



INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL

Newsletter



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The Infrastructure Council is an initiative of the Illinois Chamber that brings together Chamber members with a focus on increasing infrastructure investments in a strategic and thoughtful way to boost the overall business climate in Illinois. Our focus is on the public and private systems that are essential to Illinois businesses.

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It's Super Bowl weekend. I am going with Brady and the Bucs to win after the Chiefs cannot overcome another slow start (sorry Paul). Who do you have?

Committee Updates

The General Assembly is going remote. The House will convene in person this Wednesday, February 10th, to pass rules allowing for virtual committee hearings. For the remainder of the month, both chambers will hold Zoom committee hearings Monday to Fridays. I'll keep you updated as committee hearings are scheduled.

Notable Bill Filings

The following are bills of interest that were filed in the last week. I'd appreciate hearing your thoughts on these items.

[HB 129 \(Mason\)](#)- Requires red light salespersons to local governments to register as a lobbyist.

[HB 245 \(Yingling\)](#) - Increases the electric car rebate to up to \$24,000 per car from the current \$4,000. Removes E85 and other alternative fuel vehicles from subsidy eligibility. Subject to appropriation and paid for by a surcharge on vehicle fleets.

[HB 600 \(Halpin\)](#) - Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a municipality may enter into a contract with a county for engineering services if the contract is for \$2,500 or less.

[HB 636 \(Bourne\)](#) - Reduces the trailer flat weight tax for maximum loads of 3,000 pounds and less from \$118 to \$18.

[SB 117 \(Stadelman\)](#) - Creates the Infrastructure Development Act. Provides that the State Treasurer shall segregate a portion of the Treasurer's State investment portfolio in the Infrastructure Development Account, an account that shall be maintained separately and apart from other moneys invested by the State Treasurer. Allows the State Treasurer to make investments concerning the Infrastructure Development Account. The account would be used to attract, assist, and support quality infrastructure development projects in Illinois.

[SB 120 \(Joyce\)](#) - This bill would allow all municipalities to impose a motor fuel tax. Current law only allows municipalities in Cook this taxing power.

Articles of Interest

Ford a new tech darling https://www.wsj.com/articles/ford-becomes-an-unlikely-tech-darling-11612528836?mod=hp_lista_pos1

National COVID stimulus prospects

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-aud-nw-covid-19-stimulus-checks--20210205-cc52v3vk3jc6vcqz3vvy3jf564-story.html>

Illinois electric vehicle preparedness

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/politics/illinois-lags-in-easing-barriers-for-electric-vehicles-report-finds>

More on remote legislating

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/politics/2021/2/2/22263293/state-senate-democrats-springfield-session-republican-harmon-mcconchie-coronavirus-covid-19>

Amazon and Rivian testing vans

<https://www.chicagobusiness.com/manufacturing/amazon-launches-rivian-electric-van-test>

Deere mentoring four agricultural startups <https://www.wvik.org/post/john-deere-brings-agricultural-startups-midwest#stream/0>

Clark



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