



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JOHN T. COLI, PRESIDENT

MARCH 5, 2013

Teamsters Joint Council 25 has taken positions on nearly a dozen bills during the 2013 Spring Session of Illinois' 98th General Assembly. Positions are organized by the trades and industries the bills may affect.

Illinois Teamsters Fight Reckless Pension Bills During Day of Action

On Thursday, Feb. 28, several pension reform bills were considered in the Illinois House. All pension bills heard failed to pass. Teamsters Joint Council 25 actively lobbied legislators to oppose these measures, including:

HB 1154, House Am. #1

The bill would eliminate cost-of-living adjustments
Votes: 2 yes/66 no

HB 1154, House Am. #2

The bill would eliminate

cost-of-living adjustments until pension systems are 80 percent funded
Votes: 0 yes/62 no

HB 1165, House Am. #1

The bill would increase the retirement age to 67
Votes: 1 yes/66 no

HB 1166, House Am. #1

The bill would increase employee contributions by five percent
Votes: 3 yes/ 61 no

Joint Council 25, Teamsters Local 916 and Teamsters Local 700 sent union representatives to lobby legislators on these matters. Locals also opposed pension reform proposals introduced this session that unfairly target public employees who have faithfully made their contributions to the state retirement systems.

Joint Council 25 is continuing to monitor pension reform proposals as they are introduced. For updates, check out TeamstersJC25.com.

TRANSPORTATION

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

HOUSE BILL 1374

REP. ANN WILLIAMS (D)

STATUS: In Labor & Commerce Committee

JOINT COUNCIL 25: Monitoring this bill

Requires trucking companies when registering with the Illinois Commerce Commission to provide proof of valid

worker's compensation insurance.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTING

SENATE BILL 1660

SEN. GARY FORBY (D)

STATUS: Referred to Assignments

JOINT COUNCIL 25: OPPOSES this bill

Sets forth the conditions under which a person who operates a motor vehicle for a carrier of property is an

independent contractor and not an employee. The bill will potentially threaten Teamster jobs.

IND. CONTRACTOR EXEMPTIONS

SENATE BILL 1661

SEN. GARY FORBY (D)

STATUS: Referred to Assignments

JOINT COUNCIL 25: OPPOSES this bill

Exempts certain types of independent



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contractors from the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Workers Comp Act. The bill further weakens the definition of an independent contractor and contributes to a diminishment of workers' rights.

STATE PROCUREMENT

SENATE BILL 2183

SEN. DON HARMON (D)

STATUS: Referred to Assignments

JOINT COUNCIL 25: SUPPORTS this bill

Encourages more sustainability and environmental impact considerations under the state procurement code.

LIQUOR CONTROL

SENATE BILL 1855

SEN. ANTONIO MUÑOZ (D)

STATUS: Referred to Assignments

JOINT COUNCIL 25: SUPPORTS this bill

Reasserts the state's public policy as it applies to the distribution of alcoholic beverages in Illinois. The bill will serve to protect Teamster jobs at local distributorships.

ILLINOIS FILM TAX CREDIT

FILM TAX CREDIT REPEAL

HOUSE BILL 180

REP. BILL MITCHELL (R)

STATUS: In Revenue & Finance Committee

JOINT COUNCIL 25: OPPOSES this bill

Repeals the Illinois Film Tax Credit in its entirety.

FILM TAX CREDIT EXPANSION

SENATE BILL 1816

SEN. PATRICIA VAN PELT (D)

STATUS: In Revenue Committee

JOINT COUNCIL 25: SUPPORTS this bill

Amends the existing tax credit to include performing artists and industrial, corporate and institutional productions. The bill will attract more business and create thousands of jobs.

FUNERAL INDUSTRY

FUNERALS/DISORDERLY CONDUCT

HOUSE BILL 2961

REP. JERRY F. COSTELLO II (R)

STATUS: In Restorative Justice Committee

JOINT COUNCIL 25: Monitoring this bill

Increases the time and distance for purposes of protests on property considered a funeral site. The bill inadvertently affects the ability to protest an employer. The bill infringes upon past negotiations of acceptable conduct at a funeral site. Joint Council 25 is working to address concerns over this legislation.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR LICENSING

HOUSE BILL 2616

REP. JIL TRACY (R)

STATUS: In Business & Occupational Licenses Committee

JOINT COUNCIL 25: OPPOSES this bill

Provides that the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Licensing Code shall

not preclude an owner, as defined within the Act, from having personal contact with consumers while a licensed funeral director is present. The bill will have a negative impact on current Teamster funeral directors.

PRIVATE BURIAL

SENATE BILL 2249

SEN. PAMELA ALTHOFF (R)

STATUS: Referred to Assignments

JOINT COUNCIL 25: OPPOSES this bill

Authorizes private burials without the involvement of a licensed funeral director. The bill poses many health concerns and has the potential to threaten Teamster jobs.

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