



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



Calendar Info

- DC Summer Fly-In
July 15-21, 2019
- MAGIE Show
Aug 21-22, 2019
- IFCA Convention
and Trade Show
Jan 21-23, 2020

Follow IFCA

**Facebook and
Twitter.**



Facebook.com/ILFertchem

Twitter: @ILFertChem

Removal of Registration and License Plates on Anhydrous Nurse Wagons & Floaters One Step Closer to Becoming Law

One of the biggest issues IFCA hears from our ag retailers is about license plates on anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks, floaters and other fertilizer pull-type equipment. This requirement has been in effect since the 70's. When IFCA was developing their policy goals for 2019, we looked at removing our license plates. We knew this would be a big lift because this would be less revenue going to the state. After talking with the IFCA board of directors, we decided we should move forward with this legislation.

We're happy to announce that this legislation (SB2117 & HB2669) has moved through both the Illinois Senate and the House. IFCA's next step is to move HB 2669 through the Senate. If accomplished, it would go to Governor Pritzker for his signature. SB 2117 passed the Senate 52-0 and HB 2669 passed the House 111-0. We would like to thank Senator Neil Anderson(R-Moline) and Rep Mike Unes(R-Pekin) for sponsoring this legislation. We also want to thank the State Police, Secretary of State and IDOT for working with us on this bill.

We have made the case to legislators that these pieces of equipment are implements of husbandry under the Illinois Vehicle Code and like other implements, do not need to be registered.

We will keep you addressed if either piece of legislation moves closer to the governor's desk.

If you have any questions regarding this legislation, please don't hesitate to call or email KJ Johnson.



IFCA Members Educate Lawmakers on Ag Input Industry at Agribusiness Legislative Breakfast

On March 21, the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, Grain and Feed Association of Illinois, and the Illinois Seed Trade Association held its annual agribusiness legislative breakfast at the Sangamo Club in Springfield for state lawmakers and agency heads. There were over 100 that attended this year's breakfast. Most of the discussion was regarding passage of SB 2117 / HB 2669 which would remove the license plates on fertilizer floaters and anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks. Other discussion was regarding the Cook County Property Tax Assessor bill, which establishes a reporting requirement for businesses that generate money off their properties. This legislation also lets other counties that are authorized to opt in to the same scheme. IFCA also discussed legislation dealing with banning neonicotinoids on State of Illinois lands and making these types of pesticide a restricted-use product.



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 John-
son at the IFCA office at
309-827-2774 or
KJ@IFCA.COM

IFCA

14171 Carole Dr.

Bloomington, IL 61705

309-827-2774

WWW.IFCA.COM

Measure Allowing Local Gas Tax on Top of State Gas Tax

Approved in Committee

It's on to the full House for a measure that would give local governments the ability to assess their own gas tax of up to 3 cents a gallon.

House Bill 102 had already been approved by the House Revenue and Finance Committee.

An amendment to allow local govern-
ment to tack on up to 3 cents a gallon
to the state's current 19 cents a gallon
was also approved in committee.

The amendment passed without
debate, 8 to 7 .

Supporters that filed witness slips
included Laborers' International Union
– Midwest Region and American
Council of Engineering Companies of
Illinois.



The approved amendment says "If a municipality adopts a responsible bid ordinance that is approved by the Department of Transportation, then the municipality may also impose, by ordinance, a tax on motor fuel at a rate not to exceed \$0.03 per gallon."

The responsible bidder ordinance component also ensures that a trained, reliable local labor pool would be tapped for community construction projects.

Illinois' state gas tax is 19 cents a gallon. The nonpartisan Tax Foundation puts Illinois' gas tax, which is on top of a sales tax, at the 10th highest in the nation. Another proposal at the statehouse would double that to 38 cents a gallon.

Senate Ag Committee Members Tour Ag Retail Locations

In an ongoing effort to educate legislators regarding the issues that face the ag input industry, IFCA hosts national and state legislators at IFCA member facilities. In March and April, IFCA hosted two new freshman senators that sit on the Illinois Senate Ag Committee, Senator Steve McClure (R-Springfield) and Senator Craig Wilcox (R-McHenry).

