

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Summer 2018



By Chuck Vaughn  
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## IAFPD 2018 Legislator of the Year Recipients



Senator  
Jason A. Barickman (R)  
53rd District



Representative  
Robert Martwick (D)  
19th District

The 2018 legislative session was a strong success for IAFPD. We took action for, and against numerous bills, and on several we got alternative language to protect the Fire Protection District members.

### The four bills that we pushed for were:

**HB 4661** – A bill to eliminate the need for many of our members to take ethics training in multiple, but identical, training experiences. The obvious conflicts here led the bill to be passed with almost zero negative votes.

**SB 2471** – Several conflicting statutes, courts, and judges came up with conflicting definitions of what a volunteer is. This is an issue as to how we can protect the out-side jobs of volunteers since we have a very strong need to encourage volunteers to continue their service. The bill adopts the Federal definition of a 20% rule that measures against 80% of a full-time wage for a professional firefighter. Again, almost an all aye vote in both chambers.

**SB2629** – This bill allows IAFPD to create its own training program to meet the required training for following the Open Meetings Act. The same almost universal acceptance by aye votes, and now we can provide live, interactive training at multiple sites. This is at no cost to members or Districts.

**SB2638** – The Comptroller put out a new program that would require any district doing an audit using the cash accounting basis to change to the accrual method. IML tried to run a bill that only protected them, but the final bill (Under Sen. Clayborne) was the one we crafted that gave the districts 2 years to chose which system they wished to use. This also protects all the other small governments, and IML. A complete victory, here. Again, everyone voted for this.

**I am asking for the help of all of the IAFPD members to contact the Governor and him to sign all 4 bills (without making changes).** You may contact the Governor through his office's website using the Contact Us tab or using the mailing address: **The Honorable Bruce Rauner, 207 Statehouse, Springfield, IL 62706.**

As of 7/18/18 these are the activities on bills so far this summer. You will see that while lots of bills from our bill list have been sent to the Governor, only a few have had any action.

### Additional bills sent to Governor:

- H126 Paramedic recognition as covered as firefighters
- H127 Same as above
- H4345 Mental Health Day
- H4395 Elected officials on the internet
- H4536 Tiff bill for Hanover Park
- H4822 Election notices
- H5121 Rules for inter gov. co-operation act
- H5197 A Chicago bill that does not affect us
- H5221 Disabilities act eligibility
- S682 Opioid training bill
- S2477 Write-in ballot rules
- S2544 For Election boards
- S2598 Living area inspection rules and duties
- S2619 Chiefs qualifications - *(We were assured this was only for departments with paid employees.)*

### Signed

- S3304 Marshal rule making structure
- S1304 Appointing chief - *(We were told this will only cover departments with full-time paid employees)*

As you can see, there has been little activity in the Governors office, as most of his employees are on leaves of action to work on the election. I have had several recent contacts there, but so far none of our bill are signed. I do not feel any of our stuff has a problem, but I will stay on it. ■

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