



Legislative Report

Legislature introduces TOI 2011 legislative agenda

MEMBERS OF THE Illinois legislature are about to introduce a series of bills that comprise the 2011 legislative agenda for the Township Officials of Illinois. That agenda was shaped by a process directed by the TOI legislative committee dating back to last fall, when suggestions were solicited from the general membership for legislative proposals by TOI staff. The legislative committee then approved those final measures in January.

Here is a rundown of those items now being introduced by lawmakers into the General Assembly. Next month's report will report the bill numbers assigned to these proposals.

Snow plowing regulations Prohibits shoveling snow from a residential driveway onto a public highway

Public aid appeal committee FOIA and Open Meetings exemption Exempts from both the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act correspondence and deliberation surrounding the appeal of a township general assistance application denial

Licensing of animals Expressly authorizes townships to license pet animals in unincorporated areas located within counties who have opted not to do so

Publication of local government reports in the newspaper Allows local governments to publish reports now required to be printed in a newspaper on a website (*Rep. Frank Mautino*)

Highway weight limit violation fines Clarifies that graduated fines can be applied to weight limit violations if they occur on posted roads less than 80,000 pounds (*Sen. John Sullivan*)

Motor fuel tax distribution Authorizes the Department of Transportation to distribute money directly to township road districts that employ both a professional engineer and a certified public accountant (*Sen. Christine Radogno*)

Township equipment sales Authorizes a township or road district to sell surplus property upon request of the highway commissioner or vote of the township road rather than just once a year by declaration at the annual town meeting



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