



UNITED COUNTIES
COUNCIL *of* ILLINOIS



April 1, 2025

The Honorable Doris Turner
Illinois State Senate
M103 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Senator Turner,

This letter is intended to share the views of the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) and United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) on Senate Bill 1954, which proposes amendments to the Counties Code by creating the “Recall of Countywide Elected Officials Division.”

This legislation represents a significant change in Illinois election law by authorizing county boards (via ordinance) or residents (via petition) to initiate a recall of countywide elected officials.

To the best of our knowledge, this bill would make countywide elected officials the only local officials subject to recall under Illinois state law—apart from a small number of home rule municipalities that have adopted recall ordinances (e.g., Oak Park, Buffalo Grove, Mount Prospect, Wheeling, Park City, and Dolton).

The only current state official subject to recall under current law is the Governor. This authority was adopted following the enactment of the Governor Recall Act and the successful passage of an amendment to Article III, Section 7 of the Illinois Constitution.

In reviewing the legislation, we are curious as to why countywide elected officials are being singled out for recall under state law. Additionally, apart from what we are certain is the pure intent of the legislation, we are concerned that such authority could be abused as an extension of politics in some counties. This concern is particularly related to the voter-initiated referenda process.

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Thank you for your leadership in the Illinois Senate and your willingness to consider our concerns. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information. Thanks.

Respectfully,



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