

Legislative Update

September 27, 2023

Election season is officially underway! Candidates are making candidacy announcements all over the state and passing petitions to get on the ballot. We will have a better sense of who will be on the ballot after the filing period closes on December 4.

Veto session will be held **October 24 - 26 and November 7-9**. In addition to considering the legislation vetoed by the Governor, lawmakers will also be considering whether to renew the Invest in Kids Act Tax Credit Scholarship Program, set to expire at the end of this year. According to a press release issued by a coalition supporting the credit, over 41,000 scholarships have been offered since the inception of the Invest in Kids Act Tax Credit Scholarship Program and if the General Assembly does not act, 9,500 current recipients will lose their scholarships.

Rep. **Jennifer Ladish-Douglass** (D-Elmhurst) announced she will not seek re-election. Ladish Douglass defeated incumbent Deanne Mazzochi (R) in 2022 to represent the 45th House District.

Rep. **Justin Slaughter** has been chosen by his colleagues as the next House Chair of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus.

SEIU Healthcare organizer **Yolanda Morris** has been appointed to Sen. **Lakesia Collins'** former House seat. Morris was backed by Sen. Collins, who is also from SEIU. Morris worked with her union on the \$15 an hour minimum wage, and her work as a certified nursing assistant in nursing homes for more than 20 years was highlighted by SEIU Healthcare back in 2018.

Rep. **John Egofske** was appointed to replace former House Republican Leader **Jim Durkin**. He decided not to run again and has endorsed **Nicole La Ha Zwiernan**. Egofske will continue as Mayor of Lemont. Zwiernan, a former Homer Glen Trustee and special needs advocate, officially announced her candidacy for the 82nd District.

The House Republican campaign arm, House Republican Organization, recently removed Rep. **Tim Ozinga** (R-Mokena) as its chairman, replacing him with the former chair, Rep. **Ryan Spain** (R-Peoria). Ozinga plans to focus his fundraising efforts on the Big Tent Coalition.

The Illinois Retired Teachers Association looks forward to seeing its members at the 2023 Biennial Convention, on October 16th & 17th at the Crowne Plaza, 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703 · For questions about how to register please contact the IRTA office directly at 800-728-4782.