



Bridgett Heinrich &lt;bheinrich@panaschools.com&gt;

## Fwd: Call to Action on HB 2784

1 message

Jason Bauer <jbauer@panaschools.com>  
To: Bridgett Heinrich <bheinrich@panaschools.com>

Tue, Mar 7, 2023 at 7:34 AM

March Board Meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: IASA &lt;iasa@iasaedu.org&gt;

Date: Mon, Mar 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Subject: Call to Action on HB 2784

To: &lt;jbauer@panaschools.com&gt;



### Call to Action: Minimum Wage Mandate

The legislative madness is in full swing with a flurry of activity due to Friday's deadline for bills to be out of committee.

IASA is tracking over 200 pieces of legislation that are scheduled for hearings between Tuesday and Thursday that would impact school districts. IASA is actively negotiating with legislators and advocacy groups to produce the best outcome for schools.

In this Capitol Watch, we want to bring your attention to - and encourage you to make your voice heard on - a handful of legislative proposals.

#### **Witness Slip in Opposition**

**HB 2784** (Representative Hirschauer; D - West Chicago), would create a new minimum wage for all school district and joint agreement employees who provide educational support services.

The employees include, but are not limited to: custodial employees, transportation employees, food service providers, classroom assistants, administrative staff, and paraprofessional educators. The minimum hourly wage would be \$20 for the 2024-2025 school year, \$21 for the 2025-2026 school year, and \$22 for the 2026-2027 school year. Each year thereafter, the minimum rate would be increased equivalent to the rate of CPI.

This represents a significant unfunded mandate as there would be no dedicated funding stream to cover the increases, leaving school districts to determine how to afford this proposal on their own, likely resulting in cuts to programs and staff — as well as increases to property taxes. **Please make your voice heard by filing an OPPONENT witness slip**

**before HB 2794 is set to be heard in the House Labor Committee on Wednesday at 2:00 PM.**

**Witness Slip in Support**

Of the 200 education-related bills being heard this week, there are a few that could have positive impacts for our schools. If you have time, we would appreciate you slipping as a PROPONENT for the following pieces of legislation.

**SB 2324** (Senator Koehler; D - Peoria) would create a new pathway for the County School Facilities Sales Tax (CSFST) to be posed as a question on the ballot, while still requiring voter approval. Currently, County Schools Facility Sales Tax (CSFST) requires passage by a majority of voters in a given county. However, the way the statute currently reads, if there is one large district in that county, and that one school board votes against the referendum question going on the ballot, then the question cannot be posed to voters. The legislation allows (CSFST) to be placed on the ballot if 2/3 of school boards who represent school districts in that county vote in favor. This still allows for all voters in the county to determine the outcome, even if the largest district is represented by a school board that is opposed or indifferent to the CSFST. **Please make your voice heard by filing a PROPONENT witness slip before SB 2324 is set to be heard in the Senate Revenue Committee on Wednesday at 3:30 PM.**

**HB 3690** (Representative Mussman; D - Schaumburg) attempts to consolidate all training requirements into a five-year cycle with a focus on combining duplicative and related subjects into key professional development groupings to streamline the process within the School Code.

Additionally, the legislation includes non-certified staff within the five-year cycle and provides the district with the autonomy to determine training that is not applicable to their employees' work and allows educators better manage the numerous training mandates already required, and for any new topics to be located together in the School Code. HB 3690 has been a collaborative effort with labor and school district leadership to help address the onerous training that have been legislated over many previous General Assemblies. **Please make your voice heard by filing a PROPONENT witness slip before HB 3690 is set to be heard in the House Education Licensing Committee on Wednesday at 2:00 PM.**

**SB 1391** (Senator Gillespie; D - Arlington Heights) is the latest attempt at TIF reform. This proposal would tighten the definition of a blighted area, allow school districts the ability to opt-out completely from a newly created TIF, and shorten the length of extensions allowable following the initial 23-year TIF. There is a subject matter hearing scheduled for Wednesday in the Executive Committee where members will hear from both proponents and opponents of the legislation. We are hoping the hearing will encourage the opponents to negotiate on the language so we can bolster the voice of school districts in the TIF process in the future. **Please make your voice heard by filing a PROPONENT witness slip before HB 1391 is set to be heard in the House Executive Committee on Wednesday at 1:00 PM.**

We appreciate your support in filing witness slips on these legislative proposals. Our advocacy efforts are always stronger when it includes the voices of superintendents from across our state.

Sincerely,

Madeline McCune  
Director of Governmental Relations  
Illinois Association of School Administrators/Illinois Association of School Business  
Officials

Emily Warnecke  
IASA Chief of Staff; Director of Public Relations/Deputy Director of Governmental  
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