education may not limit the amount of tuition revenue that a public university may waive.

The bill also requires that IBHE and ICCB develop policies to encourage reverse transfer of credits for any student who has accumulated at least 15 hours of academic credit at a community college and a sufficient number of hours of academic credit at a public university in the prescribed courses necessary to meet a community college's requirements to be awarded an associate degree. Students wishing to reverse transfer earned academic credit shall agree to the exchange of transcript information between each community college and university that he or she has attended and shall submit an application and his or her transcripts to a community college for conferral of an associate degree.

The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education. The bill also aligns with ICCB Goal 2 to contribute to the economic development of Illinois by providing robust workforce training, increasing credential attainment, and closing the skills game through talent pipeline management.

**SB 2927** (McGuire/K. Burke)

**AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill creates the AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program to encourage access and affordability of Illinois public universities. Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, each public university may establish a merit-based scholarship pilot program to award grants to Illinois citizens with qualifying income, GPAs and test scores. Funds would be provided through the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to universities who participate to match institutional dollars. Participation in the

program will be tracked by ISAC and reported back to the Illinois General Assembly. The pilot program is repealed on October 1, 2024.

## **Legislation Effecting the ICCB**

**HB 5547** (Andrade/Martinez)

**Auditor General - Cybersecurity**

### **ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill amends the Illinois State Auditing Act by adding a section on Cybersecurity. The Auditor General shall review State agencies and their cybersecurity programs and practices, focusing mostly on agencies holding large volume of information. Any findings would be included within the applicable State agency's compliance examination report.

**HB 5611** (Andrade/Martinez)

**Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT)**

### **ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill creates the Department of Innovation and Technology Act to codify the changes made in Executive Order 2016-001. Creates the Department of Innovation and Technology and abolishes the Information Technology Office within the Office of the Governor and transfers its functions, personnel, and property to Department of Innovation and Technology. The bill provides for the transfer of information technology functions from specified State agencies, boards, and commissions to the Department of Innovation and Technology and provides for the powers and responsibilities of the Department. The information technology functions of the ICCB are *not* transferred to DoIT; however, the Department will continue to provide information technology services to the Board.

The bill also creates the Illinois Information Security Improvement Act and establishes the Office of the Statewide Chief Information Security Officer within the Department of Innovation and Technology. Creates the position of Statewide Chief Information Security Officer to serve as the head of the Office.

**HB 5814** (McSweeney/T. Cullerton)

**Prompt Payment Interest**

### **ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill provides that for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the State budget shall include a separate line item request appropriating moneys to each State agency for interest due under the State Prompt Payment Act.

**SB 1453** (McCann/Mussman)

**Employment & Economic Opportunity for Persons with Disabilities Task Force**

### **ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill amends the Employment and Economic Opportunity for Persons with Disabilities Task Force Act to add CMS, DJJ, IBHE, and ICCB to the Task Force and adds requirements to the Task Force relative to post-secondary transition of youth with disabilities to employment, post-secondary education and training, community living, and other adult activities. Repeals the Interagency

Coordinating Council Act and amends the Persons with Disabilities on State Agency Boards Act to make a conforming

**SR 1647** (Lightford)

**College Completion Rates**

**ICCB Position: Support**

The resolution recognizes that there are significant disparities in college degree completion rates for low-income and first generation college students and students of color at institutions across the State. Commits to closing statewide racial and socioeconomic degree attainment gaps and institutional achievement gaps and encourages institutions of higher education to implement and expand existing student success efforts that have evidence of improving educational outcomes for low-income and first generation college students and students of color. Urges the State's P20 Council is to update the State's 60 by 25 goal to include equity-focused targets aimed at closing institutional racial and socioeconomic achievement gaps.

The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education. The bill also aligns with ICCB Goal 2 to contribute to the economic development of Illinois by providing robust workforce training, increasing credential attainment, and closing the skills game through talent pipeline management.

