

## **Illinois Community College Trustees Association Action Alert**

May 21, 2007

### **General Assembly Approves Community College Ethics Legislation**

*The Illinois Senate unanimously approved House Bill 3504 on Friday afternoon, May 18, just before adjourning for the week. The bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Kurt Granberg in the House and Sen. Gary Forby in the Senate, now goes to the Governor for his consideration.*

*The Illinois House had approved the bill by a vote of 98-14-0 on March 29. The Senate vote was 55-0-0.*

*HB 3504 addresses local control issues for community colleges within the State's Ethics Act. The legislation clarifies that community college districts are units of local government and are addressed in the local government section of the State's Ethics Act. The bill will become law if the Governor approves it.*

### **Community College Bills That Have Passed Both Houses of the General Assembly**

#### **House Bill 3504 -- Ethics Act / Local Control of Community Colleges (Granberg / Forby)**

##### **ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

This ICCTA bill amends the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act to classify community college districts as units of local government that must adopt resolutions regulating the political activities and the solicitation and acceptance of gifts by their officials and employees (now, classified as state agencies subject to the entire Act's regulation and enforcement by the Executive Ethics Commission and the Governor's Executive Inspector General). Effective immediately. The bill is identical to Senate Bill 753 (Halvorson).

#### **HB 720 -- Community College Board Quorum (Black / Demuzio)**

##### **ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

This ICCTA bill amends the Public Community College Act and provides that for all meetings of a board of trustees, a quorum of members must be physically present at the location of the meeting. The bill clarifies language differences between the Open Meetings Act and the Public Community College Act.

#### **HB 721-- Community College Board Meeting Schedules (Black / Demuzio)**

##### **ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

This ICCTA bill amends the Public Community College Act to provide that public notice of the schedule of regular meetings of a board of trustees for the next calendar year, as set at the organizational meeting of the board of trustees, must be given at the beginning of that calendar year. The bill clarifies language differences between the Open Meetings Act and the Public Community College Act. The bill is identical to SB 401.

**\* For additional legislative updates, call ICCTA at 1-800-454-2282 \***

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