

ABSTRACTS OF STATE REPORTS

MAY 2024

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Reports Filed with the General Assembly

The CGFA staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly (25 ILCS 130/10-6). Legislators may receive copies of entire reports by emailing the form that was delivered to their Springfield office to isinfo@ilsos.net or by mailing it to the State Government Report Distribution Center at the Illinois State Library. This report is posted monthly on our website.

Aging, Dept. on

Illinois Long-Term Care Council annual report, FY 2023

A 2023 law, which the Council proposed, changed reporting requirements of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program to comply with federal requirements on reporting abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The Council set three goals for FY 2024: pursue training for CNAs focusing on compassion for long-term care residents; advocate person-centered care in long-term care facilities; and propose statutory solutions to identified problems in such facilities. (20 ILCS 105/4.04a(d)(4); July 2023, rec'd April 2024, 3 pp.)

Older Adult Services Act report, 2023

The report summarizes work completed from 2019 to 2022 toward fulfilling requirements of the Older Adult Services Act. Priority areas included promoting healthy aging, studying how

to stabilize the workforce, and re-opening work groups after the COVID-19 pandemic. Problems included a pandemic-shortened 2020 legislative session when none of the Department's proposals advanced. Legislative successes include creation of an Elder Abuse Task Force, lowering vehicle registration fees for income-eligible senior citizens, and mandating training of Community Care Program providers for dementia patients. (320 ILCS 42/15(c); Nov. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 30 pp.)

Auditor General, Office of the
Annual report, 2023

The Financial and Compliance Audit Division conducted engagements at 71 agencies in the FY 2022 audit cycle, including compliance examinations, financial audits, and federal audits. The Auditor General's staff did 13 audits; accounting firms did the rest. The report summarizes important audit findings and includes these highlights:

The state government as a whole continues to have inadequate financial reporting processes, harming financial oversight; the Department of Employment Security failed to maintain accurate and complete data on pandemic-related unemployment aid; the Department on Aging lacked adequate internal controls over users' access to its applications and data; and Illinois State University had multiple computer security weaknesses. The Division also did a Statewide Single Audit as required for the state to receive federal funds.

The Performance Audit Division released four performance audits and three reviews in 2023; their findings are summarized. The Division released 35 audits of Regional Offices of Education and three of Intermediate Service Centers. Performance audits in progress are described. The Auditor General performed information system reviews at many agencies and state

universities—often finding inadequate computer security controls. (30 ILCS 5/3-15; March 2024, rec'd April 2024, 50 pp.)

Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Dept. of Business Information Center
annual report, 2023

The First Stop Business Information Center answers questions on federal and state requirements, regulatory processes, and aid. It also continued to provide COVID-19 business assistance; free business startup kits; and access to an online database of licensing and regulatory information. The database was accessed over 61,000 times in 2023. (20 ILCS 608/15(q); March 2024, rec'd April 2024, 5 pp.)

Hydrogen Economy Task Force annual report, 2023

The Task Force held 10 virtual meetings in 2023 and established five working groups to study hydrogen regulation and safety, workforce and training issues, environmental justice impacts, potential uses of hydrogen and commercial development opportunities, and interstate coordination. The report summarizes findings in each area. The Task Force recommended implementing strong labor standards and union work for hydrogen facility construction and

operation. It also recommended that Illinois review existing hydrogen safety and operational codes to remain competitive in attracting hydrogen projects. (20 ILCS 4122/15; Jan. 2024, rec'd April 2024, 19 pp. + 2 appendices)

Illinois film tax credit annual report, FY 2023

The report lists vendors that provided goods or services to film productions, and payments to them. It also identifies vendors that are minority- or women-owned. (35 ILCS 16/45(c); undated, rec'd April 2024, 1 p. + 2 appendices)

Task Force on Opportunities for At-Risk Women annual report, 2022

The 2022 report said the task force had not met since December 2020 due to membership turnover and staff constraints at DCEO. It planned to reconvene in FY 2023. (20 ILCS 5075/15; Dec. 2022, rec'd April 2024, 1 p.)

Task Force on Opportunities for At-Risk Women annual report, 2023

The task force did not meet in 2023 but plans to reconvene in 2024. (20 ILCS 5075/15; Dec. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 1 p.)

