



# Legislative Report

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## Property Tax Task Force

ON AUGUST 2, 2019, Governor Pritzker signed SB 1932 (Public Act 101-0181) into law. The bill created the Property Tax Relief Task Force, a task force assigned to look at and propose solutions to the complex property tax situation facing Illinois. The task force is comprised of some 88 legislators and broken into 7 different subcommittees, each responsible for different areas of concern regarding property taxes. These committees are as follows; the Assessments and Exemptions, Social and Economic Disparities, School Funding and School Property Taxes, Local Pensions, PTELL and Local Governments' Tax Levy, TIF Districts, and (of course) Government Consolidation.

The task force was given 90 days from the date of the bill becoming law to hold meetings, deliberate and submit an initial report on its findings to the members of the General Assembly. A final report, outlining "short-term and long-term administrative, electoral, and legislative changes needed to create short-term and long-term property tax relief for homeowners" is due to the General Assembly by December 31, 2019.

The final report of the task force will likely shape future dialogue on both the property tax reform and government consolidation efforts in Springfield. There is an expectation that the report will generate many pieces of legislation or a potential omnibus bill during

the spring session of 2020.

The Township Officials of Illinois were invited to provide testimony before the Government Consolidation subcommittee. TOI used the opportunity to share with the committee members, knowledge regarding the functions of townships, the multitude of services they provide, and most importantly how cost efficient townships are when providing those services.

Committee members were given data from a recent study that showed that not only do township have the lowest expenditure increase among units of local governments but also the lowest average salary and the lowest average wages.

It won't come as a surprise to you that there is a narrative being pushed that in order to solve the property tax issue all that needs to be done is to consolidate local governments. This narrative ignores the actual structural issues with the property tax system and lacks data to back its claims that consolidation, without cutting services, will reduce property taxes. TOI has and will continue to push back against this misguided effort while we work with legislators on real solutions to the property tax problem.

If you are curious regarding if one of your legislators is on the task force you can find that information here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/rev/research/taxresearch/Pages/Property-Tax-Relief-Task-Force.aspx>.



## Your assistance is needed ...

To make sure that you, or the officials in your township, receive their issue of *Township Perspective*, please make sure that TOI is notified when there is a change of official or address. We are receiving several address changes from the postal service and sometimes is after we have already sent out another mailing.

Please call the TOI Office toll free at 1.866.897.4688 and ask for Pam or Kayla, or email your change to [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org) or [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org).

**Your assistance is much appreciated!**

