

HB1783 ST BD ED-LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT (REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN; SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL)

Provides that the Department of Human Services, in consultation with various State agencies, shall establish a language needs and monitoring program for deaf, hard of hearing, or DeafBlind children. Provides that an advisory committee on language needs and monitoring shall be established.

HB2564 PEN CD-TRS-SALARY INCREASES (REP. DAVE VELLA; SEN. MICHAEL HALPIN)

- Beginning July 1, 2025, overload pay (including summer school) will not count toward that 6% calculation — but only if the district properly certifies it and TRS approves the certification.
- To qualify:
 - The extra pay must be solely for additional classroom instruction beyond the teacher's normal full-time course load; and
 - The compensation must be paid at or below the teacher's regular per-class/per-duty rate based on their current salary and schedule (no inflated stipends).

HB3250 SCH CD-GLOBAL SCHOLAR CERTIFY (REP. JANET YANG ROHR; SEN. LAURA ELLMAN)

Provides that if the provider of the micro-credential or digital badge determines and can demonstrate that a student meets all of the criteria required to earn State Global Scholar Certification, then the school district or nonpublic school shall designate that the student has earned State Global Scholar Certification on the student's diploma and transcript.

HB3408 COLOR VISION TESTING (REP. MARY GILL; SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL)

Requires the eye examination for all children enrolling in kindergarten in a public, private, or parochial school and any student enrolling for the first time in a public, private, or parochial school to include a color vision deficiency examination.

HB3743 SCH CD-RAILROAD SAFETY (REP. MATT HANSON; SEN. SUZANNE GLOWIAK HILTON)

Requires each school district to include in its student handbook for grades kindergarten through 12 railroad safety messaging. Allows a school district to opt-out of the messaging requirement if the school board of the school district determines that the inclusion of such messaging is unnecessary based on local context or the messaging's alignment with curriculum. Effective July 1, 2026.

HB3772 SCH CD-SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (REP. WILLIAM DAVIS; SEN. KIMBERLY LIGHTFORD)

- The necessity of providing the superintendent up to three days to approve suspensions of longer than 3 days. The rationale is to ensure that the approval process does not impede the immediate removal of a student when necessary.
- Removing the definition of a weapon but clarifying that objects other than firearms would only be considered weapons if used to cause, or intended to cause, serious injury.
- Removal of suspension duration being limited to the amount of time a district needs to create a Behavior Implementation Plan (BIP).

HB3860 SCH CD-DEACTIVATE SCH-CONTRACT (REP. BRADLEY FRITTS; SEN. LI ARELLANO, JR.)

Provides that the length of a contract between a deactivating school district that is seeking to send its students to more than one district and the receiving district shall be for 4 (rather than 2) school years, but the districts may renew the contract for a length of time that is mutually agreed upon by the districts (rather than for additional one-year or 2-year periods).

HB4137 EDUC-HOMELESS CHILD-PREVENTION (REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN; SEN. KARINA VILLA)

Amends the Education for Homeless Children Act. Allows a school district to provide for an extended motel stay for a child who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless

HB4239 SCH CD-HIGH SCH COURSE CREDIT (REP. JANET YANG ROHR; SEN. LAURA ELLMAN)

Authorizes school boards with grades 9–12 to allow eligible 7th- and 8th-grade students to enroll in required high school courses, as long as the course is offered by the high school they will attend and is taught by a properly licensed and endorsed teacher.

HB4247 SCH CD-ASTHMA MEDICATION (REP. RITA MAYFIELD; SEN. ADRIANE JOHNSON)

- Defines athletic trainers and coaches
- Adds trainers and coaches to the list of school personnel that can be (not must be) trained to administer undesignated medications
- Adds "practice field or gym" to school locations where a supply of asthma medication may be located (not shall)
- All changes made by the bill are subject to appropriation or available grant funding (although none of it is a mandate)

HB4339 SCH CD-HIGH SCH-REGISTER VOTER (REP. KIMBERLY DU BUCLET; SEN. ROBERT PETERS)

Amends the School Code. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, requires a school district maintaining any of grades 9 through 12 to provide all eligible students graduating from high school with the opportunity to register to vote. Effective immediately.

HB4375 SCH CD-INTERFUND TRANSFERS (REP. JAY HOFFMAN; SEN. CHRISTOPHER BELT)

Amends the School Code. Extends the time period during which a school district other than the Chicago school district may transfer moneys from specified funds for any purpose from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2029. Effective immediately.

