



FIRST READING



ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH UNIT

VOLUME 31, NO. 4

MAY 2018

Adoption Costs Can Be Eased by Tax Credits and Incentives

A recent survey found that adopting a child through a domestic adoption agency or an adoption lawyer can cost around \$40,000. International adoptions can be more expensive, but adoptions through the foster care system are generally less expensive.

The federal government offers an adoption income tax credit to help offset such costs. A federal adoption tax exclusion allows any adoption assistance provided by a parent’s employer to be excluded from the parent’s gross income.

At least 14 states also offer adoption tax credits for adoption costs. At least 6 other states allow state income tax deductions or exclusions for adoption expenses.

Federal Adoption Tax Incentives

Taxpayers whose employers offer assistance for adoption can exclude the value of that assistance (up to a limit) from gross income; taxpayers adopting a child may be eligible for a federal tax credit against adoption expenses that are not reimbursed by employers.

Adoption Tax Exclusion

Under this provision, parents whose employers offer adoption assistance programs can exclude from gross income amounts provided by their employers for adoptions. Any adoption expenses that qualify for the exclusion must be claimed that way first; any that are not eligible for the exclusion may be



claimed using the credit if it applies. Dollar and income limits for the exclusion are generally the same as for the credit (described below).

Adoption Tax Credit

Persons adopting a child under age 18 or a person who is “physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself” may claim a credit against federal income tax for “qualified adoption expenses.” Such expenses include reasonable adoption fees, court costs, attorney fees, and traveling expenses among others. The tax credit may not be used to adopt a stepchild, but can be used to adopt a foreign child.

(continued on p. 2)

Inside This Issue

Table 1: State Adoption Tax Credits in 14 States.....	3
States Seek to Make Sports Safer	5
Table 1: Laws on Concussions in School Sports	8
Addressing Aging Prisoner Populations: Connecticut and California	10
Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly	12

Adoption Costs Can Be Eased by Tax Credits and Incentives

(continued from p. 1)

The maximum credit is adjusted annually for inflation. For 2017 it was \$13,570 per child. Eligibility for the credit phases out for parents with modified adjusted gross income over \$203,539, and ends entirely at \$243,540.

Parents who adopt a child with “special needs” are generally eligible for the full credit for the year the adoption becomes final, regardless of their actual expenses (but subject to the income limits and minus any expenses they claimed for the same child in a prior year). A child has “special needs” for purposes of the adoption expense credit if a state has determined the child (1) cannot be returned to the biological parents and (2) cannot be placed for adoption without assistance because of a specific factor, such as ethnic background, age, being part of a minority or sibling group, medical conditions, or handicaps. Only U.S. citizens or residents can be “special needs” children. When used in this article, “special needs” has the meaning just described unless otherwise noted.

The federal adoption tax credit is nonrefundable (it cannot reduce a taxpayer’s income below zero). Adoption expenses for a U.S. child are eligible for the credit even if the adoption is not completed; expenses for foreign children are eligible only in the case of finalized adoptions.

State Adoption Tax Incentives

Adoption Tax Credits

At least 14 states offer adoption tax credits:

Alabama	Iowa	New Mexico
Arkansas	Kansas	Ohio
California	Mississippi	Utah
Georgia	Missouri	West Virginia
Indiana	Montana	

Some states restrict eligibility for the credit. At least three states require that the parent adopt a special needs child to claim the credit; two other states require that the child be in foster care or in the custody of a state or local public agency before the adoption.

Most state adoption tax credits, like the federal credit, are nonrefundable. Only four states offer refundable adoption tax credits: Alabama, Iowa, New Mexico, and Utah. But many of the other states allow any unused credit to be carried forward to future years.

Table 1 on the next page lists the maximum credit per child and any relevant credit requirements in the 14 states with such credits.

Table 1: State Adoption Tax Credits in 14 States

<i>State</i>	<i>Maximum credit per child</i>	<i>Summary</i>
Alabama	\$1,000	Only for in-state or foster care adoptions. Credit is refundable.
Arkansas	20% of federal credit claimed	-
California	50% of costs incurred; credit may not exceed \$2,500	Adoptee must be (1) a minor, (2) a U.S. citizen or legal resident, and (3) in custody of a state or local agency before adoption.
Georgia	\$2,000	Only for adoptions of foster children that are finalized.
Indiana	Lesser of 10% of federal credit claimed or \$1,000	No carryforward.
Iowa	\$5,000	Credit is refundable.
Kansas	25%, 50%, or 75% of federal credit claimed, plus \$1,500 for special needs adoption	75% of federal tax credit claimed for adopting a Kansas resident with special needs. 50% of federal tax credit claimed for adopting a Kansas resident without special needs. 25% of federal tax credit claimed for adopting any other type of child.
Mississippi	\$2,500	Only for finalized adoptions.
Missouri	\$10,000	Only for adoption of a special needs child. Total cost to the state per year depends on appropriation; may not exceed \$2 million.
Montana	\$1,000	Only for finalized adoptions.
New Mexico	\$1,000	Only for adoption of a special needs child. Credit is refundable.
Ohio	Greater of (1) \$1,500 or (2) actual adoption expenses up to \$10,000	Only for finalized adoptions. Carryforward up to 5 years.
Utah	\$1,000	Only for finalized adoption of a special needs child. Credit is refundable.
West Virginia	\$4,000	Carryforward up to 3 years.

Sources: Ala. Code, sec. 40-18-361; Ark. Code Ann., sec. 26-51-445; Cal. Rev. & Tax Code, sec. 17052.25; Ga. Code, sec. 48-7-29.15; Ind. Code, sec. 6-3-3-13; Iowa Code, sec. 422.12A; Kan. Stat. Ann., sec. 79-32,202a; Miss. Code Ann., sec. 27-7-22.32; Mo. Rev. Stat., subsecs. 135.326(3) and (4); sec. 135.327, subds. 3 and 4; and sec. 135.333, subd. 1; Mont. Code Ann., sec. 15-30-2364; N.M. Stat. Ann., sec. 7-2-18.16; Ohio Rev. Code Ann., sec. 5747.37; Utah Code Ann., sec. 59-10-1104; and W. Va. Code, sec. 11-21-10a.

(continued on p. 4)

Adoption Costs Can Be Eased by Tax Credits and Incentives

(continued from p. 3)

Other States' Adoption Tax Incentives

At least 6 states allow taxpayers to deduct or exempt some adoption-related expenses from gross income. Maximum deductions range from \$2,000 for some types of children in Maryland and South Carolina to \$20,000 in Oklahoma.

Arizona

Adoptive parents may subtract up to \$3,000 in unreimbursed medical and hospital costs, adoption counseling costs, legal and agency fees, and other nonrecurring adoption costs from their gross income. The subtraction may be taken only in the year when an adoption is finalized, but may include costs from prior years.