**Legislation Effecting the Community College System**

**HB 4242** (McSweeney/T. Cullerton)

**Sexual Harassment Settlements – Public Information**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

When a unit of local government, school district, community college district, or other local taxing body enters a severance agreement with an employee or contractor because the employee or contractor was found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual discrimination, the public body shall publish specified information on its Internet website, if one is maintained, and make available such information to the news media for inspection and copying within 72 hours of the taxing body's approval of the severance agreement. No unit of local government, school district, community college district, or other local taxing body shall incur liability as a result of its compliance with required disclosures, except for willful or wanton misconduct and disclosure requirements do not supersede the confidentiality provisions of a severance agreement.

**HB 4346** (Jones/Harris)

**Black History Course**

**ICCB Position: Neutral**

The bill requires every public institution of higher education and community college to offer a course studying the events of Black History. Allows public institutions of higher education and community colleges to meet the requirement by offering an online course.

**HB 4858** (Pritchard/Syverson)

**Industrial Development Assistance**

**ICCB Position: Support**

The bill amends the current Industrial Development Assistance Law to allow local school districts and community colleges the opportunity to receive grants for the acquisition of land, construction of facilities, or purchase of equipment dedicated solely to the instruction of manufacturing occupations. This program, in its current form, has not been utilized, due to no appropriation of the grant funding. The program was enacted in 1970.

**HB 5122 (Welch/Castro)**

**DCFS – Tuition & Fee Waivers**

**ICCB Position: Neutral**

This bill makes public community college or university tuition and fee waivers available to youth for whom the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has court-ordered legal responsibility, youth who aged out of care at age 18 or older, or youth formerly under care who have been adopted and were the subject of an adoption assistance agreement or who have been placed in private guardianship and were the subject of a subsidized guardianship agreement. The applicant must apply for federal and State grant assistance by completing the FAFSA and the community college or public university that an applicant attends must waive any tuition and fee amounts that exceed the amounts paid to the applicant under the federal Pell Grant Program or the State's Monetary Award Program.

The current DCFS waiver (the state scholarship) program is limited to 53 youth per year. The Department funds a \$511 monthly board payment. Youth in care and youth who aged out at 18+ can already go to community college at no cost as their Pell grant will cover all costs (tuition, fees, supplies) and MAP grant will increase the amount of Pell the student gets refunded to him/her for living expenses (if the student submits FAFSA early enough to get the MAP grant). The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education.

**HB 5247 (Pritchard/Weaver)**

**School Code – Registered Apprentice Program**

**ICCB Position: Neutral**

This bill amends the School Code to allow all high school students aged 16 or older to participate in "registered apprenticeship programs" and waive all non-academic requirements mandated for graduation from a high school. The bill allows apprentices in the program to earn postsecondary credit towards a certificate or degree, as applicable. Finally, the bill requires ISBE to implement rules allowing participation in the program no later than 6 months following the effective date of the Act. The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education.

**SB 35 (Harmon/Welch)**

**Immigration Safe Zones Act**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill creates the Immigration Safe Zones Act. On and after the effective date of the Act, all applications, questionnaires, and interview forms used in relation to benefits, opportunities, or services provided by a State agency or in-State or in-district tuition verification, scholarships, grants, or services provided by a public elementary or secondary school or public institution of higher education shall be promptly reviewed by that State agency, school, or institution, and any questions regarding citizenship or immigration status, other than those required by statute, ordinance, federal law, or court order, shall be removed within 60 days after the effective date of the Act.

The Attorney General by April 1, 2019, in consultation with appropriate stakeholders, shall publish model policies, limiting assistance with immigration enforcement to the fullest extent possible consistent with federal and State law ensuring that the following facilities remain safe and accessible to all residents of this State, regardless of immigration status: (1) State-funded schools, including licensed day care centers, pre-schools, and other early learning programs; elementary and secondary schools, and institutions of higher education; (2) State-funded medical treatment and health care facilities, including hospitals, health clinics, emergency or urgent care facilities, nursing homes, group homes for persons with developmental disabilities, community-integrated living arrangements, and State mental health facilities; (3) public libraries; (4) facilities operated by the Office of the Secretary of State; and (5) courts in this State.