Senator McClure is a newly elected Senator in the 50th Senate District which covers Springfield, to the Mississippi River, down to Godfrey. We brought Senator McClure to three different Brandt locations. We first started off at Brandt's headquarters in Springfield where we discussed not only what Brandt does within Illinois, but also on a global level. While we were there we discussed how the business climate effects ag retailers in Illinois and how they grow their business. We next took him to Brandt's Pleasant Plains facility where we showed him the packaging of different types of chemical and fertilizer products and how Brandt is working on their own branded products. The last stop was in Ashland where we gave him a tour of an ag retail facility. Senator McClure sat in the cab of a new sprayer where we explained all the new technologies.

Senator Wilcox is also a newly elected Senator from the 32th Senate District which covers McHenry County. We took him to a Conserv FS in Marengo. There we showed him what all takes place at an ag retail facility. We had him get in the cab of a floater and talked about how we are variable rate fertilizers applications help with water quality in his district. We also talked to him about seed treatments and how important neonicotinoid pesticides are to all farmers in his district but also throughout Illinois. As with Senator McClure, we also talked about the general business climate of Illinois.

IFCA would like to thank Brandt and Conserv FS for hosting Senator McClure and Senator Wilcox at their facilities.

If you would like to host a legislator at your faculty, please reach out to KJ in the IFCA office.



Senator Steve McClure tours Brandt facilities in Springfield, Pleasant Plains and Ashland.



Senator Craig Wilcox tours Conserv FS in Marengo.

Share Your Position on Gov. Pritzker's Proposed Graduated Income Tax

Many ag groups around the state have issued a state-wide action alert opposing SJRCA 1, the effort to establish a progressive income tax in Illinois. This legislation proposes to amend the State Constitution to mandate a progressive tax structure; it doesn't currently specify a tax rate but the Governor's proposal is to create six different levels of income tax rates between 4.75% and 7.95%, as follows:

Proposed Graduated Rate	Net Income Level	Current Flat Rate	% of Taxpayers in the Proposed Levels
4.75%	\$0 - \$10,000	4.95%	27.2%
4.90%	\$10,001 - \$100,000	4.95%	58.9%
4.95%	\$100,001 - \$250,000	4.95%	11.1%
7.75%	\$250,001 - \$500,000	4.95%	1.9%
7.85%	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	4.95%	0.6%
7.95%	\$1,000,001 – over	4.95%	0.3%

If you would like to express your position on this legislation to your State Senator, call 888.200.3794. You will then be asked to enter your zip code, and your call will be directed to your State Senator's District Office. The key points for opposing this legislation are:

1. We support a flat state income tax;
2. Taxpayers who have higher incomes already pay more based on their income;
3. Separate, graduated tax levels may lead to future tax increases on various sectors of taxpayers;
4. It sends yet another message that Illinois is not a business-friendly state.

If you have questions about this legislative call to action, please contact KJ Johnson: kj@ifca.com or call our office.



Gov Pritzker unveils his graduated income tax during a press conference in the governor's office at the Illinois State Capitol.



House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs, speaks about the Republicans opposition to Gov. Pritzker tax plan.

Cook County Assessor Pushes for Reform to Property Tax System

With property tax bills getting ready to be sent out, Senator Toi Hutchinson and Representative Mike Zalewski are working with newly elected Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi on a set of reforms to Illinois' property tax system.

SB1379 and HB2217 establish a vague and onerous income reporting requirement on many business properties, including multi-family buildings, in Cook County. Other counties would be authorized to opt in and establish similar regimes.

Hutchinson introduced Senate Bill 1379, a comprehensive set of reforms to Cook County's property tax system. It passed out of the Senate Revenue Committee without opposition. Hutchinson has vowed to continue working with stakeholders in the weeks ahead before calling the proposal for a final vote.