Maryland

Adoptive parents can subtract the following amounts from their state adjusted gross income:

- (1) \$6,000 for adopting a child who is a Maryland resident with special needs.
- (2) \$5,000 for adopting any other child who is a Maryland resident.
- (3) \$3,000 for adopting a nonresident child with special needs.

- (4) \$2,000 for adopting any other nonresident child.

To be eligible for the subtraction, adoptions of special needs children (resident or nonresident) must be made through a private nonprofit adoption agency or a public welfare agency.

Massachusetts

Adoptive parents may exempt from their adjusted "Part B" gross income (gross income other than interest, dividends, and net capital gains) fees paid to a licensed agency for adopting a child. The exemption can be used even if the adoption is not finalized.

Oklahoma

Adoptive parents can subtract from their state adjusted gross income up to \$20,000 of nonrecurring adoption expenses, including adoption fees, court costs, medical expenses, and some attorney fees, but not including attorney fees for litigating a contested adoption or costs to remodel their home.

South Carolina

Parents who adopt a special needs child from a nonprofit adoption agency can subtract \$2,000 per child from their state taxable income.

Wisconsin

Adoptive parents may subtract from their gross income up to \$5,000 spent in the 3 latest years on adoption fees, court costs, or legal fees related to the adoption. The subtraction is to be taken in the year when a final adoption order is entered. The subtraction can even be used for out-of-state and international adoptions.

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States Seek to Make Sports Safer

News stories in recent years about harm from sports concussions, and occasional attacks by athletes or spectators on sports officials, have focused legislators' attention on the risks of school and other sporting events. This article describes laws of recent years in Illinois and other states on these topics.

Laws on Concussions in School Sports

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated that traumatic brain injuries caused 50,000 U.S. deaths in 2013. An estimated 329,290 persons below age 20 were treated for sports and recreation-related brain injuries in 2012. The rate of emergency room visits with diagnoses of concussion or traumatic brain injury from sports and recreational activities doubled from 2001 to 2012.

All states have laws seeking to reduce injuries and deaths from concussions and traumatic brain injuries in school sports and youth athletic activities. They typically require training for coaches and game officials on recognizing concussions; giving concussion information to parents and student athletes; immediately removing a student suspected of having a concussion from athletic activity; and requiring written clearance to return. Illinois has some of the more comprehensive

laws on this topic. States' laws are summarized below and in Table 1 on pages 8 and 9.

Concussion Oversight or Advisory Groups

At least five states have concussion oversight or advisory groups: Florida, Illinois, Maine, New York, and Texas. Illinois and Texas require (and New York allows) each school to create a concussion oversight team to write protocols for student athletes after concussions. Florida and Maine require a statewide group to oversee concussion management in school sports. Teams in Illinois are to include, to the extent practical, at least one physician, plus an athletic trainer or nurse if the school employs one.

Concussion Training Courses

Illinois is among at least 31 states with laws on concussion training courses. Of those, 27 including Illinois make courses mandatory for some school personnel, such as coaches, game officials, and/or members of a concussion oversight team.

Such courses typically are to include information on signs and symptoms of concussions; the need for proper medical attention; and information on the nature and risk of concussions, including dangers of continuing to play. In



Illinois, licensed healthcare providers on a concussion oversight team must take periodic concussion-related medical education. A training course approved by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) is required for coaches, game officials, and "non-licensed healthcare providers" on a concussion oversight team. High school coaches and athletic directors must get online certification in concussion awareness and prevention every 2 years from an entity that sponsors interscholastic sports.

Most of these states require such courses to be taken at regular intervals. Thirteen states require annual training; 6 including Illinois require courses every 2 years; and Michigan requires courses every 3 years. Connecticut requires any intramural or interscholastic athletics coach to take an initial concussion training course, and a refresher every 5 years. The coach must also annually review current information on concussions provided by the state.

In Ohio, no person can coach in interscholastic athletics without a pupil-activity program permit issued by the State Board of Education. A training course must be passed to get a permit. A person cannot referee in interscholastic athletics without the permit or evidence of

(continued on p. 6)

States Seek to Make Sports Safer

(continued from p. 5)

completing a training course on concussions and head injuries.

Action Plans

An action plan is a procedure to be followed in removing a student athlete from activity if a concussion is suspected. At least 13 states including Illinois say what entity is responsible for developing an action plan. At least 11 states including Illinois list criteria for what to include in the plans.

In Illinois, each school must develop an emergency action plan to address student injuries. It must include roles, means of communication, and available emergency equipment. The plan must be in writing; reviewed by the concussion oversight team; approved by the superintendent (or counterpart at a private or charter school); distributed to personnel; posted conspicuously; and reviewed annually. A student athlete must be removed from athletic activity immediately if the athlete, a coach, game official, athletic trainer, physician, parent, or other appropriate person suspects the athlete has suffered a concussion.

Protocols for Returning to Play or Class

A return-to-play protocol is a set of requirements to be met by a student athlete, parent, or health-care provider before the student

athlete resumes athletic activity. All states except Maine appear to require such protocols. Return-to-learn protocols are requirements or plans to return a student athlete to academic participation after a concussion. At least six states including Illinois have such protocols.

In Illinois, a student athlete who has suffered a concussion and been thus removed from interscholastic practice or competition may not return until he or she has completed the applicable return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols, which are to be established by the school's concussion oversight team; an authorized healthcare provider has given written clearance; and the student and a parent give written consent.

Written Clearance Authorization

A student athlete who sustains a concussion is generally required to get written clearance before returning to athletic activity. Laws typically require that the person giving written clearance have training in concussion management and treatment.

States allow various kinds of persons to provide written clearance for student athletes' return to athletic activity, as shown below. Numbers followed by an asterisk represent states that include Illinois.

<i>Number of states</i>	<i>Persons authorized to provide clearance</i>
25*	Physician
23	Healthcare provider
13*	Physician assistant
12*	Nurse
12	Athletic trainer
9	Psychologist
2	Physical therapist
1	Chiropractor

Cognitive Testing and Monitoring

Laws of two states, Hawaii and Rhode Island, mention cognitive testing and monitoring. Hawaii requires a testing program to be developed by the University of Hawaii and education officials. It must require cognitive testing, continuous data collection, and monitoring of concussions in school athletics.

Schools in Rhode Island are encouraged to have all athletes receive baseline neuropsychological testing.

Required Reports

At least four states require filing of reports on concussions in school sports: Illinois, Maine, Missouri, and West Virginia. An association in Illinois whose purposes include regulating high school interscholastic athletics (such as the IHSA) must require all member schools that have certified athletic trainers to report monthly on concussions sustained by student athletes. Starting this school year, the association is to compile information from such reports into an annual report to the General Assembly.

Penalties

Oklahoma and Pennsylvania authorize penalties for coaches and game officials who do not remove from play a student athlete suspected of suffering a concussion. After a first violation in Oklahoma, the official must take additional concussion training. After a second violation, the official will be suspended from the sport until an appearance before the school governing board.

