



ISACo Committee/Task Force Creation Proposal

September 8, 2023

Committee Formation and ISACo's By-Laws

ISACo's by-laws allow for the President to recommend the creation of committees with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

To date, ISACo has a Legislative Committee that meets as needed on an annual basis. This Committee typically meets 2-3 times each year to discuss the prospective legislative agenda and *County Platform* amendments for the following year.

Proposal for Effectuating Committee Formation

ISACo wants to make committee opportunities available for members with a high interest in participating and contributing toward policy formation. President Prochaska and Director McCoy consulted and are proposing that ISACo create a committee when there are at least five counties evidencing a desire to have a county official or staff member appointed. This will ensure that committees are active with engaged members.

To gauge initial interest in committee formation, we propose that ISACo send communications to our member counties and affiliates with a list of policy committees (generally modeled off of NACo's Policy Steering and Standing Committees) and ask if the county has any officials or staff interested in serving on any of the committees. The communication would appear as follows:

Dear (COUNTY OFFICIAL):

The Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) is seeking members to serve on several Policy Committees. Participation would be virtual and occur four times per year unless the members of a committee desire to meet more frequently. The proposed committees are as follows:

- _____ 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

Please place a checkmark next to one or more committees on which you would be interested in serving. A committee will be created when there is at least one person from no fewer than five counties indicating interest in participation.

Please complete the form below and return it to Legislative Advocacy and Research Manager Nekya Hall at nhall@isacoil.org.

Name: _____
Title: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Wind and Solar Policy Task Force

Recently, it has come to the attention of ISACo that there is interest among multiple counties in having a forum to discuss possible changes to the wind and solar legislation enacted into law on January 27, 2023. ISACo was an opponent of the law's preemption of county siting and zoning authority.

Director Joe McCoy and Legislative Advocacy and Research Manager Nekya Hall participated in a Will County Legislative Committee meeting on September 5, where the issue of the law's preemption of county zoning and siting was discussed. Director McCoy [submitted a memorandum](#) to the Committee and delivered a presentation on the legislative history of the new law.

The intent of discussing changes is not to attempt to overturn the law (which would be politically unlikely and very impractical), but rather to identify changes that accomplish the goals of the law while providing counties with more flexibility with respect to where a wind or solar facility should be located in a county.

President Prochaska is proposing the creation of a Task Force specifically focused on the wind and solar siting and zoning issue. The Task Force would discuss and collect policy recommendations for consideration by the Board of Directors. Approved proposals would be presented to the General Assembly for its consideration.