Urban Weatherization program, 2023

The program was designed to offer work opportunities and

reduce energy use in urban households by weatherization. It has not been funded and no grants have been made since FY 2016. (30 ILCS 738/40-40(h); undated, rec'd April 2024, 1 p.)

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
Capital Plan Analysis, FY 2025

The Governor's FY 2025 capital budget proposal had approximately \$9.344 billion in new appropriations and \$41.578 billion in re-appropriations. Over \$22 billion in federal infrastructure funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is planned, with \$14.6 billion already approved for over 380 projects. The Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) projected bond sales in FY 2024 to include \$2 billion in General Obligation bonds for capital projects, \$325 million in Pension Acceleration Bonds, and \$600 million in Build Illinois bonds. In FY 2025, GOMB plans to sell \$2.9 billion in G.O. bonds for capital projects; \$316 million in Pension Acceleration Bonds; and \$525 million in Build Illinois bonds. Current G.O. bond authorization for capital projects is \$51.7 billion, with \$17.8 billion remaining unused by February 29, 2024. The report summarizes proposed capital projects by agency, current bond topics, and bond

debt not supported by the state. (25 ILCS 155/3(8); issued & rec'd April 2024, 114 pp. + 5 appendices)

Educational Labor Relations Board

Annual report, FY 2022

The Board handled representation, unfair labor practice, and mediation cases, including 83 representation cases and 93 charges of unfair labor practices filed in FY 2022. There were 8 impasse proceedings; 3 resulted in strikes. The report also lists major Board and court cases. (115 ILCS 5/5(j); Dec. 2022, rec'd April 2024, 26 pp.)

Annual report, FY 2023

The Board handled representation, unfair labor practice, and mediation cases, including 96 representation cases and 96 charges of unfair labor practices filed in FY 2023. One case was mediated. There were 11 impasse proceedings; 8 resulted in strikes. The report also lists major Board and court cases. (115 ILCS 5/5(j); Dec. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 21 pp.)

Human Services, Dept. of

Bilingual staffing report, 2024

On March 1, 2024 the Department had 1,489 bilingual frontline staff with 68 job titles. Languages include Arabic, Braille, Chinese, French, Hindi, Korean, Manual Communication, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian,

Spanish, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. (5 ILCS 382/3-20; issued & rec'd April 2024, 6 pp.)

Health and Human Services Task Force health disparities report, 2024

The Task Force met regularly and created four subcommittees to study reducing healthcare disparities; health-related social needs; workforce competency and diversity; and data collection and sharing. The report states findings in those areas. Recommendations include addressing health-related social needs that drive health outcomes, such as affordable housing and gainful employment; expanding healthcare access; and supporting data sharing and collaboration among health and human services systems. (20 ILCS 5175/125-25, repealed June 30, 2023; March 2024, rec'd April 2024, 45 pp. + appendix)

Illinois Broadband Advisory Council

Annual report, 2023

The Council met four times in 2023. As part of the statewide Connect Illinois broadband expansion, it opened Round 3 of its broadband grant program; published an initial proposal for using an expected \$1.04 billion in federal funds in 2024; released its draft State Digital Equity Plan; and continued support of the Illinois

Broadband Lab. The report gives statistics on broadband availability in Illinois. (220 ILCS 80/20(e); Jan. 2024, rec'd April 2024, 32 pp. + 2 appendices)

Legislative Inspector General

Quarterly report, July-Sept. 2023

Eight allegations were received; 8 others were referred to another investigatory body. Two investigations were opened, 1 was concluded, and 2 were pending. No complaints were forwarded to the Attorney General, and no action was pending before the Legislative Ethics Commission as of the report date. (5 ILCS 430/25-85; Oct. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 3 pp.)

Quarterly report, Oct.-Dec. 2023

Six allegations were received; 8 others were referred to another investigatory body. One investigation was opened, 2 were concluded, and 1 was pending. No complaints were forwarded to the Attorney General, and no action was pending before the Legislative Ethics Commission on the report date. (5 ILCS 430/25-85; Jan. 2024, rec'd April 2024, 3 pp.)

Quarterly report, Jan.-March 2024

Seven allegations were received and 8 others were referred to

another investigatory body. One investigation was opened, none were concluded, and 2 were pending. No complaints were forwarded to the Attorney General, and no action was pending before the Legislative Ethics Commission on the report date. (5 ILCS 430/25-85; issued & rec'd April 2024, 3 pp.)