In Pennsylvania, a coach who does not remove a student athlete suspected of suffering a concussion, or who allows such an athlete to return without written clearance from a healthcare provider, may be suspended for the remainder of the season following a first violation. A second violation can result in suspension for the current and next season. A third violation results in a permanent suspension.

Laws Protecting Sports Officials

At least 18 states have criminal laws protecting sports officials from attack—generally by prescribing higher penalties for attacking a sports official than for a similar act against a person who is not in a protected class: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, and West Virginia. Of those, 13 protect persons working at sports events as rule enforcers, such as referees. Other categories of protected persons include sports officials, persons supervising participants, and school staff members. Two other states have civil laws penalizing attacks on sports officials.

Illinois' penalties for attacking a sports official are two classes heavier than for the same act against a person not in such a protected class. The maximum penalty for assault increases from 30 days in jail and/or a \$1,500 fine to 364 days in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine. The maximum penalty for battery increases from 364 days in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine to 5 years in prison and/or a \$25,000 fine.

Alabama appears to have the strictest penalty; assault on a sports official in the first degree is punishable by up to life in prison and/or a fine up to \$60,000. A better example of the types of penalties imposed by the surveyed states is California, where

the maximum penalty is up to 1 year in jail and/or a fine up to \$2,000. Montana has a maximum penalty of only 6 months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

Times When Officials Are Protected

The times in relation to games when there are increased penalties for attacking officials vary among states. Georgia protects officials immediately before, during, and immediately after a game. Fourteen of the 18 states protect officials while working at athletic events, but only 10 protect officials immediately after they finish their duties. Four of the 18 states (including Illinois for most purposes) do not specify the times in relation to games when sports officials or coaches are protected.

Types of Events Covered

The most common description of the kinds of events to which such laws apply is professional sporting events, with 9 of the 18 states' laws applying to them. Some laws, including Illinois', do not specify the types of sports events to which they apply. The laws with the widest application, in Alabama and North Carolina, apply to interscholastic or intercollegiate sporting events; business, community, or nonprofit sporting events; professional and semi-professional sporting events; and all other organized activities.

(continued on p. 9)

Table 1: Laws on Concussions in School Sports

State	<u>Training requirements</u>		<u>Action plan</u>		<u>Return protocols</u>	
	<i>Has a course</i>	<i>Course is not required</i>	<i>Criteria listed</i>	<i>Developer specified</i>	<i>Return to play</i>	<i>Return to learn</i>
Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Arkansas	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
California	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Colorado	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Florida	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Georgia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Hawaii	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Idaho	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Iowa	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Kansas	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Kentucky	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Louisiana	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Maine	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-
Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Missouri	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Montana	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nevada	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
New Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
New York	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
North Carolina	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
North Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

State	Training requirements		Action plan		Return protocols	
	Has a course	Course is not required	Criteria listed	Developer specified	Return to play	Return to learn
Oklahoma	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oregon	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Pennsylvania	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Rhode Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
South Carolina	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
South Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Tennessee	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Texas	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Utah	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Vermont	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virginia	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Washington	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
West Virginia	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Wisconsin	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
Wyoming	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

States Seek to Make Sports Safer

(continued from p. 7)

Civil Laws Protecting Sports Officials

Two states (Minnesota and Oregon) authorize civil sanctions for attacks on sports officials. Minnesota law authorizes the board of directors of the Minnesota State High School League to ban anyone involved in an assault on a sports official at an interscholastic activity from attending such activities, and authorizes

school boards to ban offenders from activities sponsored by the school district or in which it participates—in each case for up to 12 months. An Oregon law enables a sports official to receive (in addition to any other damages that may be legally available) an award of \$500 to \$1,000 upon proving several criteria, including that the defendant intentionally subjected the sports official to offensive physical contact. A

successful plaintiff in such a suit is also to be awarded reasonable attorney fees.

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Addressing Aging Prisoner Populations: Connecticut and California

About 285,000 prisoners who are 50 or older are in state and federal custody. They cost some \$16 billion annually to house—about 20% of total state and federal correctional spending. They can cost two to four times as much per person to house as younger prisoners. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) projects that there will be at least 400,000 prisoners 55 or older by 2030.

This article discusses the impact that older prisoners have on state prison populations and costs, particularly medical costs, and innovative methods that Connecticut and California have used to address the problem. (It does not address other methods states use to deal with older prisoners, such as laws allowing some prisoners to be paroled for medical or age-related reasons.) In this article, an “older” prisoner means one who is at least 50 unless otherwise specified.

Older Prison Populations and Costs

Populations

Prison populations are growing faster than the general population. From 1980 to 2010, the number of state and federal prisoners rose almost 400% while the U.S. population rose only 36%. At the end of 2016, Illinois had

7,918 older prisoners—about 18% of its prison population.

Reasons for Increase

The growth in older prisoners likely has two major causes: (1) longer sentences and (2) more people sentenced at older ages.

Criminal justice reform advocates say that policies such as “three strikes” laws, mandatory minimum sentences, and parole restrictions keep people in prison longer. During the peak “tough on crime” period (from 1986 to 1995) the number of sentences of at least 20 years issued tripled.

Also, more people are being sentenced to prison at older ages. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reports that people who were at least 55 when sentenced to state prison rose from 6,300 in 1993 to 25,700 in 2013, while the number under 25 who were sentenced to prison fell 11%.

Healthcare Needs

Criminal justice reform advocates claim that prisoners age faster than the general population, becoming “old” sooner. Reasons likely include:

- Poor health and nutrition

- Lack of access to health care before prison
- Higher rates of substance abuse
- Stress while in prison
- Injuries from fights

Older prisoners are more likely than the general public at the same age to have chronic health conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure, hepatitis C, diabetes, dementia, or hearing and vision loss.

Higher Costs

Older prisoners often need more care and specialized accommodations. The ACLU estimates that nationally, housing and care for older prisoners can cost an average of about twice as much as the average costs for all prisoners. In 2009, California spent more than \$42 million on 32 chronically ill prisoners (an average of about \$1.3 million each), versus about \$48,000 for a “regular” inmate.

Problems Related to Housing Aging Prisoners

Older prisoners also present logistical problems for prisons. Few prisons are designed for persons with limited mobility, cognitive impairment, or serious medical problems. Older prisoners may have trouble with routine parts of prison life, such as getting from a cell to the dining hall,

using a bunk bed, and responding to orders from guards.

Prisoners with cognitive impairments such as dementia also present problems. They may wander into other prisoners' cells, provoking fights. They are often unable to comply with orders from prison staff, are more likely to be abused by other prisoners, and may have difficulty remembering how to navigate the prison environment. Prisons often must add staff to help aging or cognitively impaired prisoners with daily activities.

Connecticut

Some states have tried to transfer older or disabled prisoners to private nursing homes where they could be cared for at lower cost while remaining in custody. But those states have had difficulty finding facilities that will accept prisoners. As an alternative, Connecticut contracted with a commercial nursing home company to open a home primarily for persons on nursing home release (medical parole) who suffer from terminal conditions and are unlikely to endanger the public. It also accepts patients from the state mental hospital and members of the general public.