The bill allows the Cook County Assessor to gather data to improve assessment accuracy and transparency. An improved assessment process and end-product is without doubt desirable, but there is no guarantee this program will provide it. The bills, however, raise many unanswered questions regarding the burden and risks to taxpayers, which could be significant. A more thoughtful and deliberative process in crafting such changes to the assessment process is urged.

While the proposal would primarily apply to Cook County, all Illinois counties would have the ability to adopt the requirements.

The bills require practically any document created in the ordinary course of business to be submitted, rather than specific information. For example, "income and expense data" that must be reported includes certain federal income tax schedules. Depending on the taxpayer's situation, the schedules specified in these bills may contain information unrelated to "income producing property."

The bills refer to a "taxpayer" without adequately defining the term. Sometimes tenants pay property taxes, but they may not have all of the information the Assessor seeks. Property owners are ultimately responsible for the tax, but frequently will not have access to (or be authorized to share) all income and expense data.

Owner-occupied real-estate property is generally excluded, but the level of owner occupancy is not defined. Certain owner-occupied properties are included, such as hotels, parking garages, and storage facilities, but the rationale for including and excluding different property types is not explained, making it nearly impossible to discern what was intended.

Given the many uncertainties surrounding this program, it is inappropriate to impose any penalties on taxpayers who guess wrong when trying to decipher the requirements. Penalties up to \$100,000 are excessive and unreasonable.

There are too many unanswered questions to justify the permanent creation of up to 102 separate regimes requiring disclosure of private business information, when there is no clear direction as to how it is to be used and protected. Similar programs in other jurisdictions are generally less burdensome, and these bills will not address the biggest property tax concern in Illinois—the high level of taxes.

U.S. Army Corps Still on Schedule with Closure of Locks in Summer of 2020.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues to plan for a temporary closure of locks on the Illinois Waterway (IWW) in the year 2020 to perform critical maintenance.

Contracts have been awarded to install bulkhead slots at Marseilles and Starved Rock locks during the summer of 2019. This work will require width restrictions for several weeks, followed by a full lock closure for approximately two weeks to install the sill beam across the bottom of the lock chambers. Since the locks have only one chamber, adjacent to each dam, a full lock closure means river traffic will have no way of navigating around the dam until the lock chamber reopens.

A two-week closure will halt traffic within these areas. The Corps will be providing closure information in advance in hopes that it will give optimal time to plan ahead so that there will be minimal impact on navigation on the local and regional economy.

Closures, up to 120 days, are scheduled to begin July 1, 2020, as long as the river levels cooperate. The driving factor in the extended closures is the LaGrange Lock Major Rehabilitation project, which received funding in 2018.



Starved Rock Lock and Dam

Rock Island District awarded a \$117 million contract to AECOM for the LaGrange project last fall. Currently, the contractor is on track to mobilize to the site and do preliminary work this summer. No impacts to navigation are expected during their preliminary work. Items such as miter gate machinery, that take longer to fabricate, are already in the works and are scheduled for delivery in time for the extended 2020 closures.

New miter gate fabrication contracts for Marseilles and Starved Rock locks are also on track and are scheduled for installation during the extended closure in summer 2020. The lock chambers at Marseilles and Starved Rock will be dewatered during the closure and will undergo significant sill and anchorage modification to ensure the new miter gates fit properly. While the IWW is closed, contractors will also install bulkhead slots at Dresden Island and Brandon Road locks, and the Peoria Lock will be dewatered for routine inspections and minor repairs.

At this time, the Rock Island District anticipates the navigation industry could need two or more years to fully recover from impacts caused by the closures. For this reason, the District will not schedule additional maintenance at Dresden Island or Brandon Road locks for a couple of years.

A shorter closure, which may extend 90 days or more, is scheduled for summer 2023 to give contractors time to perform anchorage and sill modifications so the new miter gates can be installed at the Dresden Island and Brandon Road locks.

The recent partial government shutdown has not impacted the IWW Consolidated Closures scheduled because the Corps of Engineers' Civil Works program received funding in the 2019 Energy and Water appropriations bill passed Sept. 28, 2018. The Rock Island District continues to strive to complete these critical repair projects in the safest and most efficient manner and with the least amount of impact to the navigation industry so they may continue delivering value to our national economy.