HB4379 ADULT CHANGING STATIONS (REP. AMY BRIEL; SEN. LAKESIA COLLINS)

- As amended includes the following:
 - Buildings constructed on or after January 1, 2029 and will not include retro fitting of existing structures.
 - Clarifies that the adult changing stations can be installed in a handicap stall.

HB4397 SCH CD-SCH PSYCHOLOGIST-DEGREE (REP. MICHAEL CRAWFORD; SEN. KARINA VILLA)

Beginning on July 1, 2027. Provides that to qualify as a school psychologist, the psychologist must

- (i) have graduated from an institution of higher learning that maintains equipment, courses of study, and standards of scholarship approved by the State Board of Education with (I) a qualifying master's degree, as determined by the State Board, with the completion of a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours,
 - (II) a qualifying specialist degree, as determined by the State Board,
 - (III) an equivalent degree, as determined by the State Board, with the completion of a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours, or
 - (IV) a higher qualifying degree, as determined by the State Board (rather than with a specialist degree, an equivalent degree with the completion of a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours, or a higher degree in school psychology);
- (ii) have had supervised internship experience in the delivery of school psychological services of a character approved by the State Superintendent of Education on a full-time basis for at least one school year or, if applicable, on at least a half-time basis over 2 consecutive school years (rather than having had at least 1,200 clock hours of supervised experience in the delivery of school psychological services of a character approved by the State Superintendent, at least 600 hours of which were in a school setting); and
- (iii) have such additional qualifications as may be required by the State Board.

HB4534 DCFS-ABUSED CHILD-GROOMING (REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN; SEN. LAKESIA COLLINS)

A licensed substitute teacher seeking employment in more than one school district, a school district's regional office of education or intermediate service center may (rather than shall) collect and, at the request of the licensed substitute teacher, share the information and records concerning that teacher's contact information and employment history.

HB4535 SCH CD-E-LEARNING DAY-ELECTION (REP. MAURA HIRSCHAUER; SEN. RAM VILLIVALAM)

Allows school districts to use verified e-learning plans if they are chosen to serve as a polling place without impacting their emergency days. Provides flexibility to ensure the safety of staff and students.

HB4536 SCH CD-REG SUP INSTITUT-TRAUMA (REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN; SEN. SARA FEIGENHOLTZ)

With respect to the requirement that institutes provide instruction on trauma-informed practices and include the definitions of trauma, trauma-responsive learning environments, and whole child before the first student attendance day of each school year, makes changes to the definitions of "trauma" and "trauma-responsive learning environments". Defines "trauma-informed practices" to include awareness of populations for whom trauma may be ongoing, relational, and developmentally expressed over time. Effective immediately.

HB4577 SCH CD-K-PLAY-BASED LEARNING (REP. LAURA FAVER DIAS; SEN. MARY EDLY-ALLEN)

- "Play-based learning" means either guided play or student-initiated play. In this definition, "student initiated play" means intentional teacher-directed play with activities set up and led by a teacher that are aligned to learning goals or standards, and "teacher initiated play" means child-selected opportunities to build, pretend, create, move, or explore in an environment intentionally curated by a teacher to align with learning goals or standards."

HB4581 SCH CD-SPEC ED TRANSITION PLAN (REP. DIANE BLAIR-SHERLOCK; SEN. DORIS TURNER)

Requires school districts to ensure that students with disabilities and their families are informed about the federally funded Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) program, which helps individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) transition toward employment and financial independence. The program provides individualized counseling, benefits analysis, and support from trained coordinators to help navigate work incentives and connect individuals to employment and vocational resources. By January 1, 2027, informational materials on the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance

program shall be provided to a student and the student's parent or guardian at the initial transition planning meeting convened for the student by the school district and during the student's final year in high school. Effective immediately.

HB4788 SCH CD-CPR-FEMALE MANIKINS (REP. MAURA HIRSCHAUER; SEN. LAURA ELLMAN)

Beginning with the 2029-2030 school year, cardiopulmonary resuscitation training shall include the use of both breasted and non-breasted manikins, which may be provided through the use of chest covers on existing manikins.