Connecticut is the only state to have won approval from the federal Medicare & Medicaid agency to use Medicaid funds to house parolees in a nursing home. The federal agency initially denied it a license to operate as a Medicaid-eligible facility because state prisoners are ineligible for Medicaid

unless their care is provided outside of prison. Medical parole in Connecticut is for persons with terminal and/or severely debilitating health issues; but it is possible that they might recover and be returned to prison. Therefore, the federal agency considered prisoners on medical parole as still in custody. However, in late 2016 the federal agency reversed itself and made the facility eligible for Medicaid funding. Medicaid covers half the cost of caring for the parolees, which is projected to save the state \$5 million annually.

Program Results

Connecticut's facility is too new to have any research published about its effectiveness, but some early benefits have been reported. As of April 2017, there had been no reported criminal incidents connected with the facility, and program advocates claim that the facility is able to offer better care at lower costs than prison infirmaries. However, the facility has faced some resistance. At least four lawsuits have been filed against it by local residents and a nearby town, claiming zoning violations and adverse effects on property values. One lawsuit was dismissed, but the other three were still pending as of early 2017. More generally, some criminal justice advocates say that eligibility for medical parole programs is too restrictive and that it often takes too long to process applications, reducing the benefits for gravely ill inmates.

California

Aging prisoners with cognitive disorders such as dementia present special challenges to prisons. At least one state (California) is training some healthy prisoners to care for others with cognitive disorders. The main program is at the California Men's Colony (CMC) unit. Staff use training videos provided by the Alzheimer's Association to train prisoners to serve as aides to and advocates for those with cognitive impairments. They also get extensive on-the-job training from other caretakers.

To be considered for the Gold Coat program (as it is called), a prisoner must have a clean record for at least 5 years and be endorsed by prison staff. Those accepted begin a 3-month probationary period. They are paid \$36 per month for 156 hours—although many volunteer for additional hours.

The program has existed for about 20 years at CMC. In 2017, six caretakers assisted about 60 patients; in the past, up to 12 caretakers have assisted as many as 100 patients. Since 2010, 15 caretakers have been paroled and nine left the program due to moving to other prison jobs, disciplinary issues, or failure to meet required standards during the probationary period.

Caretaker Responsibilities

The caretakers assist with daily living tasks and provide a broad

(continued on p. 12)

Addressing Aging Prisoner Populations: Connecticut and California

(continued from p. 11)

range of social, behavioral, and healthcare services. They assist with daily tasks such as feeding and personal hygiene, and protect vulnerable patients from other prisoners. They escort patients to medical appointments, help complete forms and personal letters, and provide companionship. They serve as intermediaries among patients, medical staff, and other prison staff. They meet with prison staff weekly to review existing dementia cases and alert staff to other prisoners who may have dementia.

Program Results

Program advocates and prison staff say the program benefits

caretakers, patients, and the prison. A CMC psychologist reported that the program:

- Keeps those with dementia in the general population longer, helping them stay healthy and active.
- Reduces disciplinary issues and interpersonal conflicts caused by patients with dementia.
- Decreases victimization of patients with dementia.
- Reduces prison costs.
- Provides caregivers with rehabilitative skills and experiences.

The program saves money by reducing the number of trained staff needed to care for patients with dementia and keeping them out of expensive hospital units. Since few nursing homes accept prisoners, advocates say the program helps prisons give better care at lower costs. It also helps reduce fighting due to patients wandering into wrong cells, victimization by other prisoners, and prison guards mistaking dementia-related behavior for disciplinary problems.

Caretakers report that they develop great patience, tolerance, and empathy working with inmates with dementia. They also report that if later paroled, they are interested in using the skills they have learned in employment.

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Research Librarian

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

The Legislative Research Unit staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly. Legislators may receive copies of entire reports by sending the enclosed form to the State Government Report Distribution Center at the Illinois State Library. Abstracts are published quarterly. Legislators who wish to receive them more often may contact the executive director.

Aging Dept.

Annual report, FY 2015

Overviews agency appropriations, including \$1,115,397 FY 2015 budget, and summarizes services funded by Older Americans Act. Describes Department's two volunteer programs: Foster Grandparents Program and Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Community Care Program (\$962,133 of

its budget) includes adult day services, emergency home response services, in-home services, comprehensive care coordination, choices for care, and money management. Department funds 5 other programs: adult protective services, long-term care, benefit access, senior health insurance, and awards and recognition programs. (20 ILCS 105/7.09(2); undated, rec'd Aug. 2017, 13 pp.)

Home-delivered meals report, FY 2017

About 17,972 older adults received home-delivered meals per day. About 2,500 older adults were denied home-delivered meals for lack of funding in FY 2016; by the time of the report, 1,370 older adults were on a waiting list. Providers would need about \$2.9 million more to serve the 2,500 denied meals and

\$2.9 million more to serve those on waiting list. About 2,560 potential recipients lived in unserved areas. Also reports on congregate meals and meal information by service area. (20 ILCS 105/4.07; Jan. 2017, rec'd July 2017, 78 pp.)

Respite Services report, FY 2017
Department receives federal funds to offer respite care. State funds have not been appropriated. An estimated 2,215 persons received over 107,065 hours of respite services in FY 2016, up from 2,182 in 2015. (320 ILCS 10/12; Feb. 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 9 pp.)

Ageing, Healthcare and Family Services, Human Services, and Public Health Depts.

Annual report on serving minority seniors, FY 2016

Profiles Illinois' minority elderly and state programs for them. Ageing Dept. provided services under Older Americans Act to 505,900 persons 60+. DHFS paid \$7.4 billion for 91.5 million Medicaid services (based on claims filed and processed in FY 2016); 31% of services and 28% of spending were for the elderly. Minority elderly persons received 40.6% of elderly services (39.3% of elderly expenditures). DHS provided rehabilitation services (residential or vocational) to 28,912 elderly persons (41.01% black, 5.48% Hispanic, 1.3% Asian, and 2.33% other minorities); and other services related to health benefits, nutrition, and mental health. IDPH funded and oversaw programs (focused on minority communities) addressing AIDS and HIV, refugee health, suicide, Alzheimer's, tobacco use, and women's health. (20 ILCS 105/4.06; undated, rec'd Dec. 2017, 43 pp.)

Attorney General

Automated Victim Notification (AVN) System report, 2017
AVN informs victims, witnesses, family, police, and others by phone, e-mail, or text messages of changes in prisoner custody and case status. It had 368,730 active registered users by mid-October 2017. During FY 2017, 1,119,008 contact attempts were made by phone, 205,898 by e-mail, and 129,280 by text messages. Crime victims can search offenders' custody status and register for notice of change on the VINELink (Victim Information and Notification Every day) website. (725 ILCS 120/8.5(g)(2); Oct. 2017, rec'd Nov. 2017, 4 pp.)

