

Legislative Report

By Taylor Anderson

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2022's Legislative Outlook

THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY got an early start this new year and returned to Springfield on January 4th. This is far earlier than normal for an election year; as a comparison January 28th, 2020, was the first day of session two years ago. However, this is anything but a normal election year as the date for the primary election has been moved from its normal day to June 28th (the 2020 primary was held on March 17th). This move has produced what will be a truncated spring session as legislators rush to complete their work in Springfield before returning to their districts leading up to the primary.

Adjournment is now scheduled for April 8th instead of the normal May 31st and there is much speculation about how firm this year's adjournment date will be. One large question is if the General Assembly will be able to craft a budget so early or if the budgetary process will spill past the April 8th adjournment. To accommodate the early ending of spring session, all of the deadlines on the calendar have also been shifted, leaving less time for bills to move through the legislative process. Whether this will result in a positive increase in legislative efficiency or spiral into a chaotic mess remains to be seen.

Last year contained a heavy agenda for TOI and we anticipate this year to follow suit. There is likely to be many proposals introduced that take aim at Townships. At the same time TOI is also seeking to advance many of our own proposals this year as part of our legislative package. Most of these proposals were submitted by you, the members of TOI. So even in this shortened spring session we are expecting it to be quite busy. To that end, please pay attention to any legislative action alerts you may receive as session unfolds. With the limited amount of time this year responding quickly to legislative alerts is even more important than normal. Happy New Year to you, your families, and your townships.

Here some important dates for the 2022 Spring Session:

- January 4th: First day of Spring Session.
- January 21st: Deadline introduction of Senate Bills.
- January 28th: Deadline introduction of House Bills.

February 2nd: Governor's State of the State/Budget Address.

February 10th: Deadline Senate Bills out of Senate Committees.

February 18th: Deadline House Bills out of House Committees.

February 25th: Deadline Senate Bills Third Reading.

March 4th: Deadline House Bills Third Reading.

March 25th: Deadline for bills from opposite chamber out of committee.

April 1st: Deadline for passage of bills from chamber of origin.

April 6th: **Township Officials of Illinois Lobby Day in Springfield.**

April 8th: Adjournment.

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