



## **SBAC 2019 Illinois Legislative Agenda**

### ***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, businesses with under 50 employees qualified for a tax credit for each new job created. Because of sunset legislation, this law expired and needs to be reenacted. We encourage Springfield to bring back this widely used program.

[101<sup>st</sup> GA Legislation: [SB1232](#); [HB2735](#)]

### ***Occupational Licensing Reform***

Occupational Licensing impacts many small businesses in multiple facets. The number of businesses subjected to this state oversight has increased exponentially since the 1950s when licensing was limited to a small number of professions. Along with the growth in the number of industries licenses there has also been a substantial rise in the education requirements, testing requirements and cost of the education. While common-sense licensing requirements are necessary to protect the welfare and safety of Illinois citizens, eliminating and reducing overly burdensome regulations will level the playing field for many entrepreneurs and help spark the economy.

[101<sup>st</sup> GA Legislation: [SB1756](#)]

### ***Redistricting Reform***

Gerrymandering is bad public policy and bad for small business. Electoral maps drawn to ensure election of one political party result in uncontested elections and elected officials who are beholden to party leaders and not constituents, including small business constituents. Illinois business owners and entrepreneurs who feel they cannot impact state policy may be less likely to grow their businesses in Illinois. Gerrymandering erodes the confidence that job creators have in our government. 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.

[101<sup>st</sup> GA Legislation: [SJCA0004](#) & [HJCA0015](#)]

### ***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. Enacting term limits for leadership will help restore the confidence of job creators in our government, thereby encouraging them to grow and create jobs.

[101<sup>st</sup> GA Legislation: [SJCA0003](#)]



### ***Regulatory Sandbox***

Since opening the Chicago Board of Trade in 1848, Illinois has been a leader in the financial industry ranking among the top cities in the world. As a result of our city's deep history in the financial market we have leaders in the industry that call our state home. We also have one of leading startup communities in the United States with institutions such as 1871. In order to stay competitive, we need to encourage and understand emerging industries. A regulatory sandbox is solution to give innovative financial products a way to test their services, under the close supervision of regulatory agencies, for a short period of time on a limited consumer base without going through rigorous process to be licensed first. We encourage legislators to continue to promote and encourage small businesses and entrepreneurs by establishing a regulatory sandbox.

[101<sup>st</sup> GA Legislation: [HB2825](#)]

### ***Workers' Compensation Reform: Proportional Causation Standard***

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 100% of the damage award.

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 by a work related incident and 80% was caused by other factors, the employer would be responsible for 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, the employer would be responsible for 80% of the damages award. More than half the states have adopted percentage-based or proportional causation systems.

The SBAC will look to collaborate with other stakeholders interested in bi-partisan workers compensation reform whether it is through this legislation or other policy proposals.

[100<sup>th</sup> GA Legislation: [SB3091](#)]