Auditor General

Program Audit of DHS Inspector General, FY 2017
FY 2017 audit is compared to the FY 2010 audit. In FY 2017 the OIG had jurisdiction over 14 DHS facilities and 4,552 program sites (up 31% from FY 2010); received 3,698 reports of abuse and neglect (up 50%); and closed 3,601 investigations (up from 2,162). OIG's rate of substantiating cases was 13% (up from 12%), and it completed 50% (down from 85%) of closed cases within the required 60 workdays. Problems include long periods to review actions by supervised agencies and facilities, low membership on Quality Care Board, and lack of documentation for required investigator training. Includes exhibits, methods, and recommendations. (20 ILCS 1305/1-17(w); Dec. 2017, rec'd Jan. 2018, 56 pp. + 5 appendices)

State Actuary report on pension systems, 2017

Reports actuarial assumptions and valuations of 6 state-funded retirement systems. Interest rate and

inflation assumptions used to calculate state contributions to the systems were found reasonable except for a recommendation that Chicago Teachers' Board consider lowering both its interest rate and its wage inflation assumptions; it did so. Required state contributions are \$4.47 billion to TRS, \$1.66 billion to SURS, \$2.17 billion to SERS, \$140.5 million to JRS, \$23.2 million to GARS, and \$228.0 million to Chicago Teachers' Fund—totaling \$8.68 billion. (30 ILCS 5/2-8.1(c); Dec. 2017, rec'd Feb. 2018, 228 pp. + 3 appendices)

Board of Higher Education

Annual report on public university revenues and spending, FY 2016

Illinois public universities received about \$6.15 billion (down from \$6.93 billion in FY 2015) and spent \$6.71 billion (down from \$6.98 billion). Tuition remained the largest source of revenue; state support shrank from 17.5% to 5.8%. Total spending declined 4.4% in 2016 dollars, using Consumer Price Index, over last 5 years. Tables give extensive data on each institution. (30 ILCS 105/13.5; Oct. 2016, updated & rec'd April 2017, 3 pp. + 7 tables, 9 figures, 5 appendices)

Public university tuition and fee waivers, FY 2017

Public universities granted 43,755 waivers worth \$467 million in FY 2017. By value, 26.3% of waivers in FY 2017 went to undergraduate and 73.7% to graduate students; 87.7% were discretionary. Gives statistics by university. (110 ILCS 205/9.29; Dec. 2017, rec'd Jan. 2018, 3 pp. + 3 tables, 2 appendices)

(continued on p. 14)

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 13)

Central Management Services Dept.

Recycling and recycled paper procurement update, FY 2017

CMS ensured recycling and disposal of 43,978 pieces of state electronic equipment. Paper recycling vendors recycled 8.8 million lbs. About 56% of paper products bought by CMS for state agencies came from recycled products. Lists other achievements. (415 ILCS 20/3(j); issued & rec'd Nov. 2017, 6 pp.)

Children and Family Services Dept.

Inspector General's report, FY 2017

Criteria for OIG review were met in 108 child deaths, leading to 10 full investigations. Hotline took 851 calls; 107 were requests for investigation. Gives death and serious injury investigation summaries and recommendations, and DCFS responses. Provides 18-year summary of each child's status with DCFS at time of death and whether death was natural, accident, homicide, suicide, or undetermined. Inspector General reports on organizational harms and failures, and offers systemic recommendations in areas including child protection, error reduction, and personnel. Lists past years' recommendations and status, and summaries of employee discipline. (20 ILCS 505/35.5(h); issued & rec'd Jan. 2018, 200 pp. + 2 appendices)

Commerce and Economic Opportunity Dept.

Bilingual employee report, 2017

Department had 5 bilingual employees; all speak Spanish. (5 ILCS 382/3-20; March 2017, rec'd Aug. 2017, 2 pp.)

Build Illinois revolving funds, FY 2017

On June 30, 2017, Illinois Capital Revolving Fund had \$2.9 million; Large Business Attraction Fund \$1.9 million; and Illinois Equity Fund \$803,954. (30 ILCS 750/9-9 and 750/10-9; issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 6 pp.)

Enterprise Zone, River Edge Redevelopment Zone, and High Impact Business Tax Incentives annual report, 2015

DCEO is authorized to designate 97 enterprise zones. In 2015, Enterprise Zone Board received 66 applications for enterprise zone designation and approved 49. Enterprise Zone, High Impact Business, and River Edge Redevelopment Zone incentives caused \$132.3 million in forgone state revenues in 2015. Businesses getting incentives reported investing \$1.25 billion and losing 1,526 jobs. (20 ILCS 655/6; issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 29 pp.)

Enterprise Zone, River Edge Redevelopment Zone, and High Impact Business Tax Incentives annual report, 2016

In 2016, Enterprise Zone Board received 12 applications for enterprise zone designation and approved 6. Enterprise Zone, High Impact Business, and River Edge Redevelopment Zone incentives caused \$112.3 million in forgone state revenues in 2016. Businesses getting incentives reported investing \$1.02 billion and creating 967

jobs. (20 ILCS 655/6; issued & rec'd Nov. 2017, 19 pp. + charts, tables)

High Impact Business designation HillTopper Wind Power, LLC was designated a High Impact Business, allowing building material sales tax exemptions for up to 20 years. (20 ILCS 655/5.5(h); issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 2 pp.)

High Impact Business designation Walnut Ridge Wind, LLC was designated a High Impact business, allowing building material sales tax exemptions for up to 20 years. (20 ILCS 655/5.5(h); issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 2 pp. + 1 map)

Illinois Film Office quarterly report, April-June 2017

An estimated 4,230 technical crew and office, 724 talent, and 3,964 extra jobs were created or retained. Film production brought in \$78 million in spending to Illinois. Overall crew and production office staff racial diversity rose from 14% when program began to 29%. (35 ILCS 16/45(b); undated, rec'd Sept. 2017, 2 pp.)

Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Pilot Program, 2016

Only one hotel has received tax credits under the program: Peoria's Pere Marquette Hotel. It got \$10 million in tax credits and submitted a 2% issuance fee to DCEO. (35 ILCS 30/25; Dec. 2016, rec'd Oct. 2017, 4 pp.)

Live theater tax credit report, July-Sept. 2017

Lists no new jobs, vendor spending, or tax credits in the quarter, so no human infrastructure diversity assessment was made. (35 ILCS 17/10-50(b); undated, rec'd Nov. 2017, 1 p.)

State Mandates Catalog, 2017
Describes and categorizes state mandates on local governments (except school and community college districts) in 87th through 100th General Assemblies. Lists Public Acts imposing costs on local governments. Lists each mandate; type of government affected; supervising agency; and statutory citation. Has cost estimates for some entries, and whether mandates are reimbursable. (30 ILCS 805/7(c); undated, rec'd Jan. 2018, 289 pp.)