HB4859 SCH CD-UNUSED FOOD SHARING (REP. JANET YANG ROHR; SEN. LAURA ELLMAN)

Allows a school district to comply with provisions concerning school unused food sharing plans by implementing a share table. Provides that the school district may develop and follow a policy on standard operating procedures for share tables. Effective August 1, 2027.

HB4862 SCH CD-STAFF MENTAL HEALTH (REP. JANET YANG ROHR; SEN. RAM VILLIVALAM)

Requires all school boards, by January 1, 2028, to establish a formal procedure to support employee mental health. At a minimum, districts must: (1) adopt a clear commitment to staff mental health in the workplace; (2) provide opportunities for employee feedback, including anonymous input (which can build on existing tools like staff meetings or climate surveys); (3) annually communicate available mental health resources and supports to all staff, either through the employee handbook or another accessible format, including state and local resources; and (4) ensure the school board is periodically informed about staff mental health initiatives and programs.

HB5107 SCH SAFETY-PANIC ALERT SYSTEM (REP. NABEELA SYED; SEN. MICHAEL HASTINGS)

Requires school districts and private schools to consider the use of a mobile panic alert system in the development of their school emergency and crisis response plans.

HB5321 SCH CD-TEACHER SALARY-CONT ED (REP. KATIE STUART; SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL)

- Continuing education coursework completed on or after July 1, 2026 that provides salary advancement for classroom teachers based on the completion of graduate level coursework must meet specified requirements
- Nothing in the legislation stops the ability of the collective bargaining agreement to negotiate schedules or compensation structures as long as continuing education

coursework that complies with the provisions of the CBA entered into, modified, extended, or renewed after the effective date of this act

- Nothing in the legislation requires a school district to create a salary advancement pathway where one otherwise doesn't exist

HB5460 EDUC-SCH SOCIAL WORK SCHLRSHP (REP. CAMILLE LILLY; SEN. KARINA VILLA)

Provides that the Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License scholarships may also be known as School Social Work scholarships. Includes, as a qualified applicant subject to meeting the other requirements, (i) a person who is pursuing a clinical social work license or social work license and (ii) a person who will obtain a master's degree in social work from an approved program before enrolling the academic program that the scholarship would support. Allows scholarships to be applied to the payment of tuition and mandatory fees at a private, not-for-profit institution of higher education in the State that prepares students to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License with an endorsement in School Social Work. Provides that a scholarship for a recipient attending a private, not-for-profit institution shall not exceed the maximum grant payable to a student enrolled in the most expensive comparable program of study at a public university in the State. Effective July 1, 2026.

HB5551 SCH CD-VARIOUS FUNDING (REP. DIANE BLAIR-SHERLOCK; SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL)

- Seeks to end the process of districts filing EAV adjustments from past years for recomputation of Evidence-Based Funding. The program is no longer needed after changes to state law enacted in 2021.
- Previously, districts sought the ability to file EAV adjustments that arrived after state aid calculations had been completed. Local losses are now fully recouped and there is no longer a case to be made that the state should offset a portion of local losses.

HB5552 EDUCATION-VARIOUS (REP. LAURA FAVER DIAS; SEN. DAVID KOEHLER)

- **RECIPROCITY:**
 - This allows qualifying educators trained in another state or country who are seeking licensure reciprocity in Illinois to be eligible for a provisional endorsement while they work to meet Illinois testing requirements to obtain their Professional Educator License (PEL).
 - This allows a qualifying educator who was trained in another state or country, passed a content area test in another state, and meets other preparation requirements, to be eligible for licensure reciprocity in Illinois without needing to take an Illinois content area test. All states except for Iowa require a content area test.

- If the applicant has not passed a content test in their state they can begin working in IL on a 2 yr provisional license, giving them time to pass the IL content test
 - No renewals to a provisional license
- **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (AFR):**
 - Public Act 104-0261 included changes to the submission process for AFRs. As part of that, ISBE proposed moving the due date to February 15 and removing the 60-day extension option that districts have to extend the AFR due date from October 15 to December 15.
 - This ISBE Clean UP bill makes the due date October 15 and adds back in the 60-day extension.

SB2427 SCH CD-WIRELESS COMM DEVICE (SEN. CRISTINA CASTRO; REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN)

- "School time" means the time students spend on a school campus during the regular school day, beginning with the designated arrival time for students through the designated dismissal time for students, including instructional time, recess, lunch, and passing periods.
- "School time" does not include a before-school or after-school activity or a student's presence at an off-campus learning opportunity.
- At the discretion of the school district, you may exclude lunch and passing periods for high school students.

