



## **Legislative Agenda Proposals for 2024 (As of December 11, 2023)**

The following legislative proposals were provided to the Legislative Committee for discussion during their meetings on November 2 and December 11. The Legislative Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve these proposals for inclusion within the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) 2024 Illinois County Action Program (ICAP).

### **County Appointments to Restore, Reinvest and Renew Board**

**Issue:** The Restore, Reinvest and Renew (R3) Program was created as part of the 2019 cannabis legalization law. The Program is overseen by a Board responsible for allocating funds to address disparities in social equity, economic disinvestment, violence, poverty and health.

Eight municipal offices are represented on the 41-member Board. Each are appointed by the R3 Board Chair. The law does not include authorization for the Chair to appoint county officials.

**Proposal:** Allow for county officials to be appointed to the R3 Board.

### **Website Posting of Property Assessments**

**Issue:** In general assessment years, counties must post a list of all property assessments in a newspaper of general circulation within the county. In the years between general assessments, counties are mandated to publish in a newspaper a list of only those real property assessments that have been changed. Newspapers are the only allowable method of publication.

**Proposal:** Allow local governments to meet property assessment publication mandate by either publishing the information on a county website or in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

### **Expand Local Option Motor Fuel Tax to All Non-Home Rule Counties**

**Issue:** Under current law, the only non-home rule counties permitted to impose a county Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) are DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will. Cook County imposes an MFT using its home rule authority.

**Proposal:** Expand authority to impose a county MFT not to exceed 8 cents per gallon to all non-home rule county boards for the ongoing maintenance and construction of essential infrastructure.

## **Enhance Procurement Opportunities for Women and Minorities**

**Issue:** The Illinois Counties Code does not have clear language authorizing the establishment of goals for the procurement of goods and services that promote and encourage the participation of minority-owned and operated businesses, women-owned and operated businesses, businesses owned and operated by persons with disabilities or businesses owned and operated by veterans.

**Proposal:** Provide counties with specific authority to establish procurement processes that could favor contracting with minority-owned businesses, women-owned and operated businesses, businesses owned and operated by persons with disabilities and businesses owned and operated by veterans. Additionally, provide clear authority for counties to establish procurement goals involving businesses located within the county.

## **State Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Ways in Unincorporated Areas**

**Issue:** P.A. 102-0660 includes a provision whereby the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) shall use available funding to cover the cost of bicycle and pedestrian ways associated with State transportation facilities located within one mile of municipalities with a population exceeding 1,000 people.

Under current law, there are some unincorporated areas within counties that are not eligible for available state funding to construct bicycle and pedestrian ways associated with State transportation facilities despite their proximity to urban areas.

**Proposal:** Amend the statute to provide that State transportation facility projects in unincorporated areas of counties with proximity to urban areas shall receive available state funding for bicycle and pedestrian ways.

## **Statutory Authority to Lease County-Owned Property**

**Issue:** Illinois law does not provide clear statutory authority for counties to lease county-owned real estate to another party.

**Proposal:** Amend state law to clarify that counties may lease or sell county-owned real estate to another party.

*Note: This proposal was brought to ISACo on Friday, December 8 by Kane County. The Legislative Committee recommends conditional approval of the concept subject to the Committee reviewing and approving the proposed legislative language.*