Commerce Commission

Communications Markets in Illinois, 2017

Gives data reported to Commerce Commission and FCC on competition in basic local phone service and broadband service deployment. Illinois had 4.2 million landline subscribers, down from over 9 million in 2001. It had 13.8 million wireless accounts; 53% of adults lived in homes with only wireless service. Illinois providers had 15.1 million broadband customers. (220 ILCS 5/13-407; issued & rec'd Sept. 2017, 29 pp. + 2 appendices)

Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act's Infrastructure Program and Performance-Based Formula Rate report, 2017

Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act allows utilities to use performance-based formula rate if they make specified infrastructure and customer assistance investments. ComEd and Ameren Illinois, the only participating utilities, are on track for investment requirements. From mid-2011 to mid-2017, ComEd residential customers received average utility rate decrease but Ameren Illinois customers had an increase (in each

case less than 2.5% per year). (222 ILCS 5/16-108.5(h); issued & rec'd Dec. 2017, 7 pp.)

Natural gas markets development, 2017

ICC certified 44 alternative gas suppliers, up from 41 last year. Illinois has four utility service territories, served by Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas, North Shore Gas, and Ameren Illinois; 3 allow residential and small commercial customers to pick suppliers. Makes no recommendations. (220 ILCS 5/19-130; issued Oct. 2017, rec'd Sept. 2017, 17 pp.)

Transportation Regulatory Fund, FY 2017

Fund had income of \$14.1 million (\$10.1 million for motor carriers and \$4 million for railroads) and spent \$10.1 million (\$4.7 million for motor carriers and \$5.4 million for railroads). (625 ILCS 5/18c-1604; issued & rec'd Nov. 2017, 9 pp.)

Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability

Budget summary, FY 2018

In July 2017, General Assembly overrode Governor's veto to pass FY 2018 budget. Total FY 2018 appropriations were almost \$98.6 billion—\$2.2 billion (2.1%) less than FY 2017. Total appropriation of General Funds rose 8.4%. Budget reflects income tax increases expected to increase revenues about \$5.5 billion per year. Also reports on SERS members by agency; State Employees' Group Insurance; Medicaid; education funding; pension laws; state-funded retirement systems; state debt and credit rating; and special fund transfers. (25 ILCS 155/3(12); Sept. 2017, rec'd Dec. 2017, 344 pp.)

Wagering in Illinois, 2016 update
State tax revenues from wagering were \$1.229 billion, up 3.8% from FY 2015. Gaming revenue sources were 56.5% lottery, 22.5% riverboat casinos, 20.5% video gaming, and 0.5% horse racing. Video gaming revenues rose \$56 million, and lottery transfers \$5 million. Riverboat transfers declined \$15 million; horse racing transfers declined \$1 million. Total lottery sales rose 0.6%, mainly due to Powerball sales. The number of video gaming terminals grew from 20,730 to 23,891; the largest number are in Cook County (3,856). Casino riverboat admissions fell 4.1% and gross receipts fell 2.1% overall. Horse racing's downward trend was expected to continue due to two racetracks' closure at 2015 yearend. (S. Res. 875 [1991]; issued & rec'd Sept. 2016, 82 pp.)

Wagering in Illinois, 2017 update
State tax revenues from wagering were \$1.31 billion, up 7.9% from FY 2016. Total gaming revenues were 56.3% lottery, 22.6% video gaming, 20.6% riverboat casinos, and 0.5% horse racing. Video gaming rose \$44 million. Lottery transfers rose \$58 million. Riverboat transfers declined \$7 million; horse racing transfers stayed only \$6 million. Total lottery sales fell 0.5%, mostly reflecting Powerball sales. The state was still evaluating the single bid submitted for new lottery manager. Casino riverboat admissions fell 5.8%; gross receipts fell except at Des Plaines and Aurora. Illinois had 26,873 video gaming terminals. (S. Res. 875 [1991]; Sept. 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 82 pp.)

(continued on p. 16)

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 15)

Corrections Dept.

Quarterly report, July 2017

On May 31, 2017, adult facilities had 42,969 residents—31% over rated capacity but 19% below bed space for 53,077. That was projected to fall to 40,899 by June 2018. Adult transition centers had 757 (7 over rated capacity but 258 below bed space). Enrollment in educational, vocational, and life skills programs is listed by institution and month. No capital projects were funded. (730 ILCS 5/3-5-3.1; July 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 13 tables)

Quarterly report, Oct. 2017

On August 31, 2017, adult facilities had 42,654 residents—31% over rated capacity but 22% below bed space for 54,474. That was projected to fall to 40,553 by September 2018. Adult transition centers had 598 (152 below rated capacity and 417 below bed space). No capital projects were funded. (730 ILCS 5/3-5-3.1; issued Oct. 2017, rec'd Nov. 2017, 13 tables)

Educational Labor Relations Board

Annual report, FY 2017

Board handled representation, unfair labor practice, and mediation cases. There were 75 representation cases filed in FY 2017; Board agents mediated 5 cases. There were 192 charges of unfair labor practices filed; Board took action on 68. There were 14 impasse proceedings, 6 resulting in strikes. Gives school name, union, date filed, and strike date

and duration of all impasse proceedings. Lists major Board and court cases. (115 ILCS 5/5(j); issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 22 pp.)

Employment Security Dept.

Bilingual frontline staff, FY 2017

IDES had 137 bilingual frontline employees in April 2017. Their languages were Spanish (129), Polish (5), Chinese (2), and hand communication (1). Lists the employees, job titles, and descriptions. (5 ILCS 382/3-20; April 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 60 pp.)

Executive Inspector General

Bilingual employees, 2017

Executive Inspector General's office had 6 bilingual employees; 5 spoke Spanish and 1 spoke French and Polish. (5 ILCS 382/3-20; March 2017, rec'd Aug. 2017, 3 pp.)

Governor's Office of Management and Budget

Grant Accountability and Transparency Act report, 2017

Grant Accountability and Transparency Unit (GATU) is to establish uniform administrative and audit requirements for grants to provide uniformity and guidance throughout grant life cycles. In 2016, GATU developed automated grantee registration, prequalification, and risk assessment; centralized negotiation of indirect cost rates between agencies and grantees; and implemented Catalog of State Financial Assistance and Illinois Stop Payment List. The Catalog recorded over 46,800 grant awards; Stop Payment List contained 974 entities by Dec. 2016. GATU estimates it saved state about \$7.8 billion in 2016. (30 ILCS 708/95; Jan. 2017, rec'd May 2017, 35 pp. + 3 appendices)

Human Services Dept.

Inspector General's report on abuse and neglect of adults with disabilities, FY 2017

The OIG received 3,694 allegations of abuse or neglect in FY 2017. Actions included closing 3,600 allegation investigations; finding 470 allegations substantiated; recommending administrative action in 1,245 cases; making unannounced site visits to all 14 DHS mental health or developmental disabilities facilities; referring 70 facility or community agency employees to the IDPH Health Care Worker Registry for substantiated allegations; and training facility and community agency staff. (20 ILCS 1305/1-17(v); Nov. 2017, rec'd Jan. 2018, 31 pp.)