Legislative Reference Bureau
Case report, 2023

The report summarizes 32 recent court decisions interpreting the U.S. or Illinois Constitution or Illinois laws. Decisions of federal courts, the Illinois Supreme Court, and Illinois Appellate Court are summarized and indexed by case name and statute involved. The Illinois Supreme Court held that if a person is charged with possessing a firearm whose serial number is defaced, the Criminal Code's wording requires the state to prove that the defendant knew the number was defaced. (25 ILCS 135/5.05; Dec. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 34 pp.)

Property Tax Appeal Board
Annual report, 2023

The report presents data by county for recent years on commercial and industrial property tax assessment appeals and any resulting assessment

reductions. In 2023 the Board closed 36,315 residential appeals affecting 46,928 parcels. (35 ILCS 200/16-190(b); Feb. 2024, rec'd April 2024, 9 pp.)

Public Health, Dept. of
Health in All Policies Workgroup annual report, 2023

The Workgroup met three times in 2023 to study a framework in which the public and private sectors collaborate to incorporate health considerations into decisions in all policy areas. It selected safe and affordable housing as the focus in 2023 because housing is a primary determinant of health. Recommendations include appropriating funds to expand permanent supportive housing; supporting demonstration projects to maximize use of Medicaid funds for housing; and improving the collection and dissemination of data connecting housing insecurity to morbidity and mortality. The report reviews recent laws on housing and homelessness in other states. (410 ILCS 155/10(i); undated, rec'd April 2024, 30 pp. + 10 appendices)

State Board of Education
Glenwood Academy evidence-based funding report, 2024
The private Glenwood

Academy receives funds under the state's school funding formula. P.A. 103-8 (2023) raised the Academy's minimum base funding to \$952,014, and required the Professional Review Panel to report on annual adjustments to its funding. The Panel recommended funding Glenwood Academy by a line item in ISBE's or another agency's budget. (105 ILCS 5/18-8.15(i)(8) as added by P.A. 103-8; issued & rec'd March 2024, 5 pp.)

State Board of Investment
Emerging money managers annual report, 2023

On June 30, 2023, \$10.2 billion (42%) of the Board's total investments were with emerging and minority-owned firms, at least meeting the Board's policy goals for each asset class. Use of Illinois-based brokerages is below the 25% target rate in three asset classes, and above it in two. The report includes the Board's diversity policy. (40 ILCS 5/1-109.1(8); Dec. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 7 pp. + enclosure)

State Police, Illinois
FOID Card Review Board monthly report, Feb. 2024

The Board hears petitions from persons whose FOID card applications were denied or

whose cards are revoked. In February it received 29 cases. It granted relief in 18 and denied relief in 2; 9 were continued. (430 ILCS 65/10(a-5)(9); March 2024, rec'd May 2024, 1 p.)

*FOID Card Review Board
monthly report, March 2024*

The Board received 39 cases in March. It granted relief in 20 and denied relief in 5; 14 were continued. (430 ILCS 65/10(a-5)(9); April 2024, rec'd May 2024, 1 p.)

*FOID Card Review Board
monthly report, April 2024*

The Board received 36 cases in April. It granted relief in 21 and denied relief in 5; 10 were continued. (430 ILCS 65/10(a-5)(9); April 2024, rec'd May 2024, 1 p.)

*Nonconsensual eavesdropping
report, 2023*

ISP received reports from 75 counties; the other 27 did not respond. No county reported nonconsensual eavesdropping requests. (725 ILCS 5/108B-13; issued & rec'd March 2024, 4 pp.)

Toll Highway Authority

*Inspector General activity
report, March-Aug. 2023*

The OIG acted on 106 matters, including opening 23 preliminary investigations and closing 25; 6 were converted into investigations. The OIG did not recommend any administrative or other actions. The report gives examples of cases and dispositions, and a general summary of other OIG activities. (605 ILCS 10/8.5(m); Sept. 2023, rec'd April 2024, 12 pp.)

**Veterans Affairs', Dept. of
Locally-held benefit funds
quarterly report, Jan.-March
2024**

For each state veterans' home, the report describes monetary and other donations received to benefit residents; how and when they were disbursed; and fund balances at quarter-end. (20 ILCS 2805/2.01a; issued & rec'd April 2024, 27 pp.)

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