



ILLINOIS CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Report

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September 22, 2017

This Week in Illinois

GOV VETOES GEOLOCATION BILL TO PROTECT IL BIZ

Today, the Illinois Chamber applauds Governor Rauner's veto of [HB 3449](#), the Geolocation Privacy Protection Act, [which would have placed significant burden on businesses and consumers throughout Illinois.](#)

HB 3449 would have stifled innovation in Illinois' tech industry, burdened app users, and given Illinois a bad reputation in comparison to other states for enacting more harsh regulations on job creators.

HB 3449 would have required any entity operating in the state that uses geolocation technology to make people agree to long privacy notices, often complicated and cumbersome to the average consumer. Not to mention, an additional layer of regulation on our state's business community.

This bill was brought about as a disclosure law on the use of geolocation information. However, online companies are already subject to robust privacy oversight by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, who has actively enforced privacy and data security protections for over two decades.

While ensuring the online privacy of Illinois consumers is of the utmost importance, the language in the proposed legislation did not provide additional protections in any way. For this reason, no state has enacted a law similar to HB 3449.

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Startups and small businesses play a huge part in Illinois' economy and would have been directly affected by this legislation.

EDGE CREDIT BECOMES LAW

On Monday, Gov. Rauner approved [HB 162](#), the legislation that reinstates and modifies the EDGE tax credit. This bill contains major improvements including additional support and assistance for distressed communities across the entire state.

Among the key components in the EDGE tax credit overhaul is that incentives will encourage companies to expand or move to underserved areas in the state, and eligibility thresholds will be lowered to allow more small businesses to grow in Illinois. The overhaul also implements a Gov. Rauner transparency measure, requiring all EDGE agreements be posted within 10 days of the project being secured in Illinois.

The Chamber applauds the governor for signing this legislation that is a long overdue restoration of EDGE. Gov. Rauner signing this bill, which passed out of the Legislature with bipartisan support, provides Illinois with a real economic development tool vital for the state's growth.

LAST CALL: IL CHAMBER ANNUAL LUNCHEON

If you haven't already done so it is not too late to register for the [Illinois Chamber's Annual Luncheon](#) next Thursday, September 28 from 10 am - 2 pm.

This year's event will start out with a pre-event networking reception presented by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce policy councils beginning at 10 am. At 11:30 am, the annual luncheon will begin with a plated lunch and our keynote speaker and Enbridge Inc. CEO [Al Monaco](#). Attendees will honor the recipients of the Edie Awards, presented in partnership with the Illinois Economic Development Association. These awards are given annually to recognize outstanding development projects that were completed during the previous year in Illinois.

Gov. Rauner and Dept. Gov. Leslie Munger will also make remarks at this year's event.

[To register, click here.](#)

CLAYBORNE, PHILLIPS, CAVALETTO OUT

The continuing barrage of statehouse retirees continued yet again this week. This week's announcements include Senate Democratic Majority Leader James Clayborne (D- E. St. Louis), Republican State Representative John Cavaletto (R - Salem) and Republican State Representative Reggie Phillips.

Adding to the list of House Republicans not seeking re-election include Representatives Mike Fortner (not seeking re-election), Patti Bellock, Bob Pritchard (not seeking re-election), Bill Mitchell (not seeking re-election), Chad Hays (not seeking re-election), Sara Wojicki-Jimenez (not seeking re-election), Steve Andrsson (not seeking re-election), Brian Stewart (running for Senate seat), and Barb Wheeler (not seeking re-election). Senate Republicans include Senators Christine Radogno (resigned), Tim Bivins (not seeking re-election) and Kyle McCarter (self imposed term limits). House Democrats include Representatives Barbara Flynn-Currie (not seeking re-election), Carol Sente (not seeking re-election), Emily McAsey (resigned), Scott Drury (running for Governor), Cynthia Soto (running for another office), Brandon Phelps (resigned), Litesa Wallace (running to lieutenant governor), Juliana Stratton (running to lieutenant governor), Laura Fine (running for state Senate), and Elaine Nektriz (not seeking re-election). Senate Democrats include State Senators Daniel Biss (running for governor) and Bill Haine (not seeking re-election). Also, Attorney General Lisa Madigan will not be seeking re-election in 2018.