



# Laborers' International Union of North America

## Midwest Regional Office

John F. Penn, LIUNA Vice President and Midwest Regional Manager

### Illinois Legislative Update

September 25, 2015

Most Illinois House members returned to the State Capitol yesterday for a one day session. As has been custom, they took a vote on Gov. Rauner's ransom items – eliminating worker wage protections on local government construction projects and allowing local governments to strip their employees of collective bargaining rights – and took testimony on several budget-related subjects. The Senate was not in session this week and will not return until October 6. The House does not come back to Springfield until October 20.

#### **A Perfect 10**

The House has voted on portions of Governor Rauner's anti-worker, anti-middle class agenda 10 times now; and 10 times the House has overwhelmingly rejected it.

Rauner is holding the final pieces of the state budget hostage until legislators give in to his demands to cut construction worker pay through elimination of Prevailing Wage Act coverage on local government construction projects and allowing local governments to prohibit their employees from bargaining over pay, health insurance, privatization of their jobs and other, basic items.

With 60 votes needed to pass legislation and 71 Democrats elected to the Illinois House, Rauner's proposals face an uphill battle. Not surprisingly, no Democrat has ever supported the Rauner amendment. House Republicans have typically either voted "present" (a non-committal vote) or refused to vote. Their stated reasoning behind the voting strategy is that the amendments – even though they represent Rauner's proposals exactly – do not reflect the Governor's bill because it is not tied to his proposed two-year property tax freeze.

Only a handful of Republicans have voted with Labor on these critical issues and only one has done so consistently: **State Rep. Don Moffitt (R-Galesburg)**. Coincidentally, Moffitt announced this week that he will retire at the end of his term. A list of the total number of votes cast by downstate legislators is on the next page. **Please use this "milestone" 10<sup>th</sup> vote as an opportunity to reach back out to your area representatives** and thank them for their votes or ask them why they want to cut construction worker pay and allow local governments to prevent public employees from having a voice on the job.

#### **Madigan Addresses Building Trades**

Leaders of building trades unions from around the state came to Springfield this week for a quarterly meeting convened by the IL AFL-CIO. They were addressed for the third time this year by **House Speaker Michael Madigan (D-Chicago)** and other legislators.

Madigan discussed the "epic struggle" with Governor Rauner, reaffirming his commitment to protecting the wages of Illinois workers. The Speaker indicated that the items that Rauner is demanding in return for his support on completing the state budget process are unreasonable and would hurt the middle class. **Sen. Andy Manar (D-Staunton)** also addressed the group and indicated that Rauner's anti-worker agenda would actually cost the state \$200 million in revenue, thus digging its budget hole even deeper.

**Sen. Sam McCann (R-Carlinville)** spoke to the union leaders and indicated his opposition Rauner's agenda. This comes on the heels of his vote to override Rauner's veto of **SB 1229**, which would have required the governor to go to arbitration with state employees to resolve their expired contract. McCann was the only Republican in either chamber to go against the governor on the vote.



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Representative	Party-City	Right	Present	Not Voting	Absent	Excused
Carol Ammons	D-Urbana	9		1		
John Anthony	R-Morris		4	3		3
Dan Beiser	D-Alton	9			1	
Tom Bennett	R-Watseka	2	7	1		
Avery Bourne	R-Litchfield		5	4		1
John Bradley	D-Marion	10				
Dan Brady	R-Bloomington		8	2		
Adam Brown	R-Champaign		3	6		1
Terri Bryant	R-Carbondale	1	5	4		
Tim Butler	R-Springfield	1	9			
John Cabello	R-Rockford		3	5		2
John Cavaletto	R-Salem	3	3	3		1
Kate Cloonon	D-Kankakee	10				
Jerry Costello	D-Red Bud	9			1	
CD Davidsmeyer	R-Jacksonville	2	4	4		
Tom Demmer	R-Rochelle		5	3		2
Randy Frese	R-Quincy		9	1		
Jehan Gordon-Booth	D-Peoria	10				
Norine Hammond	R-Macomb	2	5	3		
Chad Hays	R-Danville	1	6	1		2
Jay Hoffman	D-Belleville	10				
Eddie Lee Jackson	D-E. St. Louis	10				
Dwight Kay	R-Edwardsville	2	6	1		1
David Leitch	R-Peoria	2	2			6
Frank Mautino	D-Spring Valley	6			4	
Charlie Meier	R-Highland	2	5	2		1
Bill Mitchell	R-Decatur	3	1	5		1
Don Moffitt	R-Galesburg	8		1		1
Brandon Phelps	D-Harrisburg	10				
Reggie Phillips	R-Charleston		1	5	4	
Raymond Poe	R-Springfield	4	1	2		3
Bob Pritchard	R-Sycamore	2	2	5		1
David Reis	R-Olney	2	1	4		3
Sue Scherer	D-Decatur	10				
Elgie Sims	D-Chicago	10				
Mike Smiddy	D-Port Byron	10				
Keith Sommer	R-Morton		8	1		1
Joe Sosnowski	R-Rockford	1	3	1		5
Brian Stewart	R-Freeport		3	1		6
Mike Unes	R-Pekin	4	2	3		1
Pat Verschoore	D-Rock Island	10				
Litesa Wallace	D-Rockford	10				