SB2749 DHS-GAMBLING DISORDERS

(SEN. JULIE MORRISON; REP. DANIEL DIDECH)

Requires the Department of Human Services to collaborate with the State Board of Education to the extent the Board develops instructional resources for substance use or gambling disorder prevention and awareness that may be used by school districts.

SB2761 SCH CD-TRAINING-SERVICE ANIMAL

(SEN. DORIS TURNER; REP. AMY BRIEL)

Concerning in-service training programs, provides that the instruction on the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, as it pertains to the school environment, includes, without limitation, service animals.

SB2773 PARAPROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR

(SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL; REP. NATALIE MANLEY)

- Requires the applicant to be at least 18 years of age and using the Educator License with Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten through 8 until the individual reaches

the age of 19 years or be 19 years of age or older and otherwise meet the criteria for a paraprofessional educator endorsement.

- Requires the applicant to also meet at least one of the following requirements:
 - (i) hold a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and pass a paraprofessional competency test;
 - (ii) hold an associate degree or a minimum of 60 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or
 - (iii) if applicable, have been issued a short-term approval for paraprofessionals and have been employed as a paraprofessional educator for each year the short-term approval is valid, have paid the required license renewal fee, and have been determined by the school district to have met specified competencies.

SB2802 PEN CD-IMRF-DEATH BENEFIT

(SEN. LINDA HOLMES; REP. LAWRENCE WALSH, JR.)

Increases, except for persons who first retired prior to the effective date of the amendatory Act, the amount of the death benefit from \$3,000 to \$8,000.

SB2836 GOV ACCOUNT AUDIT-TOWNSHIPS (SEN. ADRIANE JOHNSON; REP. BRADLEY FRITTS)

beginning with fiscal year 2027, any governmental unit receiving revenue of less than \$1,400,000 for any fiscal year (rather than less than \$850,000 for any fiscal year) shall sign, copy, and file completed reports under the Act. Provides that, beginning with fiscal year 2027, any governmental unit receiving revenue of \$1,400,000 or more for any fiscal year (rather than receiving revenue of \$850,000 or more for any fiscal year) shall sign, copy, and file completed reports under the Act. Deletes modifications to the definitions of "audit report" and "report". Deletes the definition for "annual financial report". Deletes provisions requiring the governing body of each governmental unit to cause an audit to be made every 2 years of the accounts of the unit to be made by an auditor or auditors.

SB2909 SCH CD-TEACHER EVALUATION-AI

(SEN. CHRISTOPHER BELT; REP. MARY BETH CANTY)

- Prohibits an evaluator from using an artificial intelligence tool to assign a numerical score or qualitative rating for any component of a teacher's evaluation or any evaluation task that requires professional judgment. However, allows an artificial intelligence tool to be used to support the evaluator in administrative tasks.
- A teacher is prohibited from using an artificial intelligence tool to generate evidence of professional practice that will be used by an evaluator to evaluate the teacher's performance; however, an artificial intelligence tool may be used by a teacher to support the teacher in administrative tasks. Makes changes concerning the joint committee requirement. Provides that if a teacher uses an artificial intelligence tool, the name and

specific purpose of the artificial intelligence tool must be disclosed to the evaluator evaluating the teacher.

SB2913 SCH CD-TEACHER EVALUATION PLAN (SEN. KIMBERLY LIGHTFORD; REP. LAURA FAVER DIAS)

Provides that if the parties cannot reach agreement over the decision on whether to incorporate a student growth component into the teacher evaluation plan and there is no collective bargaining agreement that includes or incorporates by reference the use of a student growth component in the teacher evaluation plan (rather than that includes or incorporates by reference the teacher evaluation plan), then the student growth component shall be removed from the teacher evaluation plan.

SB2914 SCH CD-REMOVE/DISMISS TEACHERS (SEN. MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL; REP. ANNA MOELLER)

Changes the current process; allows for the teacher to tell their side of the story in closed session at a board meeting, prior to the board making their final determination. Should the teacher disagree with the board's final determination, they can contest the board's decision through arbitration. A number of school attorneys will likely provide legal opinions once the Governor signs the bill.

