



SBAC 2018 Illinois Legislative Agenda

Allow Local Communities to Address Local Licensing Issues

The SBAC strongly support a common-sense amendment to The Liquor Control Act of 1934. This provision would grant authority to the local liquor control commissioner to give exemptions for businesses who wish to serve alcohol within 100 ft. of a churches, school, and other community establishments currently prohibited by state law. Every community is unique and faces different challenges, therefore, giving local government's discretion over this standard is a practical solution to our current regulation. Due to state law, business owners must contend with a long and exhausting procedure to apply for an exemption, even with the consent and support of the impacted institution, city council member and community leaders.

[100th GA Legislation: [SB2436](#)]

Small Business Job Creation Act

Illinois small businesses employed 2.4 million people, or 46.4% of the private workforce in 2013. Encouraging job growth to our state's largest economic contributor is vital to ensure economic growth in the state. Under the Small Business Job Creation Tax Credit Act, employers under 50 employees qualify for a tax credit for each new job created encouraging small businesses to create jobs however that act did sunset. We encourage Springfield to bring back this widely used program.

[100th GA Legislation: [SB3153](#)]

Small Business Economic Impact Analysis

Many regulations imposed by state agencies disproportionately impact small business owners, causing many business owners to make tough decisions on cutting employees and changing business procedures to comply with newly imposed regulations. The SBAC has introduced legislation that would expand on the economic impact analysis when new rules are proposed by requiring state agencies to list the industries that will be impacted as well as identify the types of impacts small businesses the proposed ordinance will have on small business owners. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) will also place notification of all proposed rules affecting small businesses on its website.

100th GA Legislation: [HB5253](#)]

Redistricting Reform

In order to have a level playing field for small business, competitive elections are important to business owners being able to make a decision on who will support their interest. In order to allow for competitive elections the SBAC has joined the Redistricting Collaborative to advocate for a constitutional amendment to set up an independent commission to draw legislative district for state officials. The SBAC will be looking to support a legislative measure to tackle redistricting reform.

[100th GA Legislation: [HJRCA0043](#) & [SJRCA0026](#)]



Term Limits on Leadership

The SBAC urges legislators to support limiting a person's total service in the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives and Minority Leader of the Senate. Reform is important to ensure no one individual accumulates too much power or influence over our state's government. It will also help curb the influence of entrenched interests in the political process and give it back to voters.

[100th GA Legislation: [SJCA0019](#)]

Workers' Compensation Reform: Proportional Causation Standard

The SBAC urges legislators to pass fair workers' compensation reform. Illinois was named the No. 7 costliest workers' comp state in the 2014 Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking Summary. The manner by which Illinois handles causation is one of the reasons for our state's high workers' compensation premiums. Currently, Illinois has a 1 percent causation standard, meaning that if the workplace is responsible for the injury in any way, the employer pays in full.

The SBAC and several coalition partners have been advocating for a workers' compensation proposal that charges arbitrators with apportioning damages and compensating injured workers to the extent a work-related accident caused their injuries. For example, if an arbitrator determines 20% of an injury was caused at work and the remaining condition was caused by other factors, a petitioner would collect 20% of the award for damages. If an arbitrator determines that an injury was 80% attributed to a work injury, and 20% to other factors, an employee would recover 80% of the damages award. More than half the states have adopted percentage-based or proportional causation systems.

[100th GA Legislation: [SB3091](#)]

Constitutional Pension Reform - Accelerated Benefit Program

The SBAC urges legislators to introduce and support a bi-partisan pension bill previously introduced by Representative Mark Batinick. Under this proposal, eligible retirees will be offered the option to take a lump sum payment in exchange for all or a portion of their annuity, at a 25% discount to the state. Only those retiring will be presented this option. While Illinois faces a growing \$111 billion pension shortfall, this bill could potentially net the state billions in long-term savings. Most importantly, this legislation provides a voluntary and constitutional approach to addressing the state's pension obligations, while giving retirees greater control over their money. We ask our elected officials to make it a top priority to pass constitutional pension reform in 2018.

[100th GA Legislation: [HB0315](#)]