









# Membership Has Value

# **Illinois State Association of Counties**

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#### **LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

ISACo prioritizes building constructive and long-term relationships with policymakers at the state and federal levels to achieve successful outcomes for Illinois counties. Every year, ISACo develops and introduces a proactive legislative agenda to provide solutions to challenges confronting counties.

ISACo reviews thousands of introduced bills each year. During the 2023 spring legislative session, almost 6,700 bills were filed. This excludes resolutions and proposed constitutional amendments. In total, 567 bills were approved by both chambers. Put another way, 8.4% of introduced House and Senate bills made it to the Governor's desk. ISACo tracked almost 1,000 bills and took official positions of support or opposition to legislation 125 times during the 2023 spring session.

Communicating news and information about these issues is a priority for ISACo. Making this information available to county officials and staff in a timely manner increases the likelihood of achieving favorable policy outcomes for counties.

## ISACo Legislative Agenda

ISACo staff engages with our members, committees and leadership to identify challenges and solutions for Illinois counties. The solutions become the basis for our annual legislative agendas.

## **Bill Tracking and Legislative Positions**

ISACo reviews and analyzes thousands of bills filed by legislators to identify those that will affect county government. ISACo conveys our position on each bill directly to legislators and frequently files witness slips and provides testimony in support or opposition to proposals in legislative committees.



## **Legislative Communications**

ISACo communicates legislative activity to our members using various reports. These include our weekly **News and Views** e-newsletter, our annual **Public Acts Report**, our annual **State Mandates Report** and our **Federal Legislative Update**.

ISACo also researches policy issues and publishes Fact Sheets, Policy Briefs and special memoranda on these issues

#### ISACo COMMUNICATIONS

- News and Views e-newsletters- ISACo publishes content on a weekly basis each year. Each of these e-newsletters are available on ISACo's website.
- The County Quarterly is mailed to county officials and interested parties throughout Illinois. It is also available on ISACo's website.
- ISACo provides a compendium of Attorney General opinions relevant to counties. This information is available on ISACo's website. ISACo publishes county job listings on our website.
- ISACo is committed to making resources available to Illinois counties. To this end, we have resource pages on issues such as the SAFE-T Act, Clean Energy Jobs Act, State and Local Fiscal and Recovery Funds, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

"ISACo is dedicated to promoting the interests of Illinois Counties. Both the Board and the Staff are committed to collaborating with all our members, aiming for a shared objective of educating and advocating for the county story, that Counties Count."

-ISACo President, Matthew Prochaska



#### **CAUCUSES AND COMMITTEES**

ISACo offers the following opportunities for county officials and staff to collaborate and discuss common challenges and share ideas for the betterment of county government.

#### **Cook and Collar County Caucus**

The Cook and Collar County Caucus (CCCo) consists of the elected President, Chair or Executive from the member counties of Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane, McHenry and Kendall Counties. The Caucus is governed by its own rules or bylaws.

### **Large County Board Caucus**

The Large County Board Caucus (LCBC) consists of elected Presidents, Chairs or Executives as well as County Board Members from Member Counties with a population exceeding 100,000 residents as determined by the last federal census. The Caucus is governed by its own rules or by-laws.

#### **Rural Action Caucus**

The Rural Action Caucus (RAC) consists of elected Chairs and Executives as well as County Board Members from Member Counties with a population under 100,000 residents as determined by the last federal census. Any county, however, can request to be a member regardless of population. The Caucus is governed by its own rules or by-laws.

### **Legislative Committee**

Membership on the Legislative Committee is open to any county official or staff member who applies and is approved by ISACo's President for membership on the Committee.

# **Policy Committees**

ISACo offers the following policy committees contingent upon there being at least one person from five counties interested in becoming an active member of a committee:

- Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee
- Community, Economic and Workforce Development Committee
- Environment, Energy and Land Use Committee
- Public Health Committee
- Justice and Public Safety Committee
- Transportation Policy Committee
- Arts and Culture Committee

#### **ISACo Services Include:**

- Weekly e-newsletter with legislative updates and webinar opportunities
- Legislative advocacy at the state and federal levels
- Quarterly newsletters with informative articles on important topics
- Proprietary legislative tracking system prioritizing county issues
- Office space in Springfield for use by members and affiliates
- Education and training opportunities for member counties









# Podcasts & Video Content County Lobby Day





## ISACO DUES STRUCTURE:

ISACo Basic Dues: \$300 + .006 cents per resident

Cook and Collar County Caucus: \$25 per 1,000 residents (\$16,000

maximum)

Large County Caucus: \$35 per 1,000 residents (\$7,000 maximum)\*

ISACo's offerings of programs and services will grow as our membership and resources grow. Your membership <u>will make a difference!</u>

\*Counties with 100,000 or more residents.

# **2023 ISACo Member Counties**

Calhoun Carroll Cass Clark Cook Cumberland

DeWitt DuPage Grundy Hamilton Henderson

Jackson Johnson Kane Kendall Lake

Lawrence Macon McHenry Montgomery Ogle

Peoria Sangamon Stark Tazwell Washington

White Will Williamson Winnebago