



County Assessment Officers Association

State of Illinois

Legislative and Policy Committee

Legislative Report for June 3, 2019

The Spring 2019 session of the Illinois General Assembly has now adjourned. By the numbers:

- 6,109 bills were introduced; 599 of those (9.8%) passed both chambers of the legislature and have been sent to the Governor for action.
- 162 bills were introduced that would amend the property tax code; 14 of those (8.6%) passed both chambers of the legislature.
- 79 bills were introduced that would directly impact the duties of county assessment officers statewide. The CAOALegislative and Policy Committee met multiple times throughout the session, reviewed each of these bills, and made recommendations as to whether to *support*, *oppose*, or remain *neutral* on these bills. By the end of the session, seven of those (8.9%) passed both chambers.

The CAOALegislative and Policy Committee **SUPPORTED** 10 bills, three of which (30%) passed out of the General Assembly:

- **HB2243** (Marron/Aquino) eliminates dual continuing education requirements for CIAOs, adds the AAS and MAS designations to the qualification list, and provides that all certification of eligibility for election/appointment be made by the Department of Revenue (currently, just CIAO). **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 30, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**
- **HB2489** (Walsh/Barickman) provides that Secretary of State must report all mobile home transfers to the County Treasurer on a quarterly basis. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 20, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**
- **SB1257** (Hutchinson/Zalewski) creates a pilot program where the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption does not need to be renewed annually in Cook County, and preserves the right of downstate CCAOs to decide whether to require annual renewal of this exemption. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 20, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**

The CAOALegislative and Policy Committee **OPPOSED** 35 bills; none of them passed out of the General Assembly.

The CAOAs were *NEUTRAL* on 34 bills, five of which (8.5%) passed out of the General Assembly:

- **HB348** (McSweeney/Link) provides a process for dissolution of some or all Townships in McHenry County, with the Chief County Assessment Office assuming the duties of the current Township Assessors; provides that no more than 90% of township levies can be assumed by the county to undertake those functions. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 15, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**
- **HB3143** (Halbrook) codifies the procedure for a county to change from an elected to an appointed Supervisor of Assessments and vice-versa. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 17, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**
- **SB39** (Link/Didech), which was substantially amended from its original form, creates the Illinois Property Tax Relief Fund, which would be distributed to counties to provide property tax relief based on a formula that includes the number of General Homestead Exemptions as reported by the CCAO. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 30, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**
- **SB1456** (Hutchinson/Zalewski) amends the procedure for establishing a taxable leasehold in municipalities of more than 500,000 persons. **Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 29, and the Governor must take action within 60 days.**

Other legislation of interest

One additional bill that does not (at least not immediately) amend the property tax code or directly impact the duties of CCAOs passed during this session. **SB1932** (Manar/Carroll) creates the Property Tax Relief Task Force, which must:

- Identify the causes of increasingly burdensome property taxes across Illinois,
- Review best practices in public policy strategies that create short-term and long-term property tax relief for homeowners, and
- Make recommendations to assist in the development of short-term and long-term administrative, electoral, and legislative changes needed to create short-term and long-term property tax relief for homeowners.

The task force must make its initial report within 90 days of becoming law, and its final report no later than December 31, 2019. Status: Passed both chambers; the bill must be sent to the Governor no later than June 30, and the Governor must take action within 60 days. The County Assessment Officers Association of Illinois is seeking to have a seat at the table during this process.