

ILLINOIS LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION



Doug Finke
President

The Illinois Legislative Correspondents Association (ILCA) is an organization of newspapers, news services, and television and radio stations whose representatives report actions of the General Assembly and Illinois government.

Chicago newspapers, the Associated Press and numerous downstate news agencies maintain year-round bureaus at the State Capitol. Through these representatives, Illinois government is one of the most comprehensively reported in the nation.

The ILCA dates back to early 1946, when Don E. Chamberlain and other correspondents covering the State Capitol worked with Governor Dwight H. Green, Secretary of State Edward J. Barrett and legislative leaders to establish modern pressroom facilities for the association. Four rooms

were assigned to the press in 1947, replacing the old system where reporters wrote their copy in anterooms and under stairs. As the ILCA continued to grow and the television and broadcast media joined the ranks of those covering state government, larger quarters were provided to the association near the legislative halls in the Capitol.

In 1976, a new, modern pressroom was designed on the mezzanine of the State Capitol Building between the second and third floors. Renovation of the television newsroom, where many of the formal press conferences are held, was completed in 2000. During a major renovation of the Capitol's west wing in 2013, the pressroom was relocated to a newly renovated space in the basement of the Capitol.

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