

IASB Delegate Assembly Positions Addressed In The 2000 Spring Legislative Session

Delagate Assembly resolutions provide Association leadership and staff with direction in policy matters and with the legislature. Some prompt the introduction of new legislation, others establish positions for or against measures contained in existing legislation. Some resolutions call for other action—typically dealing with the federal government, the Illinois State Board of Education or member districts. As the chart below indicates, the

Association’s position statements gave IASB staff direction on hundreds of pieces of legislation.

Legislative proposals on School Breakfast (HB 2379), Inspector General (SB 1888), and IMRF Health Care (SB 100) were just three bills that were a direct affront to the most significant positions held by IASB. IASB and Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance lobbyists were successful in defeating these measure or impacting them in such a way as to remove any unfunded mandate implications.

Several measures were introduced that would have severely impacted the property tax base. Legislators typically feel pressure from taxpayers to lessen their tax burden in an election year. This year was no exception (as seen by the number of bills introduced effecting IASB Position 2.30). The IASB staff was successful in defeating the majority of these measures. Those that were successful made changes to current programs such as: extending the veteran lodge assessment freeze to the Masons; raising the income eligibility requirements for the Circuit Breaker; and removing veteran benefits from the income that is considered for the seniors assessment freeze.

Another election-year hot button is student safety. As the chart below indicates,

there were many bills introduced on this subject. After the incident in Decatur school management folks were fearful that changes would be made in their decision-making authority regarding suspensions and expulsions that, as school leaders are aware, are an important part of maintaining safety in schools. Not only were Alliance lobbyists successful in defeating all of the measures introduced to impact this authority they were able to work to pass a bill that allows school districts greater flexibility—SB 1426.

These are just a few of the highlights. The chart below provides a picture of all the changes the General Assembly proposed effecting the business of providing public education.

IASB Positions			
Spring 2000 Proposed Legislation			
		House Bills	Senate Bills
1.01	Educational Programs	3107, 4266, 4021	1387, 1494
1.02	Curricular Material Determination	1812, 3254, 3900	1485
1.03	Alcoholism and Drug Use	3343, 4342	1287, 1332, 1633, 1853
1.06	Preschool Programs	4325, 4452	
1.07	Safety for School Children	390, 2901, 2931, 3031, 3221, 3275, 3419, 3430, 3847, 3881, 4045, 4068, 4140, 4166, HJR 63, HJR 36	1335, 1426

continued

Spring 2000 Proposed Legislation		
	House Bills	Senate Bills
1.08 Special Education Appeals	HR 61	
2.01 Priority and Support	4435, HJRCA 19	
2.02 Funding Sources	4091, 4121, 4582	1310, 1674, 1866
2.04 Funding Mandated Programs	1400, 2067, 2379, 3345, 3756x	100, 1384, SJR 66
2.09 Chapter I Eligible	4044	
2.13 Permissive Rate Equalization	2944, 3385, 3436, 4030	
2.17 School Aid Revisions	2733	
2.21 Capital Funding for School Construction	2881, 2953, 3313, 3555, 4268, 4332, 4439, 4583, 4587	1282, 1627
2.23 Heat Days Funding		1445
2.24 Summer School Funding		1290
2.25 Local Tax Collection and Distribution	3360, 3947, 4071	1684
2.26 Tax Levy Amendments	3435	
2.27 Alternative Schools	2984, 2917	
2.28 Tort Immunity Fund	3219	
2.30 Property Tax Base	2906, 2919, 3169, 3361, 3428, 3470, 3483, 3872, 3977, 4117, 4128, 4131, 4132, 4302, 4307, 4426	747, 1292, 1307, 1312, 1317, 1396, 1399, 1525, 1526, 1544, 1623, 1685, 1686, 1708, 1865
2.32 Tax Increment Financing	665, 2948, 2955, 3898, 4329	1451, 1662, 1683
2.37 Tax Cap Exemptions		1878
2.39 Property Tax Classification	4020	1303
2.40 School Finance Reform		1918
2.42 Tax Law and Assessment Practices	3385, 3983, 4020, 4057	1303
2.51 Unfunded Mandates	3101, 3255, 3345, 3399, 3949, 4088, 4428	100, 1261, 1440, 1474, 1621, 1703, 1715, 1719, 1720, 1724, 1865, 1888 SJR 48
2.55 Special Education (PL 94-142)		
3.05 Effective Date and State Board Rules and Regulations		HJR 61
3.07 Local District Flexibility	2379, 3320, 3406	1559, 1726
4.01 Vandalism	3221, 3419	1382
4.04 Conflict of Interest	2904	
5.01 Board Rights	1823, 2379, 2940, 2977	1352, 1494, 1496, 1664
5.02 Teacher Compensation	4189	1254, 1258, 1703
5.05 Strikes (State Aid Penalty)	1176	
5.08 TRS Board Public Representation	4347	
5.09 Prevailing Wage Act		1590
5.13 Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act		1860
5.14 Workers' Compensation Law	4331	
5.15 IMRF Qualification	4183, 4188	
6.01 Local Control	2379, 2886, 2974, 3050, 3237, 3478, 3840, 3881, 3913, 3914, 3985, 3991, 4183, 4428, 4429	100, 1246, 1280, 1412, 1426, 1450, 1476, 1719, 1888, SJR 66
6.02 Image of Public Education	2976	1604, 1888
6.03 Periodic Review of State and Federal Mandates	3354	
6.06 State Board of Education Membership	2923	
6.11 School Crossing Safety	3275, 3941	
6.15 ISBE Rules and Regulations Review	HJR 61	
6.19 Group Placement of Students		1447
6.28 Statutory Job Descriptions		1333
7.02 District Reorganization	3910	

NOTE: Bill text and status are available online at: <http://www.legis.state.il.us>.