**SB 2527** (Weaver/Swanson)

**School Code – Prohibit Limitations on Dual Credit**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill amends the School Code to prohibit school boards from limiting the number of dual credit courses a high school student may take or the number of credits a student can receive from dual credit courses. Additionally, the bill states that if a school establishes an online learning program for students that the school board may not limit which students can participate or the number of online courses a student may take or the number of credits they can earn.

Generally speaking, these changes may benefit the community college system because the bill opens the colleges up to think outside the traditional face-to-face dual credit model and allows them to look at using an online approach or satellite model to deliver dual credit within multiple high schools at one time. The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education.

**SB 2559** (Stadelman/Wallace)

**Education Loan Information Pilot Program**

**ICCB Position: Neutral**

Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, ISAC shall develop a 3-year education loan information pilot program for use by each public community college and university that enrolls students who are eligible to receive financial aid. The program requires that each public institution that receives education loan information for a student enrolled at the institution shall provide annually to the student or the parent or guardian of the student certain information (i.e. loan mounts, repayment, and interest) relating to the education loans

Under the program. "education loan" is defined as any State or federal education loan or other loan used primarily to finance a postsecondary education and costs of attendance at a public institution of higher education, including, but not limited to, tuition, fees, books and supplies, room and board.

**SB 2838** (Bertino-Tarrant/Manley)

**Dual Credit Partnerships and Faculty Qualifications**

**ICCB Position: Support**

The bill amends the Dual Credit Quality Act to require a community college district, upon the request of a school district within the jurisdiction of the community college district, to enter into a partnership agreement with the school district to offer dual credit coursework in the General Education Core Curriculum. The requirements of the partnership agreement maintain academic control and evaluation mechanisms of the community college. The partnership agreement must

include an identification of fees and associated costs that must be paid for dual credit and requires that these fees be reasonable. Under the bill, ICCB and ISBE are required to negotiate a model statewide agreement to be the default agreement after 180 days as it relates to portions that cannot be agreed upon between the local districts and the community colleges

In addition, the bill provides an avenue for teachers who do NOT meet Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and IBHE or ICCB requirements to be qualified faculty to teach dual credit courses under a professional development plan. The bill also allows faculty that meet the minimum standards to teach dual credit, but does not require that they exceed those standards,

The bill provides that on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act, a school district may not enter into a new contract with an out-of-state institution to provide a dual credit course without first offering the community college district in the district in which the school district is located the opportunity to provide the course. Lastly, the bill creates a dual credit grant program for community colleges, subject to appropriation.

The bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education. The bill also aligns with ICCB Goal 2 to contribute to the economic development of Illinois by providing robust workforce training, increasing credential attainment, and closing the skills gap through talent pipeline management.

**SB 2941 (McGuire/Mayfield)**

**Transitional Math**

**ICCB Position: Support**

This bill includes clean-up amendments to the transitional math section of the Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Act. The changes address details that came up in the transitional math state panel process over the past year with regard to the statewide panel to define transitional mathematics instruction recommendations, transitional mathematics instruction placement and delivery, high school and community college partnership agreements for transitional mathematics instruction, and transitional mathematics instruction statewide financial supports. The bill also expands ISBE's competency-based high school graduation requirements pilot program. This bill aligns with ICCB Goal 1 to smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education.

Of particular significance for the Board, the bill removes a requirement that allows community colleges to submit transitional math courses (offered as a high school course) for reimbursement via ICCB credit hour grants. Rather, the bill allows community colleges to receive reimbursement for these courses, subject to appropriations, in a manner that is consistent with reimbursement rates for community college developmental education courses.

**SB 3604 (T. Cullerton/Kifowit)**

**Government Severance Pay Act**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

The bill creates the Government Severance Pay Act. Under the Act, a unit of government (including community college district) that enters into a contract or employment agreement, or renewal or renegotiation of an existing contract or employment agreement, that contains a provision for severance pay with an officer, agent, employee, or contractor must include a requirement that (1) severance pay provided may not exceed an amount greater than 20 weeks of compensation; and (2) a prohibition of provision of severance pay when fired for misconduct by the unit of government.