2020 Projected Lock Closure Schedule

Starved Rock & Marseilles Lock and Dam – Bulkhead Recess Installation

- Partial Closure scheduled June 1 through July 3 and July 8 through Aug. 16
- Locks operational from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. with a 70-ft width restriction and no ability to Pull unpowered barges.
- Full Closure scheduled Aug. 16 through Aug.30 2020

LaGrange Lock and Dam – Major Rehabilitation & Lock Machinery Replacement

- Full closure scheduled July 1 through Sept. 30

Peoria Lock and Dam – Dewatering for Maintenance and Inspection

- Full closure scheduled to start mid July through early August for 60+ days (Specific dates to be determined)



Starved Rock Lock and Dam – Upper & Lower Miter Gate Installation

- Full closure scheduled July 1-Oct.30

Marseilles Lock and Dam – Upper Miter Gate Installation

- Full closure scheduled July 1-Sept. 30 at Dresden

Island & Brandon Road Lock and Dam – Upper Bulkhead Recess Installation

- 90+ day restriction period with 14 day full closure (Specific dates to be determined, lock restrictions same as in 2019) 2023

Dresden Island & Brandon Road Lock and Dam – Upper Miter Gate Installation

- Full closure scheduled July 1-Sept 30

Illinois Marijuana Legalization Proposal Advances

Without Public Details

There are no details available yet for a bill to legalize recreational adult-use marijuana in Illinois, but that did not stop the state Senate Executive Committee from voting on the measure.

As it stands now, Senate Bill 7 is what is referred to as a “shell bill,” or a vehicle to be amended with substantial language in the future. The shell bill passed committee by a 12-4 vote, with all four Republicans present voting against.

The actual details of the bill are being negotiated privately by lawmakers, the Governor’s office and cannabis industry advocates. They all say the existing medicinal growing market has the capacity to meet the initial demand of adult-use marijuana legalization.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s proposed fiscal year recreational marijuana budget contains \$170 million in projected revenue from legalization. His office has said that projection is entirely dependent on licensing fees, not tax revenue.

If those revenue projections are to be realized, fees for cultivation centers and dispensaries would have to be exponentially larger than those in the medicinal program or hundreds of new licenses would have to be granted.

Senator Heather Steans, a Chicago Democrat, has said the program could include additional licenses for processing and transportation of cannabis and for craft cultivation centers.

But it is unclear how much those licenses would cost, how many would be granted, when they would be made available or in which fiscal year the revenue resulting from them would be realized.

Pro-legalization lawmakers and Pritzker’s office have also said criminal justice reforms would be included in the package for those incarcerated for marijuana-related offenses.



States Wary of EPA Notice to Curtail State Pesticide Restrictions

State pesticide regulators are nervous about an announcement by EPA, stating they are reevaluating the process under which it approves or disapproves state actions seeking to regulate pesticides more strictly than the federal label in order to minimize environmental risk or possible crop damage in a particular state.

EPA said it's looking at novel ways to approach how it evaluates state actions on pesticide regulation, particularly state moves to "narrow the federal label" when it comes to such things as tougher applicator training, later cut-off dates for crop applications or other stricter approaches. An example is state actions over the last year on when and how the herbicide dicamba can be used, and by whom, because of allegations of dicamba drift and neighboring crop damage.

The agency said it doesn't plan to act this year and that it will do significant public outreach before implementing any changes. "We look forward to a robust public dialogue on this matter," EPA said.

State regulators believe the current oversight and approval program is working well, addressing the challenges of specific pests or environmental concerns faced by individual states.

Jury Awards \$80 Million in Roundup Action

A California man who claims his non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is the result of his exposure over time to the herbicide glyphosate, sold as Roundup, was awarded \$80 million this week after a six-person California jury found Monsanto liable. The company, now owned by Bayer, said it "stands behind these products and will vigorously defend them."

