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 Inspector General; Legislative Printing Unit; and Legislative Reference Bureau.

The bipartisan joint committee is composed of the four legislative leaders: Senators Don Harmon and Dan McConchie, and Representatives Emanuel “Chris” Welch 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 (JCAR) 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 leadership and 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 the JCAR staff.

The committee ensures that the General Assembly is adequately informed on how laws are implemented through agency rulemaking, and it 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 Bill Cunningham, co-chair, John Curran, Donald DeWitte, Kimberly Lightford, Antonio Muñoz and Sue Rezin; Representatives Keith Wheeler, co-chair, Tom Demmer, Michael Halpin, Frances Ann Hurley and Steven Reick.

Staff: Vicki Thomas, executive director, and Kevin Kulavic, 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 John W. Hollman, co-chair; Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser; and Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin.

Staff: Mark Flowers, senior project manager, and Sue Friedrich, administrative assistant.

Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability

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

The Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability is a bipartisan legislative support agency that provides the Legislature with general public policy research, information on state and national economies, and projections of state revenues. Additionally, the commission is responsible for the administration of the State Facility Closure Act and oversees the administration of the State Employees Group Insurance Program by reviewing program contracts and approving annual contract renewals. Pursuant to Public Act 100-1148, the former Legislative Research Unit was merged into the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, effective Dec. 10, 2018. The commission’s board is comprised of 12 legislators — split evenly between the House and Senate and between Democrats and Republicans.

The commission has three internal units — Revenue, Pensions and Research — each of which has a staff of analysts and researchers who analyze policy proposals, legislation, state revenues and expenditures, and benefit programs, and provide research services to members and staff of the General Assembly. The commission’s Revenue and Pension Units provide the General Assembly members and staff with policy analyses of legislative proposals that have a fiscal impact on the state, make policy changes to the Illinois Pension Code, or are otherwise required by the Debt Responsibility Act. These units annually publish a number of statutorily mandated reports including the Monthly Briefing, Budget Summary, Financial Condition of the State Retirement Systems, Financial Condition of Illinois Public Retirement Systems, and Legislative Capital Plan Analysis, among others, as well as on-demand reports and studies relating to other public policy issues. The Research Unit fulfills
requests from legislators, legislative committees and caucus staffs. The staff’s areas of expertise include general law, science and technology, taxation, education, local government, economics and fiscal affairs, and the political and social history of Illinois. Additionally, the Research Unit publishes the *First Reading* newsletter (containing details of recently passed legislation, research on current policy issues, and abstracts of reports that state agencies are statutorily required to file with the commission), the *Illinois Tax Handbook for Legislators*, *Federal Funds to State Agencies*, various reports detailing appointments to state boards and commissions, and a number of other publications and reference materials.

**Members:** Senators David Koehler, *co-chair*, Omar Aquino, Darren Bailey, Donald DeWitte, Elgie R. Sims, Jr. and Dave Syverson; Representatives C.D. Davidsmeyer, *co-chair*; Amy Elik, Amy Grant, Sonya Harper, Elizabeth Hernandez and Anna Moeller.

**Staff:** Clayton Klenke, *executive director*; Laurie Eby, *deputy director*; Jim Muschinske, *revenue unit manager*; Daniel Hankiewicz, *pension unit manager*; and Amy Barry, *research unit manager*.

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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 and program audits and special studies. In 2020, the commission took action on 152 financial and compliance reports; the fiscal year 2016, fiscal year 2017 and part of fiscal year 2018 Statewide Single Audits; and 10 performance audits.

The commission supports remedial legislation and recommends improvements to be implemented through administrative action by state agencies. Information about the commission, including its annual report and upcoming meetings, is available on the commission’s homepage at http://www.ilga.gov/commission/lac/lac_home.html.

**Members:** Senators Jason Barickman, *co-chair*, Neil Anderson, Christina Castro, Rachelle Crowe, Laura Ellman and Chapin Rose; Representatives Fred Crespo, *co-chair*, Jamie Andrade, Jr., Mark Batinick, Marcus Evans, Jr., Randy Frese and Tony McCombie.

**Staff:** Tyler Hunt, *executive director*, Andrew Morrison and Brenda Suter.
Legislative Ethics Commission

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

The Legislative Ethics Commission is a bipartisan legislative organization with jurisdiction over current and former 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 is composed of eight members, appointed by the legislative leaders to serve four-year terms. Chairmanship of the commission rotates among its membership every two years.

Members: Senators Jil Tracy, chair, Cristina Castro and Brian Stewart; Representatives Avery Bourne, Kelly Burke, Norine Hammond and Maurice West, II; and Pat McGuire.

Staff: Laurie Eby, executive director.

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Office of the Legislative Inspector General

P.O. Box 381, Petersburg 62675
217-558-1560

On Dec. 9, 2003, the Governor signed the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, which officially created the Office of the Legislative Inspector General. The office receives and investigates complaints of violations of any law, rule or regulation, or abuse of authority or other forms of misconduct by members of the General Assembly and all state employees whose ultimate jurisdictional authority is a legislative leader or the Joint Committee on Legislative Support Services. The office recognizes that the vast majority of state employees and officials are hardworking and honest individuals. However, when evidence of actual or apparent impropriety exists in state government, it must be effectively and objectively addressed either administratively or through the court system. The goal of the office is to heighten Illinois citizens’ trust in the functions of their state government.
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 the 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. The system 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: Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin, chair; Clerk of the House John W. Hollman; Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson; and Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser.

Staff: Mark Wenda, executive director; Susan D. Hall, 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: Assistant Clerk of the House Bradley S. Bolin, chair; Clerk of the House John W. Hollman; Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson; and Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser.

Staff: Ron Rhone, executive director; Jenna Williams, fiscal officer; Jerry Rabbe, shop supervisor; Dennis Rodems, assistant shop supervisor; Mark Kessler, production supervisor; and Mike Smith, bindery 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 John W. Hollman; Secretary of the Senate Tim Anderson; and Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser.

Staff: James W. Dodge, executive director; Andrea M. Creek, Wayne G. Hedenschoug, principal attorneys; John L. Shull, Nicole H. Truong, senior counsels; Robert L. Cohen, Konjit T. Gomar, Heather L. Harding, Heidi E. Poyer, senior attorneys; Kasey M. Farris, Casey P. Fitzgerald, Ronald Freeman, Christina M. Graham, Andrew W. Janetzke, Raydia Martin, Brian M. Sabal, Richard P. Schaller, Lauren N. Smith, Sarah M. Smith, Stephen P. Spence, staff attorneys; Catherine Johansen, editor/resolution reviewer; Ellen Ross, Laurel Williams, resolution drafters; Sharon L. Eck, administrative supervisor; Rebecca Hankiewicz, digest editor; and Michael S. Trudeau, librarian/resolution drafter.

Uniform Law Commissioners: James W. Dodge, Steven G. Frost, Harry D. Leinenweber, Thomas J. McCracken, Jr., William J. Quinlan, Quinn Shean, Susan D. Snyder, Howard J. Swibel and J. Samuel Tennenbaum.