[SR 1411](#) (Weaver)

**Dual Credit Week**

**ICCB Positon: Support**

The resolution recognizes March 18, 2018 through March 24, 2018 as Dual Credit Week at the State Capitol.

**Pension Legislation**

[HB 4684](#) (Martwick/Aquino)

**SURS Employer Contribution – Comptroller Intercept**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

This bill enhances the State Universities Retirement System’s (SURS) ability to collect outstanding amounts owed to the System beyond statutory payment periods. The bill authorizes SURS to pursue intercepts of payments from both the State Comptroller and applicable county treasurer for 6% bills, Governor’s salary bills, and other employer amounts owed to SURS by law.

[HB 5137](#) (Martwick/McConchie)

**Optional Supplemental Defined Contribution Plan**

**ICCB Position: Monitor**

This bill provides a low-cost, efficient, and secure optional defined contribution plan under SURS that will supplement existing retirement benefits under Tier 1, Tier 2, and the Self-Managed Plan through voluntary employee and voluntary employer contributions. A similar plan is also established for members under the Teachers Retirement System.

[SB 2954](#) (Aquino/Martwick)

**Corrects the Governor’s Salary Rule**

**ICCB Position: Support**

This is a trailer bill to P.A.100-23 (FY2018 BIMP) regarding SURS employer contributions, requiring the employer (rather than the state) to contribute the employer normal cost of a participant's salary in excess of the Governor's salary (removing the full-time equivalent calculation), and providing that SURS may seek Comptroller intercept of any such amounts owed if not paid within 3 years. The bill makes a similar change to the full-time equivalent salary calculation in the Teachers Retirement System.

The Governor’s salary rule requires employers to pay the employer normal cost (12.46% for FY 2018) on earnings in excess of the Governor’s salary (\$177,500 for FY 2018), as determined on a full-time equivalent basis. The requirement that SURS convert an employee’s earnings to a “full-time equivalent basis” requires SURS to charge the employer normal cost on hypothetical earnings that were never paid to an employee.



## **Fiscal Year 2019 Budget**

### **HB109 (Harris/ J. Cullerton)**

This is the fiscal year 2019 budget. It passed the Senate with a vote of 56-2-0 and the House concurred with a vote of 97-18-0. The budget includes funding of \$38.5 billion from State General funds and \$43.4 billion from other funds for a total state budget of \$103.9 billion.

#### Budget Highlights:

- 2 percent increase for community college and university operations
- MAP grants \$401 Million
- \$400 million increase for K-12
- Funded state employee group health insurance
- \$7.7 billion for capital projects

### **HB3342 (Harris/Steans)**

This is the fiscal year Budget Implementation Bill (BIMP). It passed the Senate with a vote of 54-2-2 and the House concurred with a vote of 100-14-0. The BIMP bill includes pension reforms, fund sweeps, bond sales, and extends the lapse period by one month.

#### BIMP Highlights:

- Begins and inactive vested member buyout (\$41M savings)
- Starts an accelerated pension benefit payment to have automatic annual increases in a retirement annuity, as well as in any benefit payable as a result of his or her death, reduced and delayed in exchange for the accelerated pension benefit payment. The accelerated pension benefit payment is a lump-sum payment equal to 70% of the difference of: (1) the present value of the Tier 1 automatic annual increases in retirement, including automatic annual increases applied to any annuity benefit payable as a result of death; and (2) the present value of the reduced and delayed automatic annual increases in retirement annuity and any annuity benefit payable as a result of death. (\$381.9 M in savings)
- Lowers the six percent salary increase payment to three percent beginning July 1. (\$22M savings)
- Increases capital bonding by \$800M
- Allows for other state fund sweeps for cash flow purposes. There is a payback associated with the sweeps.