Legislative Support Services

The Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services provides general administration and policy oversight of the various legislative support agencies and commissions that assist the General Assembly: Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; Office of the Architect of the Capitol; Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability; Legislative Audit Commission; Legislative Ethics Commission; Legislative Information System; Legislative Printing Unit; Legislative Reference Bureau; and Legislative Research Unit.

The bipartisan joint committee is composed of the four legislative leaders: Senators John J. Cullerton and Christine Radogno, and Representatives Michael J. Madigan and Jim Durkin. Chairmanship of the committee rotates among the legislative leaders on an annual basis.

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

700 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-785-2254

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules is a bipartisan legislative oversight committee authorized to conduct systematic reviews of administrative rules promulgated by state agencies. The committee conducts several integrated review programs, including one for proposed, emergency and peremptory rulemaking, one for new public acts and a complaint review program.

The committee is composed of 12 legislators who are appointed by the legislative leader to serve two-year terms. The committee is co-chaired by a member of each party and legislative chamber. Support services for the committee are provided by 13 staff members.

The committee ensures that the General Assembly is adequately informed on how laws are implemented through agency rulemaking, and facilitates public understanding of rules and regulations. In addition to the review of new and existing rulemaking, the committee monitors legislation that affects rulemaking and conducts a public act review to alert agencies to the need for rulemaking.

The committee publishes on its website the weekly *Flinn Report* to inform and educate Illinois citizens about current rulemaking activity. It also maintains the state’s database for the *Illinois Administrative Code* and the *Illinois Register*.

Members: Senators: Don Harmon, co-chair; Bill Brady; Karen McConnaughay; Antonio Muñoz; Ira Silverstein; Chuck Weaver. Representatives: Keith Wheeler, co-chair; Peter Breen; Tom Demmer; Gregory Harris; Louis I. Lang; Andre Thapedi.

Staff: Vicki Thomas, executive director; and Mary L. Craig, deputy director.
Office of the Architect of the Capitol

602 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-782-7863

The Office of the Architect of the Capitol is responsible for preparing, refining and implementing a long-range master plan for continued development of the Capitol Complex. The office addresses, reviews and approves all contracts for the sustainability, preservation, repair, rehabilitation, renovation and/or alteration of all state buildings in the Capitol Complex, including ancillary and supporting functions and the surrounding grounds. The office has the authority to allocate space within the Capitol Complex for the use of the General Assembly and its related agencies, and to acquire land for the operation or expansion of state facilities within the complex. The Office of the Architect of the Capitol is governed by a four-member board.

Members: Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson, co-chair; Clerk of the House Timothy D. Mapes, co-chair; Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser; and Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin.

Staff: Mark Flowers, interim director; and Sue Friedrich, administrative assistant.

Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability

703 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-782-5320

The Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability provides the legislature with research and information on state and national economies and state revenue projections, while monitoring the state’s long-term debt position. It also oversees administration of the State Employees Group Insurance Program and annually reviews contracts for the program entered into by the Department of Central Management Services. The commission issues debt impact and pension notes on proposed legislation in those areas, as well as conducts periodic revenue estimates, economic updates and annual reports on the state’s capital plan, gaming and the financial condition of the State Retirement Systems and Illinois’ Public Pension Systems.

The commission is mandated to report to the General Assembly “on economic trends in relation to long-range planning and budgeting; and to study and make such recommendations as it deems appropriate on local and regional economic and fiscal policies and on federal fiscal policy as it may affect Illinois…” This mandate results in several reports being published throughout the year, including: Revenue Estimate and Economic Outlook; Legislative Capital Plan Analysis; Liabilities of the State Group Insurance Program; Report on the Financial Condition of Illinois’ Public Pension Systems; Financial Condition of the State Retirement System; and Gaming in Illinois. The commission also publishes an annual fiscal year budget summary as well as special reports on issues that could impact the financial well-being of Illinois.

Additional responsibilities of the commission include administration of the State Facility Closure Act and statutory duties set forth in the Debt Responsibility Act.
The commission consists of 12 members, with the four legislative leaders each appointing three members.

**Members:** Senators: Donne Trotter, co-chair; Pamela Althoff; David Koehler; Chapin Rose; Heather Steans; Dave Syverson. Representatives: Robert Pritchard, co-chair; Kelly Burke; C.D. Davidsmeyer; Elaine Nekritz; Al Riley; Barbara Wheeler.