The plaintiff, whose cancer is in remission, should get about \$200,000 for past medical expenses, \$5.6 million in compensatory damages – including \$3.6 million for "pain and suffering" – and \$75 million in punitive damages. The verdict came after the jury found glyphosate was a "substantial factor" in the man's cancer development.

A year ago, a separate jury awarded a former school groundskeeper \$289 million – reduced to \$78 million – and the verdict is being appealed by Monsanto.

Bayer reiterated its position that the verdict "does not change the weight of over four decades of extensive science and the conclusions of regulators worldwide that support the safety of our glyphosate-based herbicides and that they are not carcinogenic."



Key State Legislative Issues IFCA is Watching This Spring Session

SB2117 / HB2669, (Anderson, N) (Unes M),

Removal of License Plates on Ammonia Nurse Wagons and Fertilizer Spreaders (Floaters). SB2117 and HB2669 amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Deletes language requiring registration on ammonia nurse wagons. It also removes the registration fees on single unit self-propelled ag fertilizer implements (floaters). **SB 2117 passed out of the Senate on a 52-0 vote. HB 2669 passed out of the House on 111-0 vote. IFCA Supports SB2117 and HB2669.**



HB3636 PESTICIDE-

NEONICOTINOID (GUZZARDI W), Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Authorizes the Director of the Department of Agriculture to classify a pesticide as a restricted use pesticide. Includes pesticides containing a neonicotinoid as a restricted use pesticide. Defines "neonicotinoid." Provides that no pesticide containing a neonicotinoid may be used outdoors on any public land owned or maintained by the State, except for use in structural pest control or abatement of *Agrilus planipennis*. (Emerald Ash Borer). **HB 3636 was never called in the House Energy & Environment Committee. IFCA opposes HB3636.**

HB2864 MILEAGE TAX (EVANS M), Amends the Motor Fuel Tax Law. Creates the per-mile road usage charge pilot program. Provides that the registered owner of a motor vehicle that is approved to participate in the program shall, in lieu of the taxes imposed under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, pay a per-mile road usage charge for metered use by the subject vehicle of the highways in this State. Provides that the per-mile road usage charge is \$0.021 per mile. **HB2864 is still in House Rules Committee. IFCA opposes HB2864.**

SB1482 PESTICIDES-PENALTIES (KOEHLER D), Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Increases the monetary penalties for violations of the Act. Effective January 1, 2020. **SB1482 is in Senate Environment Committee. IFCA is opposed to SB1482.**

SB2130 PESTICIDE ACT-PENALTIES (HOLMES L), Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Increases the first offense penalty for applying pesticides without a license, misrepresenting certification, failing to comply with conditions of an agrichemical facility permit, failing to comply with the conditions of a written authorization for land application of agrichemical contaminated soils or groundwater, or for constructing or operating without an agrichemical facility permit after receiving written notification from \$500 to \$750. Increases the subsequent offense penalty for these violations from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Makes various changes to the violation point structure used for assessing administrative penalties for violations of the Act and rules, including increasing the monetary penalties by specified amounts and adding a \$500 penalty for a 12 to 13 point violation. **SB 2130 is in Senate Ag Committee. IFCA is monitoring SB2130.**

SR52 NUTRIENT LOSS REDUCTION (BENNETT S), Supports the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy and the work of stakeholders on the continued implementation of the Strategy. ***SB 52 has passed out of the Senate Environment Committee. IFCA supports SR52.***

SB105 / HB813 VEH CD-REPEAL COM DISTRIB FEE (Sandoval M) (MAYFIELD R), Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Repeals a provision providing for the collection of an annual commercial distribution fee on vehicles of the second division weighing more than 8,000 pounds. ***SB105 is in Senate Transportation Committee. HB813 is in House Revenue & Finance Committee. IFCA Supports SB105 and HB813.***

