

ILA PPC Special Meeting Notes

March 26, 2024

Aaron Skog, note taker

Attendees via Zoom

Present (we skipped a roll call so this is based on the Zoom attendee list)

Kyla Waltermire – Mississippi Valley District Library (CHAIR)

Laura Long – East Moline Public Library

Donna Schaal – Argenta-Oreana Public Library District

Aaron Skog – SWAN

Tom Stagg – Alpha Park Public Library District (phone)

Nikeda Webb – Matteson Public Library

Absent

Mike Driskell – Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Anna Karwowska – Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District

John Kokoris – Hinsdale Public Library

Tana Petrov – Fountaindale Public Library District

Jamie Paicely – Flossmoor Public Library

Ex officio

Cyndi Robinson – ILA

Greg McCormick – ISL

Ryan Johnson – O'Fallon Public Library

Heather Jagman – DePaul University Library

Lou Ann Jacobs – AISLE

Amanda McKay Williamson – Effingham Public Library

Amy Byers – Chatham Area Public Library District

Ellen Popit – IHLS

Guests

Derek Blaida – Legislative Consultant at Illinois Library Association

Dan Bostrom – RAILS

Joe Filapek – RAILS

Bill list discussion lead by Derek Blaida

The 3 priority bills supported by ILA PPC will be addressed at the end.

The house is on a break currently.

House Bills

HB 2401 Diversity in literature

The original bill was not viewed favorably to ILA. It was viewed with a lot of anxiety on the front of book challenges and detailed review beyond the purview. The bill in its current format will likely not pass. It sits in committee, but if it comes out, it would probably look very different.

HB4418 Government contract retainage

The bill says you can no longer withhold 10% of the money. This bill would change a practice that is universally supported by local government. The sponsor of the bill may not fully understand what their bill will do. Derek recommends that ILA oppose this bill as it goes into committee.

HB4503 Early voting

Massive consequences to suburbs of Cook County. Katie Stuart is a big supporter of ILA, and is a sponsor. The bill as far as Derek's POV is not written well. The approach ILA should take is to have this discussed in wider detail as this bill is somewhat problematic.

HB4567 Crime threats to library employees

Currently, under state law, this is a high level misdemeanor, or low level felony. The intention here is to raise the penalties to a clear felony level. Derek is not sure it will come out of committee, and will it have a committee hearing. ILA will continue to support this bill.

HB4576 Publications in prison

The goal is to have the state adopt a rule to consult with a degreed librarian. We should support it fully. No committee hearing is set yet.

HB5300 Wage payment pay-stubs

The wage pay-stubs are denied often to individuals that request them. This bill does not seem to impact libraries, so ILA should monitor, but take no position on this bill. Laura Long, Fremont

Public library, asked about the requirements to provide this information if a long term employee left the organization, which Derek believes is a shared concern.

HB4505 Legal notices

Laura Long, Fremont, asked about this bill. Derek explained that if we support this, we set the stage later for some changes ILA would like to support later. Dereke does not expect this bill to pass or come out of committee. ILA research in this area for costs will help prepare us in the future.

Other bills on the provided list, will likely fall off over the following weeks.

Senate bills

SB2908 Adult changing station

This bill was raised by Laura Long as a concern with space since they have to fit an adult. The bill is for construction 2 years after, or renovations 4 years after. For small square footage libraries, where will this fit in the building plan?

SB2930 Not for profit demographics

This bill wants to collect information on demographics of its directors and officers. This bill has been watered down since it was introduced, and it could pass committee and pass in the Senate. This would be a “permissible report requirement.”

SB3608 Local state facilities

This bill, depending on who you ask, will impact construction of state facilities and limit home rule. This issue rose from a small dispute with a sanitary district, which now has grown to some statewide impact. Derek recommends ILA oppose this bill. The sponsor knows this bill has issues, so the bill may not go anywhere.

ILA Three Bills

This year, not many bills have made it into committee. Historically the senate has 600 bills, and this year there are only 300. Due to this the smaller issues are receiving a lot of scrutiny.

SB3563 Library treasurer bond bill

The bill is sitting in the House revenue subcommittee, which does have historical record of not letting bills languish. The votes are there to get this out of committee, and Erica Harris is supporting this, and it should not run into any issues.

HB4111 Competitive bidding threshold

There is an objection raised by the Ironworkers against this bill, which after ILA research shows ZERO projects would have been impacted by this bill. Our senate sponsor refused to call the bill, due to objections, despite the objections making no sense.

HB4528 Electronic resources bill

The Illinois Secretary of State believes this is unconstitutional, and asked the sponsor not to call the bill. There might be some confusion around the language of this bill, as it has different language compared to the Maryland bill that was found unconstitutional. The opposition is not looking at the language of the Illinois bill, and in fact they have based this objection on Connecticut bill's language! If it is unconstitutional, the courts should decide this, and it would be defended by the Illinois Attorney General if they wish to do so. ILA will continue to support and monitor this bill.

Discussion

Donna Schaal raised the HB4528 implications of disclosure. Derek shared that an NDA within a contract is typically against public policy. The question of how a FOIA would be complied with by an academic institution was asked.