**Staff:** Dan R. Long, executive director; Laurie L. Eby, deputy director; Jim Muschinske, revenue manager; Edward H. Boss, Jr., chief economist; Daniel Hankiewicz, pension manager; Donna Belknap; Anthony Bolton; Julie Bae; Victoria Copp; Briana Jackson; Lynnae Kapp; Jerry Lazarra; Eric Noggle; and Benjamin Varner.

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**Legislative Audit Commission**

622 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-782-7097

The Legislative Audit Commission is responsible for overseeing the State Audit Program, reviewing the stewardship of public funds and monitoring agency action to correct weaknesses disclosed by the audits of state agencies. The membership consists of 12 legislators appointed by the General Assembly leadership and equally apportioned between the two houses and political parties.

The commission is empowered to direct the Auditor General to undertake management, efficiency and program audits and special studies. In 2016, the commission reviewed and took action on 159 financial and compliance reports, the fiscal year 2014 and parts of the 2015 Statewide Single Audits and four performance audits.

The commission makes recommendations to the General Assembly for remedial legislation. It also recommends improvements to be implemented through administrative action by state agencies.

**Members:** Senators: Jason Barickman, co-chair; Tom Cullerton; Linda Holmes; Iris Martinez; Jim Oberweis; Dale Righter. Representatives: Robert Rita, co-chair; Mark Batinick; Fred Crespo; Barbara Flynn Currie; Sheri Jesiel; Joe Sosnowski.

**Staff:** E. Jane Stricklin, executive director; Mary Cullen; and Roland Sundberg.
Legislative Ethics Commission

420 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-558-1561

The Legislative Ethics Commission is a bipartisan legislative organization with jurisdiction over members and staff of the General Assembly. The commission conducts administrative hearings and rules on matters of alleged ethical misconduct brought before it by the Legislative Inspector General. The commission has the authority to make rulings, issue administrative recommendations and impose fines in connection with the interpretation and implementation of the state’s ethics laws.

The commission also is charged with coordinating public information materials that facilitate compliance, implementation and enforcement of the state’s ethics laws, and preparing ethics training materials for legislators and staff members.

The commission is composed of eight members who are appointed by the legislative leaders to serve four-year terms. Chairmanship of the commission rotates among its membership every two years.

Members: Senators: Terry Link, chair; James F. Clayborne, Jr.; Michael Connelly; Karen McConnaughay. Representatives: Norine Hammond; Chad Hays; Louis Lang; Arthur Turner.

Staff: Randy Erford, executive director.

Legislative Information System

705 Stratton Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-782-3944

The Legislative Information System (LIS) provides information technology services to the General Assembly by researching, recommending, developing, implementing and supporting the appropriate hardware, software and technology infrastructure.

Among the services provided by LIS are systems used throughout the legislative process by associated staff and agencies to create, file, track, and engross and enroll legislation; to create and maintain the daily calendar, the daily and final journals, and the daily transcripts; and to maintain the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the Illinois Administrative Code databases. LIS also supplies and supports the electronic voting systems in the Senate and House, laptop computers used by legislators to consider legislation and the General Assembly website.

Members: Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson; Clerk of the House Timothy D. Mapes; Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser; and Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin.

Staff: Mark Wenda, executive director; Patricia A. McLean, administrative services manager; and Daniel Winchester, systems services manager.
Legislative Printing Unit

105 Stratton Bldg., Springfield, 62706
217-782-7312

The Legislative Printing Unit provides printing services to members of the General Assembly, legislative committees and commissions, and other legislative agencies in accordance with policies established by the Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services. The unit may make and collect reasonable charges for these services and pay any amount collected into the state’s General Revenue Fund.

Among the services rendered by the unit are the designing and printing of stationery, envelopes, business cards, postal cards, news release headings, brochures, newsletters and annual reports. The unit also prints the Senate and House daily calendars and final journals, budget amendments and the Legislative Digest.

Members: Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson, co-chair; Clerk of the House Timothy D. Mapes, co-chair; Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser; and Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin.

Staff: Ron Rhone, executive director; Jenna Williams, fiscal officer; Sandi McDowell, secretary; Jerry Rabbe, day-shift supervisor; Dennis Rodems, assistant day-shift supervisor; Larry Carter, night-shift supervisor; and Don Maurer, assistant night-shift supervisor.