HB2095 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT NOTE (MORGAN B), Creates the Environmental Impact Note Act. Provides that every bill and proposed rule, the purpose or effect of which may impact the environment or natural resources, shall have prepared for it a brief explanatory statement or note that shall include a reliable estimate of the anticipated environmental impact. Provides for the preparation of environmental impact notes. Provides for votes on the necessity of environmental impact notes. Provides for the requisites and contents of environmental impact notes. ***HB2085 is in House Executive Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB2095.***

HB2180 MINIMUM WAGE-WORK STUDY/INTERN (STAVA-MURRAY A), Amends the Minimum Wage Law to provide that an employer shall pay a person no less than the minimum wage rate if the person is a student enrolled in an institution of higher education whose employment is part of a work study or internship program approved by that institution, regardless of whether the person is receiving course credit from that institution for the employment. ***HB2180 is in House Labor & Commerce Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB2180.***

HB2182 VEH CD-HIGHWAY DESIGNATIONS (UNES M), Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Deletes language allowing the Department of Transportation to designate streets or highways in the system of State highways as Class III highways and makes changes governing the designation of Class II highways. Deletes language regarding the maximum length of vehicles on all non-State highways, and the highways that vehicles not exceeding 65 feet in overall length are allowed to access. ***HB2182 passed out of the House on a 109-0 vote. IFCA supports HB2182.***

HB2318 VEH CD-TRUCKS-AIR QUALITY (SLAUGHTER J), Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that local authorities, with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, may limit the operation of trucks or other commercial vehicles in areas with poor air quality. Defines "poor air quality". ***HB2318 is scheduled in House Transportation Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB2318.***

HB2425 WILDLIFE-ENDANGERED SPECIES (CHESNEY A), Amends the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act. Provides that a permit for incidental taking under the Act shall not be required if a federal conservation agreement, including, but not limited to, a candidate conservation agreement, habitat conservation plan, or safe harbor agreement that includes conservation practices conducted in the State in effect and approved by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973. ***HB2425 passed out of the House 60-47-3. IFCA supports HB2425.***

HB2728 EPA-ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (MAH T), Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that the Environmental Protection Agency shall ensure that possible adverse economic, social, and environmental effects on environmental justice communities relating to any permit or permit renewal have been fully considered prior to publishing a draft permit or permit renewal for public comment, and that the final decision on the permit or permit renewal is made in the best overall public interest. Provides that any person or entity seeking a permit or permit renewal in an environmental justice community shall give public notice with specified information to the residents of the environmental justice community. ***HB2728 is scheduled for House Public Utilities Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB2728.***

HB3128 AGR-POLLINATOR PLAN (MEIER C), Amends the Department of Agriculture Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Provides that the Department of Agriculture shall create a pollinator protection plan to protect the health and mitigate risk to honeybees and other managed pollinators in the State. Provides that the Department shall identify the top potential risks to pollinators in the State and provide approaches, tools, and resources to reduce these risks during a reasonable time frame. ***HB3128 is scheduled for House Ag Committee. IFCA is monitoring HB3128.***

HB3316 PREVAILING WAGE TRUCKING (CONNOR J), Amends the Prevailing Wage Act. Provides that the transportation of ready-mixed concrete and aggregate materials shall be deemed to be employment upon public works. Includes additional trucking related activities within the scope of the Act. ***HB3316 is in House Labor Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB3316.***

HB3666 WEIGHT & MEASURES-EXAM (COSTELLO J), Amends the Weights and Measures Act. Provides that certificates of registration shall be renewed annually. Provides that if a registrant fails to renew a certificate of registration for more than one registration year, the registrant shall pass a qualifying examination for each type of weighing or measuring device the registrant intends to install, service, recondition, or repair before the registrant's certificate is renewed. Provides that, beginning with the 2020 registration year, a registrant must pass a qualifying examination for each type of weighing and measuring device the registrant intends to install, service, recondition, or repair. ***HB3666 is scheduled for House Ag Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB3666.***

HB2588 IDOT-FARM ENTRANCE WIDTH (BENNETT T), Amends the Illinois Highway Code. Provides that the Department of Transportation may allow entrances to farm fields with a maximum width of 40 feet. ***HB2588 is scheduled for House Transportation Committee. IFCA is supports HB2588.***