Insurance Dept.

Insurance cost containment report, 2017

Illinois policyholders paid \$24.3 billion in direct written premiums in 2016. Losses divided by direct earned premiums declined from 56.4% in 2015 to 56.0% in 2016. Total written premiums for homeowners' coverage were \$3.4 billion, up 1.9% from 2015. Total written premiums for medical malpractice coverage were \$376 million, up 2.7% from 2015. Medical malpractice losses as a percentage of earned premiums rose in 2016. (215 ILCS 5/1202(d); June 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 38 pp. + appendices)

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

Annual report, 2016

JCAR reviewed 319 rulemakings: 267 general, 22 emergency, 7 peremptory, 15 exempt, 7 required, and 2 expedited corrections. Lists and summarizes

major JCAR review in 2016; also has history of rulemakings, JCAR objections, and court cases since 1978. (5 ILCS 100/5-140; Feb. 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 58 pp.)

Labor Relations Board

Illinois Police Training Act semi-annual report, July-Dec. 2017
Board had no verified complaints, investigations, or officers decertified under the Act. (50 ILCS 705/6.1(r); issued & rec'd Jan. 2018, 1 p.)

Natural Resources Dept.

Summary of results of Executive Order 17-01
The Executive Order abolished the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency; created the Division of Historic Preservation within DNR; and transferred some IHPA functions and resources to DNR (excluding those related to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum). Discusses transition of Division of Historic Preservation to DNR. Recommendations include amending and reviewing relevant laws and regulations, and more funding. (Exec. Order 17-01; issued Dec. 2017, rec'd Jan. 2018, 6 pp.)

Public Health Dept.

Family Practice Residency Act annual report, 2016
Department can give (1) grants to family practice residency programs, (2) scholarships to medical students pursuing primary care specialty, and (3) loan repayment options to primary care physicians serving Illinois' underserved areas. No grants or repayment options were awarded in 2016 due to lack of funds. Scholarships to medical students pursuing primary care were awarded from FY 1979 to FY 2010; none have been

awarded since then due to lack of funds. In 2016, 28 scholarship recipients were fulfilling the service requirement in underserved areas (10 in rural areas and 18 in urban areas). (110 ILCS 935/9; undated, rec'd Sept. 2017, 6 pp.)

Hospital Capital Investment Program report, 2016

Program makes grants to hospitals to improve safety; build, renovate, or maintain structures; improve technology and medical equipment; and maintain or improve patient safety and care. Of \$150 million available, \$149.4 million was awarded to hospitals from FY 2012 to FY 2014. All but one of the 123 projects were completed. (20 ILCS 2310/2310-640(d); undated, rec'd Feb. 2017, 7 pp.)

Hospital Capital Investment Program report, 2017

All 123 projects funded are complete. (20 ILCS 2310/2310-640(d); Oct. 2017, rec'd Nov. 2017, 7 pp. + appendices)

Medical Cannabis Pilot Program report, FY 2017

Department approved applications for over 21,800 qualifying patients since Sept. 2014, and issued over 14,000 registry identification cards in FY 2017. By June 2017 there were 20 licensed operating cultivation centers and 53 licensed medical dispensaries. Lists number of qualifying patients by county and medical condition. (410 ILCS 130/160(a); undated, rec'd Oct. 2017, 8 pp.)

Opioid overdose semiannual report, 2017

Provisional data show opioid deaths rose from 1,382 in 2015 to 1,888 in 2016. These include deaths due to heroin and opioid

painkillers (the latter causing most of increase). Chicago opioid-related deaths rose from 111 in 2015 to 403 in 2016. Also reports on opioid-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits. (210 ILCS 85/6.14g(d); issued & rec'd June 2017, 8 pp.)

Revenue Dept.

Bilingual employees, 2017
Department had 14 bilingual employees; 12 spoke Spanish and 2 spoke Chinese or Italian. Includes position descriptions. (5 ILCS 382/3-20; May 2017, rec'd June 2017, 37 pp.)

State Board of Education

Annual report, 2017
Average school size was unchanged for last 10 years at 534; low-income students increased from 40.9% in 2007 to 50.2% in 2017. Composite SAT score of high school class of 2017 was 1016. State school spending for FY 2018 under new funding model (P.A. 100-465) is \$700+ million over FY 2017 levels. (105 ILCS 5/1A-4E; issued & rec'd Jan. 2018, 59 pp.)

Annual statistical report, 2016
Gives 2015-16 data on enrollment at public and private schools; graduates and dropouts by county; bilingual and special ed enrollment; teachers and other staff; and financial data, including instructional spending, tuition, operating expenses, bond and tax referenda, and state aid claims. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.11; issued & rec'd Jan. 2018, 308 pp.)

(continued on p. 18)

Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 17)

Attendance Commission report

The Commission, created to study chronic school absenteeism, works toward five main outcomes: (1) standard definitions of “attendance” and “chronic absenteeism”; (2) improving data systems to monitor absenteeism; (3) improving schools’ attendance reporting and accountability; (4) enabling schools to help chronic absentees prepare for college and career success; and (5) creating remedies for chronic absenteeism. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.163(d); issued & rec’d Dec. 2017, 36 pp. + 26 appendices)

Charter school biennial report, school years 2015-16 and 2016-17

Illinois’ 61 charter schools serve 65,082 students. They serve proportionately fewer English-learning students than the districts containing them. The 4-year graduation rate at all charter schools was 74.8% versus 89.4% at regular public schools in 2017. Recommends appropriating transition impact aid for first time since FY 2009; includes student assessment results on 2016-17 tests by school. Data for 2016-17 listed by school. (105 ILCS 5/27A-12; issued & rec’d Jan. 2018, 65 pp.)

Modes of School Transportation for Elementary and Secondary Education Task Force, 2017

Task Force was formed to study and recommend transportation modes for K-12 students. It made seven recommendations, including allowing multifunction school

activity buses (MFSABs) to transport any K-12 student (currently only those in grades 9-12) on school or extracurricular trips. A proposal to require all MFSAB drivers to have school bus driver permits did not get a majority vote of Task Force. (H.J.R. 22 (2017); issued & rec’d Dec. 2017, 11 pp. + appendices)

Radon test results in Illinois public schools, 2016-2017

No schools reported radon test results in 2016. In 2017, IEMA reported to ISBE on initial tests at 14 schools in 8 districts, and retests at 8 schools in 5 districts. In initial tests, 11.5% of rooms had at least 4.0 picocuries per liter (level at which state law recommends mitigation) and 85.7% of schools had at least one reading that high. At retested locations, 13.6% of rooms showed at least 4.0 and 50% of schools had at least one such reading. (105 ILCS 5/10-20.48 and 5/34-18.39(c); issued & rec’d Nov. 2017, 3 pp.)

