



Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association's "News Under the Dome"



Calendar Info

- Illinois General Assembly Veto Session: Nov 13-15 & Nov 27-29.
- IFCA Convention, Jan 28-30, in Peoria, Illinois.
- AG-SOLVE PAC Auction, Jan 29, 3:45pm in Peoria.
- Ag Retailers DC Fly-in, Feb 3-6, 2019

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Illinois Election Recap

Democrats dominated in Illinois on Tuesday night, winning all statewide offices. J.B. Pritzker defeated Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner (by 14.5 points). Nearly 700,000 more ballots were cast in the 2018 Illinois elections compared with 2014 and J.B. Pritzker may have received nearly all of those votes. Pritzker won the 2018 Illinois governor's race earning 675,000 more votes statewide than Gov. Pat Quinn did in his failed re-election bid in 2014.

Democratic state Sen. Kwame Raoul topped Republican attorney Erika Harold for the open attorney general seat. Other Democrats who won re-election statewide: Comptroller Susana Mendoza, Secretary of State Jesse White and Treasurer Michael Frerichs.

There will be many new faces under the dome in Springfield in January; 13 new State Senators and 32 new House members. There are also many leadership and committee changes because of key retirements. The new look of the Senate will be 40 Democrat Senators and 19 Republican Senators. Currently there are 37 Democrat Senators and 22 Republican Senators. The Democrats will have 4 more senators than needed to override a veto. The look of the House will be 73 Democrats and 45 Republicans. Currently, the House is made up of 67 Democrats and 51 Republicans. The Democrats will have three representatives needed to override a veto.

In Illinois, Republican Rep. Mike Bost won re-election after a tougher-than-usual challenge from Democrat Brendan Kelly in a southern Illinois district, and central Illinois GOP Rep. Rodney Davis narrowly survived over Democrat Betsy Dirksen Londrigan. Both Congressman Bost and Congressman Davis sit on the House Ag Committee. In other races in Illinois, Republican Rep. Peter Roskam of Wheaton lost his bid for a seventh term to Democrat Sean Casten in a suburban Chicago district, while Democrat Lauren Underwood defeated GOP Rep. Randy Hultgren in another Chicago-area district the party had targeted in its effort to win House control.

Republicans held the US Senate on election night. As I write this, the US Senate count stands at 51-47 with Republicans holding control. The only race that still hasn't been called is Florida. The Florida senate race looks to be going into recount.

In the US House, the count stands at 228 Democrat and 200 Republicans, with 7 races too close to call. You need 218 votes to have control of the House. Nancy Pelosi will be the incoming Speaker of the House and Kevin McCarthy will be Republican minority leader. Both are from California. IFCA and many ag groups think that Rep. Colin Peterson from Minnesota will be the incoming House Ag Committee Chairman.



IFCA Heads to Washington DC

The week of November 12th, KJ Johnson went to Washington DC to meet with the Illinois congressional delegation. The top priorities IFCA were talking to Senators and Congressman about included:

- The Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) in the Farm Bill. PRIA creates a more predictable and effective evaluation process for affected pesticide decisions by coupling the collection of fees with specific decision review periods.
- Within the Farm Bill a codify definition of “retail facilities” using the “fifty-percent” rule as it has been since the inception of the PSM regulations. Agricultural retailers selling anhydrous ammonia have been exempt from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) Process Safety Management Standard (PSM) under the “retail exemption” since the Standard’s inception in 1992.
- Streamline certification process for the Technical Service Provider (TSP) Program. IFCA supports the continuation of the TSP program; however, we believe there should be an easier pathway for retailers to be certified by USDA-NRCS.



IFCA's KJ Johnson meets with Congressman Mike Bost (R- Murphysboro) in Washington D.C.



Donating to the AG-SOLVE PAC is easy! AG-SOLVE can take company/personal check or credit card.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount: _____

If you have any questions regarding the AG-SOLVE PAC, please call KJ Johnson at the IFCA office at 309-827-2774 or KJ@IFCA.COM

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Why IFCA Members Should Support AG-SOLVE PAC

AG-SOLVE PAC is the political arm of the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association (IFCA) and is a powerful tool in representing the agricultural retailer industry on the state level. Funds from AG-SOLVE contributions allow IFCA staff and members to attend political events and financially support members of Illinois General Assembly running for office that support our industry. A strong PAC is essential to influencing public policy and advocating for the agricultural retailers and distributors. As leaders in Illinois agriculture you know all too well that ag retailers face challenges and an uncertain future. At no time in recent memory has there been a great need for ag retailers to have an active and strong voice in our electoral and legislative processes. Your support will give us as ag retailers the fuel we need to remain in the fight down in Springfield for Illinois agriculture.



Come Ready to Bid at the 4th Annual AG-SOLVE PAC Auction!

Every year at the IFCA Convention, the AG-SOLVE PAC holds its auction to raise funds for use in our state advocacy efforts. This year's live and silent auctions are shaping up to be the best yet. AG-SOLVE has already secured some great live auction items. We would like to thank all the companies for their generous gifts. More live and silent auction items will be added soon. The auction will be January 29th at 3:45pm on the convention floor. Come ready to bid!



100 Hours for Rental of a JD 9520R 4WD or JD8370R MFWD NH3 tractor for Spring 2019 or Fall 2019.



\$5,000 Voucher Towards a NEW RoGator/TerraGator.



Full Internal and External Tank Inspection



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