

**For Immediate Release**  
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# **Speaker Welch Announces Committee Chairs for New Session**

*Bipartisan Slate Includes Republican Veteran to  
Lead VA Committee*

**SPRINGFIELD, Ill.** – House Speaker Emanuel ‘Chris’ Welch announced a bipartisan slate of veteran policy experts and new leaders to chair House committees in the coming legislative session, including selecting the first Republican to chair a committee in more than a decade.

“Enacting policies that help families make ends meet, protect and expand the rights of working people, and create opportunity for a bright future takes careful review, deliberation, and thoughtful discussion—and that’s the work that needs to be happening every day in our committees,” Welch said. “The chairs I have selected bring invaluable legislative knowledge, firsthand experience at the critical junctures where policy is implemented on the community level, an abiding sense of compassion, and a deep appreciation for the importance of the work we’re doing on behalf of Illinois families.”

In addition to selecting subject matter experts with years of experience from his own caucus, Welch tapped Republican Representative and 27-year United States Army veteran Dan Swanson to lead the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

“As a veteran, Representative Swanson has served our

country with honor and distinction, and I know he will bring the same solemn sense of duty to leading a bipartisan Veterans Affairs Committee,” Welch said. “Every committee unites people of different backgrounds and perspectives in order to achieve a common goal. Whether that goal is serving our veterans, supporting our students and educators, improving our workplaces, or protecting the dignity of everyone who calls Illinois home, the work before us is clear and we all must be ready to talk, to compromise, and to do that work together.”

The full list of House committee chairs is:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>
Adoption & Child Welfare	Suzanne M. Ness
Agriculture & Conservation	Sonya M. Harper
Appropriations: Elementary & Secondary Education	William ‘Will’ Davis
Appropriations: Health & Human Services	Anna Moeller
Appropriations: General Services	Fred Crespo
Appropriations: Higher Education	La Shawn K. Ford
Appropriations: Personnel & Pensions	Stephanie A. Kifowit
Appropriations: Public Safety & Infrastructure	Rita Mayfield
Childcare Access & Early Childhood Education	Joyce Mason
Cities & Villages	Anthony DeLuca
Consumer Protection	Debbie Meyers-Martin
Counties & Townships	Aaron Ortiz

Cyber Security	Edgar Gonzalez, Jr.
Economic Opportunity	Will Guzzardi
Education Policy Committee	Michelle Mussman
Elementary & Secondary Education: Licensing & Charter Schools	Sue Scherer
Energy & Environment	Carol Ammons
Ethics & Elections	Maurice A. West, II
Executive	Ann M. Williams
Financial Institutions	Margaret Croke
Gaming	Daniel Didech
Gun Violence Prevention	Maura Hirschauer
Healthcare Access & Availability	Natalie A. Manley
Healthcare Licenses	Bob Morgan
Higher Education	Katie Stuart
Housing	Lilian Jimenez
Human Services	Terra Costa Howard
Immigration & Human Rights	Barbara Hernandez
Insurance	Thaddeus Jones
International Relations, Tourism, & Trade	Dave Vella
Judiciary-Civil	Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz
Judiciary-Criminal	Justin Slaughter
Labor & Commerce	Marcus C. Evans, Jr.

Mental Health & Addiction	Lindsey LaPointe
Museums, Arts, & Culture	Kimberly Du Buclet
Personnel & Pensions	Janet Yang Rohr
Police & Fire	Michael J. Kelly
Prescription Drug Affordability	Jawaharial Williams
Public Health	Anne Stava-Murray
Public Utilities	Lawrence 'Larry' Walsh, Jr.
Restorative Justice & Public Safety	Kelly M. Cassidy
Revenue & Finance	Curtis J. Tarver II
Rules	Robyn Gabel
Small Business, Tech Innovation, & Entrepreneurship	Angelica Guerrero-Cuellar
State Government Administration	Diane Blair-Sherlock
Transportation: Regulations, Roads, & Bridges	Martin J. Moylan
Transportation: Vehicles & Safety	Jaime M. Andrade, Jr.
Veterans Affairs	Dan Swanson

The Appropriations: Personnel & Pensions Committee was created this year in the House Rules. In consultation with members, Speaker Welch has agreed to create a new Gun Violence Prevention Committee; an International Relations, Tourism, & Trade Committee; and a Museums, Arts, & Culture Committee.

In order to better reflect their purviews, the Elementary & Secondary Education: Curriculum & Policy Committee will be renamed as the Education Policy Committee, and the Restorative Justice Committee will be renamed as the Restorative Justice & Public Safety Committee.

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