SB2918 PARENT-TEACHER ADVISORY COMM (SEN. WILLIE PRESTON; REP. MAURICE WEST, II)

- “Parent-teacher advisory committee” means a committee composed of representation by a school district, its parents, and its teachers.
- Policy review includes the impact of student behavior on students and school personnel. Provides that the criminal and civil offenses committed by students that are reported under the reciprocal reporting system between a school district and local law enforcement agencies includes attacks on school personnel. Removes the provision regarding the suspension or expulsion of a student.

SB3051 SCH CD-UNDESIGNATED GLUCAGON (SEN. JULIE MORRISON; REP. TRACY KATZ MUHL)

Allow a school nurse or trained personnel to provide undesignated glucagon to any personnel authorized under a student's Individual Health Care Action Plan, in accordance with the student's prescriber's order or federal Section 504 plan, individualized education program, or other written accommodations plan, to administer glucagon to the student and to administer undesignated glucagon to a student in accordance with the student's prescriber's order, Individual Health Care Action Plan, or Section 504 plan, individualized education program, or other written accommodations plan that authorizes the use of glucagon.

SB3070 EDUC-FOREIGN LANG ALTERNATIVE (SEN. WILLIE PRESTON; REP. WILLIAM DAVIS)

As a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil entering the 9th grade beginning with the 2028-2029 school year must successfully complete either 2 years of foreign language courses or at least 2 years of coursework that has been authorized by the State Board of Education as meeting the requirements for an approved career and technical education course (rather than requiring the successful completion of 2 years of foreign language courses). Provides that a pupil who satisfies either course requirement is deemed to have satisfied the requirement for one year of music, art, foreign language, career and technical education, or forensic speech. Effective immediately.

SB3224 ILLINOIS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (SEN. DORIS TURNER; REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN)

Changes the name of the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired to the Illinois School for the Blind. Makes conforming changes to the Personnel Code, the School Code, the School Safety Drill Act, the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act, and the MRSA Prevention, Control, and Reporting Act.

SB3361 SCH CD-RELIGIOUS HAIRSTYLES (SEN. MIKE SIMMONS; REP. KEVIN OLICKAL)

- All public and private schools in Illinois can register with ISBE on an annual basis.
- Require registration should include reassurances shall not prohibit hairstyles including but not limited to:
 - religious hairstyles, hair-related religious practices, or facial hair worn in accordance with a student's or employee's sincerely held religious beliefs, observance, or practice, including, but not limited to, uncut hair or sidelocks (known as payot or peyos), or beards, mustaches, or other facial hair

SB3533 SCHCD-TWICE-EXCEPTIONAL STUDNT (SEN. ADRIANE JOHNSON; REP. MICHELLE MUSSMAN)

In a provision concerning twice-exceptional children, changes references from "children" to "students". Sets forth what the suggested best practices for addressing the educational and related needs of a twice-exceptional student, as well as any student who (i) is gifted, talented, or accelerated or would benefit from an advanced academic program and (ii) is eligible for a federal Section 504 plan, may include. Allows a school board to adopt a policy to allow for the development of a written education plan to address the advanced abilities or achievement levels of twice-exceptional students through individualized services, goals, accommodations, and objectives for a student, while continuing to provide services and support for the student's disabilities in all educational settings. Effective immediately.

SB3774 SCH CD-ADMIN WITHDRAW-TRUANCY (SEN. CHRISTOPHER BELT; REP. DAGMARA AVELAR)

Provides that a truant minor may not be administratively withdrawn (rather than expelled) for nonattendance unless he or she has accrued 15 consecutive days of absences without valid cause and the student cannot be located by the school district or the school district has located the student but cannot, after exhausting all available supportive services, compel the student to return to school. Requires a school district to make at least 3 documented attempts to notify the parent or guardian of its intent to administratively withdraw a student prior to withdrawing the student. Effective immediately.

SB4010 PEN CD-TRS-SERVICE CREDIT (SEN. STEVE MCCLURE; REP. PATRICK SHEEHAN)

Lowers the interest rate teachers must pay to purchase optional service credit for prior work in ISBE-recognized private schools, shifting from the actuarially assumed rate (currently 7%) to regular interest (6%). This change may make service credit purchases less than actuarially neutral, potentially creating a negative fiscal impact on TRS depending on how many members buy credit before the June 30, 2028 window closes.