Task Force on Computer Science Education final report, 2017

Task Force was to make recommendations on K-12 computer science education. It found inconsistent access and lack of accurate data on which schools offer computer science courses and their content. Also found that requirements for teachers to get computer science endorsements are costly and time-consuming. Recommendations include creating an operational definition of K-12 computer science education; requiring each high school to offer computer science; and revising state licensure process for computer science teachers. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.167(g); June 2017,

rec’d July 2017, 13 pp. + 4 appendices)

Undesignated epinephrine use, school year 2016-2017

Since Aug. 2014, schools can keep undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors for emergency use. In 2016-2017, 92 public schools reported 122 uses of such injectors. Over half (64) were due to previously unknown allergies. Gives age and trigger allergy information. (105 ILCS 5/22-30(j); Oct. 2017, rec’d Nov. 2017, 11 pp.)

State Board of Investment

Emerging money managers report, 2017

Board meets or exceeds most diversity goals; the only ones not met are for female-owned firms and minority-owned equity investment firms managing under \$10 billion. Market value of investments with emerging and minority firms is \$4.3 billion (24% of total). Staff monitors investment vendors’ compliance with goals of minority-owned broker/dealers. Board staff is 46% female and 38% African American. (40 ILCS 5/1-109.1(8); Dec. 2017, rec’d Jan. 2018, 4 pp. + enclosures)

State Police Dept.

DNA Testing Accountability report, FY 2017

Department laboratories received 69,361 cases and completed analysis on 67,049 in FY 2017. Its research and development laboratory and 6 operational laboratories provide forensic science analytical services to over 1,200 criminal justice agencies. Its DNA Program has two components: casework (forensic analysis evidence) and offender

database (Combined DNA Index System—CODIS). It had 65 fully trained forensic scientists on June 30. Six were hired in April 2017 and will complete training in 2018. Total forensic case backlog at FY 2017 yearend was 11,855 cases. There were 1,513 CODIS matches in 2017, up from 1,300 in 2016. (730 ILCS 5/5-4-3a; undated, rec'd Nov. 2017, 9 pp.)

Juvenile charge report, July-Sept. 2017

Department received 8,452 juvenile charge reports, up 8 from 2nd quarter: 593 ordinance violations; 330 petty offenses; 4,109 misdemeanors; 2,263 Class 1 to 4 felonies; 249 Class X felonies; and 10 murders; 898 were not identified. By gender, 6,817 were male and 1,630 were female; 5 were unidentified. By race, 4,970 were African American; 2,138 were white; 1,209 were Hispanic; 49 were Asian; 5 were American Indian; and 81 unidentified. Also lists charges by county. (20 ILCS 2605/2605-355; Oct. 2017, rec'd Nov. 2017, 3 pp.)

Silver Search annual report, 2017
Silver Search program began 2016 with creation of task force to raise public awareness and use technology to find missing persons with Alzheimer's or dementia. All activities were done by the Department with no additional spending. Additions include Lottery terminals and digital message boards displaying Silver Search advisories over Interstate highways and tollways. Two main focus areas for task force are technology and training. (20 ILCS 2605/2605-485(R)(3); undated, rec'd July 2017, 6 pp.)

State Universities Retirement System

Certification of required state contribution, FY 2019

Board of Trustees of SURS certified \$1.66 billion as total required state contribution for FY 2019. Projected normal cost is \$402.6 million, and projected state cost for self-managed plans is \$64.6 million for FY 2019. State Actuary found that SURS' actuarial assumptions are reasonable for June 2017 valuation. (40 ILCS 5/15-165; issued & rec'd Jan. 2018, 3 pp.)

Economic Opportunity Investments, FY 2017

Market value of public equity in Illinois-based companies was \$247 million (1.36% of total fund), and of public fixed-income investments \$14 million (0.06% of total fund). Market value of Illinois-based real estate and infrastructure investments was \$69 million (0.38% of total fund), and of Illinois-based private equity investments \$126 million (0.69% of total fund). Market value of Illinois-based hedge fund investments was \$13 million (0.07% of total fund). Market value of assets managed by Illinois-based managers was \$3 billion (18.2% of total fund). Commissions on equity trades were \$1 million, and market value of fixed-income trades was \$2.6 billion. Fees paid by Illinois-based consultants and vendors for FY 2017 were \$2 million. (40 ILCS 5/1A-10.5(c); issued & rec'd Aug. 2017, 29 pp.)

Emerging Investment Managers, FY 2017

On June 30, 2017, 16 of SURS' 50 investment managers (32%) were owned by minorities, women, or

persons with disabilities. Its assets managed by such firms were \$5.07 billion (28% of portfolio, up from 24.7% in FY 2016). Appendices report SURS Board policies, and names of and amounts managed by investment managers. (40 ILCS 5/1-109.1; Dec. 2017, rec'd Jan. 2018, 12 pp. + appendices)

State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor

Annual report, FY 2017

Agency filed 920 main briefs and responded to 2,284 advice calls. Labor Unit serviced 2 client counties and 3 contractual counties. Local Drug Prosecution Support Unit helped in 3,503 criminal cases and 996 drug asset forfeiture cases. Continuing Legal Education Unit sponsored or co-sponsored 10 training seminars. Tax Objection Division handled 63 matters for 21 counties. Special Prosecution Unit helped on 1,101 cases in 92 counties. (725 ILCS 210/4.06; issued & rec'd Oct. 2017, 29 pp.)

Toll Highway Authority

Inspector General activity report, March 2017-Aug. 2017

OIG took action on 129 new matters and opened 21 preliminary investigations; 11 of them were closed (including 4 converted to full investigations). Includes summaries of OIG cases and Tollway responses to prior OIG recommendations. (605 ILCS 10/8.5(m); Sept. 2017, rec'd Oct. 2017, 7 pp.)

Transportation Dept.

Traffic Stop Study annual report, 2016

In 2016, 947 participating agencies reported 2,169,796 traffic

(continued on p. 20)



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Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With General Assembly

(continued from p. 19)

stops. White drivers had 61% of traffic stops and minority drivers 39%. Among those stopped, violation types were: moving (68% white, 62% minority); equipment (18% white, 23% minority); license or registration (13% white, 14% minority); and commercial (1% white, 1% minority). The average stop length was 11 minutes for white and 12 minutes for minority drivers. Citations were issued in 891,765 stops (41%). Consent searches occurred in

20,316 (1%). White drivers consented to 10,582 searches and minority drivers to 9,734. Contraband was found in 30% of consent searches with white and 24% with minority drivers. Dog sniffs for contraband were done 8,001 times. Appendices tell how to interpret agency reports and list noncomplying agencies. (625 ILCS 5/11-212(e); undated, rec'd April 2017, 12 pp. + 2 appendices)

First Reading

A publication of the Legislative Research Unit

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