HB2839 CIV PRO-ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW (GONG-GERSHOWITZ J), Amends the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that unless the action is governed by the procedures or provisions of another statute, a person suffering legal wrong because of a final administrative decision, or adversely affected or aggrieved by a final administrative decision, is entitled to judicial review of the final administrative decision to the same extent, with the same rights and the same responsibilities, as a person who is a party, except that a person seeking judicial review is not entitled to relief if there was a previous public hearing at which the person failed to present his or her position. **HB2839 is scheduled for House Judiciary—Civil Committee. IFCA is opposed to HB2839.**

HB3570 JOBS TRAINING CREDIT (MCCOMBIE T), Creates the Industrial New Jobs Training Act. Provides that community college may enter into an agreement with an employer in which the employer provides certain education and job-training services. **HB3570 is scheduled for House Income Tax Subcommittee. IFCA supports HB3570.**

SB1352 WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT (FINE L), Creates the Wetlands Protection Act. Provides provisions concerning: exemptions; wetlands delineation, classification, notification, and permits; surety; general permits; appeal of final decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources and judicial review; Investigation and enforcement; and county authority. Creates the Wetlands Advisory Committee and establishes duties and rules for the Committee. Creates the Wetlands Protection Fund. Defines terms. **SB1352 is in Senate Environment Committee. IFCA opposes SB1352.**

SB1854 EPA-FUGITIVE EMISSIONS (CURRAN J), Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that beginning on the effective date of the amendatory Act no facility shall have fugitive emissions of ethylene oxide above zero. Provides that each facility shall be subject to regular and frequent inspections and testing to ensure that no fugitive emissions of ethylene oxide exist. Provides that inspections shall be unannounced and conducted by a third party chosen by the municipality in which the facility operates. Provides that each facility shall be subject to fence line ambient air testing, at random, once within every 90 to 120 days for a duration of 24-hour samples of no less than 6 consecutive days. Provides that the testing shall be conducted by a third party chosen by the municipality in which the facility operates. Defines "fugitive emissions". **SB1854 passed out of the Senate on a 54-0 vote. IFCA is monitoring SB1854.**

SB1993 VEH CD-DIESEL EMISSIONS (SANDOVAL M), Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Deletes language providing that each diesel-powered vehicle that is registered for a gross weight of more than 16,000 pounds or has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 16,000 pounds and that is operated by an interstate carrier of property is subject to provisions that pertain to diesel emission inspections. **SB1993 passed out of Senate Transportation Committee on 17-0 vote. IFCA is monitoring SB1993.**

SB1980 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DIST (BENNETT S), Amends the Soil and Water Conservation Districts Act. Provides that the purposes of soil and water conservation districts include the conservation of soil health, organic matter in soil and plants, and water quality (rather than just water); and the improvement of resilience to droughts, floods, and other extreme weather. Defines "soil health". Allows districts to initiate and conduct specified activities regarding improvement of soil health, including surveys, investigations, research, development of comprehensive plans, entering into agreements with or cooperating with other entities, and making agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment available to landowners or occupiers within the district. ***SB1980 has passed out of the Senate 56-0 vote. IFCA supports SB1980.***

SB2088 DIGITAL FAIR REPAIR ACT (FINE L), Creates the Digital Fair Repair Act. Provides that original equipment manufacturers shall: (i) make available to any independent repair provider or owner of equipment manufactured by the original equipment manufacturer the same diagnostic and repair documentation in the same manner as that information is made available to the manufacturer's authorized repair providers; and (ii) make available for purchase by the owner, his or her authorized agent, or any independent repair provider, parts, inclusive of any updates to the embedded software of the parts, upon fair and reasonable terms. Requires original equipment manufacturers to make available for purchase by owners and independent repair providers all diagnostic repair tools incorporating the same diagnostic, repair, and remote communications capabilities that the original equipment manufacturer makes available to its own repair or engineering staff or an authorized repair provider. ***SB2088 is scheduled for Senate Commerce and Economic Development Committee. IFCA is monitoring SB2088.***