Legislative Reference Bureau

112 Capitol Bldg., Springfield 62706
217-782-6625

The Legislative Reference Bureau drafts and prepares legislation, including bills, amendments, resolutions and conference committee reports, for the General Assembly. In a typical biennium, more than 30,000 documents are produced by the bureau. The bureau maintains a database of current Illinois statutes at www.ilga.gov.

The bureau is responsible for recommending and preparing technical changes in the law. It prepares revisory bills and maintains organization of the Illinois Compiled Statutes through periodic filings with the Secretary of State. The bureau publishes the Legislative Synopsis and Digest, which contains a summary of legislative documents considered by the General Assembly, a record of all legislative action on the documents and several indexes. The digest is available online through the Legislative Information System or in book form during most weeks the General Assembly is in session. It also is available to the public by subscription.

After the end of each spring legislative session, the bureau’s legal staff reviews all reported decisions of the federal courts, the Illinois Supreme Court and the Illinois Appellate Court from the previous year. Cases that affect the interpretation of the Illinois Constitution, or statutes and cases that indicate a possible need for legislative action, are identified and summarized in an annual case report published by the bureau.

The bureau maintains a law library, which includes an extensive collection of historical materials relating to Illinois statutes and legislative documents, and other materials relating to the development and interpretation of Illinois laws.
Members: Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin, chair; Clerk of the House Timothy D. Mapes; Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson; and Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser.

Staff: James W. Dodge, executive director; Mark R. Warnings, deputy director; Andrea M. Creek, Wayne G. Hedenschoug, principal attorneys; E.F. “Fritz” Goebig, John L. Shull, Nicole H. Truong, senior counsel; Robert L. Cohen, Heather L. Harding, senior attorneys; Ronald Freeman, Shannon L. Fruth, Konjit T. Gomar, Andrew W. Janetzke, Azita Kakvard, Mark L. Mazzone, Matthew J. Petruszak, Heidi E. Poyer, Richard P. Schaller, Sarah M. Smith, staff attorneys; Karen L. George, resolution reviewer; Gabriel R. Lemme, resolution drafter; Shirley J. Hatchett, fiscal officer; Sharon L. Eek, administrative supervisor; Rebecca Hankiewicz, digest editor; and Michael S. Trudeau, librarian/resolution reviewer.


Legislative Research Unit

222 S. College St., Ste. 301, Springfield 62704
217-782-6851

The Legislative Research Unit (LRU) is the nonpartisan research arm of the Illinois General Assembly. The LRU staff includes lawyers, scientists, general researchers and librarians who support their research. LRU staff researches a wide variety of issues, including the Illinois Constitution; state and federal laws and legislation; health care; the environment; taxation and economic development; education; and transportation. LRU also sponsors a conference for newly elected legislators following a general election, as well as a district office staff training conference and the Legislative Staff Internship Program.

Major LRU publications include: First Reading, a legislative newsletter; the Directory of Illinois State Officials; Illinois Tax Handbook for Legislators; County Data Book; 1970 Illinois Constitution Annotated for Legislators; Preface to Lawmaking; Catalog of State Assistance to Local Governments; and Federal Funds to State Agencies. Selected publications are available at www.ilga.gov/commission/lru/lru_home.html.

Members: Senators: Pamela J. Althoff, co-chair; Thomas Cullerton; Napoleon Harris; Chad Hays; Mattie Hunter. Representatives: Anna Moeller, co-chair; Thomas Bennett; Avery Bourne; Mary Flowers; Christian Mitchell.

Staff: Alan R. Kroner, executive director; Jonathan P. Wolff, associate director; David R. Miller, deputy director for research; Thomas J. Bazan, assistant deputy director for research; Robert L. Bayless, senior staff scientist; Joshua L. Scanlon, staff attorney; Sarah E. Barlow, Melissa S. Cate, senior research associates; Robert Davis, Julie Dutton, Ashley Musser, research associates; Courtney Burress, Jonathon Kosciewicz, Sadie Shourd, Iayvo Valchev, research assistants; Kim Bartosz, head librarian; Jennifer Hebel, research librarian; Pia Yoswig, library associate; Cynthia Bates, fiscal officer; Susan Sicilia, assistant fiscal officer; Dianna Jones, office administrator; Amanda Gruber, boards and commissions; Kathleen Hazelwood, federal aid coordinator; and Tara Burke, Lacey Graham, Larry Riley, support staff.