

CHAMBER REPORT

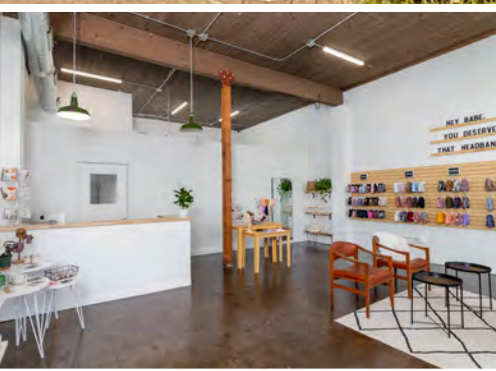
A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PEORIA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.peoriachamber.org



JULY 2020

Vol.25 Issue 3



MEMBER FEATURE: *THE KIM GROUP*



WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

Employee Size Code (number of full-time equivalent employees in the tri-county area):
(A) 1-10 (B) 11-25 (C) 26-75 (D) 76-150 (E) 151-300 (F) 300+

Altever (A)

2200 W. War Memorial Drive
Peoria, IL 61613

C&N Construction, Inc. (A)

1601 Luthy Lane, #110
Peoria, IL 61615

CD Business Solutions, LLC (A)

5926 N. Briarwood Lane
Peoria, IL 61614

CSL Plasma (B)

4125 N. Sheridan Road
Peoria, IL 61614

**Dale Carnegie Training
of Greater Illinois (A)**

7820 N. University, #102A
Peoria, IL 61614

Farmers Insurance**- Carrie Joos, Inc (A)**

6832 N. Frostwood Parkway
Peoria, IL 61615

**Interim HealthCare
of Downstate Illinois (A)**

1223 W. Pioneer Parkway
Peoria, IL 61615

Riffle & Associates, LLC (A)

133 S. Main Street, Suite A
Morton, IL 61550

Studio C Fitness (A)

6035 Knoxville Avenue, Suite C
Peoria, IL 61614

**Sunbelt Business Brokers
of Peoria (A)**

133 S. Main Street, Suite A
Morton, IL 61554

Verizon (B)

2401 W. Pioneer Parkway
Peoria, IL 61615

Whiskey Crawler Creative, LLC (A)

214 Pecan, #302
Peoria, IL 61602



MEMBER FEATURE THE KIM GROUP

The Kim Group's Keller Station offers "Old School" Drive-In Movies in response to COVID-19!

The Kim Group (TKG) developed and launched the Keller Station Drive-in Movie Theatre in order to provide a safe, family friendly experience at Keller Station. The Kim Group wanted to provide a way for our community to be social while still physically distanced. Bringing back the old school way of entertainment to The Kim Group's redevelopment project Keller Station has been another way to incorporate history into the development and enhance it for everyone to experience. The Kim Group started working on putting this together months ago and has worked hard to get everything together during this pandemic timeframe. However, after 3 months of hard work, they were able to launch the first drive-in movie night at Keller Station on June 5th with the premier of Goonies. The launch weekend sold out as well as the two following weekends, and The Kim Group is looking to add a second screen in order to expand the number of available spaces to attend the Keller Station Drive-in Movie Theatre. The Kim Group is continuing to add movies and events at the Keller Station Drive-in Movie Theatre and is working on "Tenant Teasers." These

are opportunities for the tenants within Keller Station to create a 1-2 minute "trailer style preview" to show prior to the movies. These are also utilized to showcase the Keller Station development such as before, during and after photos of the progress of the development in order to engage the community in the redevelopment experience of Keller Station.

The Kim Group also launched a Curbside Market at the beginning of the pandemic in order to provide a way for the small businesses located (or to be located) in Keller Station to sell their products safely. This event has turned into Keller Station's Outdoor Market which is continuing to grow each week.



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Save The Date:
Monday, September 21, 2020

Weaver Ridge Golf Club
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Peoria, IL 61615

MORE INFO SOON AT
WWW.PEORiachamber.org



LUNCH - 11:30AM
GOLF - 12:30PM

INDIVIDUALS: \$200
FOURSOME: \$800

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Chamber Members, Partners and Community Leaders,

It is with great humility and excitement that I join this community as the new President and CEO of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce & CEO Council. I am grateful for those of you who I've had the opportunity to meet in person so far, and the warm welcome my family and I have received. We are fortunate in Peoria to have so many people that care deeply about this community and it's future and I am excited to join you all in the pursuit of helping build a more prosperous and sustainable economy in the Greater Peoria Area.



A little about me; I was born and raised in Durham, NC in the heart of the "Research Triangle," and have spent most of my life as an artist and entrepreneur and it is through this lens, as a business owner that I approach this work. For the past 4 years, I served as Vice President at the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce where I focused on Economic Development, Public Policy, Business Advocacy, Diversity/Equity/Inclusion as well as creating and sustaining entrepreneurial ecosystems. I look forward to building on this experience here in Peoria and am confident that together, we can make Peoria even stronger. I am a proud husband and father of two small children who are also very excited to make Peoria our new home.

It goes without saying that these are challenging times. We are wrestling with the daily concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as ongoing racial unrest throughout our nation; the social, emotional and economic ramifications of these crises are undoubtedly taking their toll on our business community and every single Peoria resident. As a newcomer to this community, your resilience in the face of all these challenges has been striking, and the way our business and community leaders have banded together has shown a strength that will ensure that Peoria emerges from this moment even better than before. I believe we are at an inflection point; a pivotal moment that if viewed through the correct lens, and properly leveraged, will help make all of us better and ensure that our "new normal" works for the people of this community better than ever before.

In the future I will use this section of the Chamber Report, to share my thoughts and lay out strategies for the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce moving forward; however, today I just wanted to use this space to say, "thank you." Thank you for your continued partnership with our organization, thank you for standing up for Peoria and most importantly, for supporting one another.

We are all fortunate to be a part of a community as vibrant, dedicated and resilient as Peoria, and I have no doubt that we will get through this and build an even more prosperous future for everyone. Let's get to work. Together.

Best Regards,

Joshua Gunn



*President and CEO
Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce
& CEO Council*

PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM

EXHIBITIONS OPENING SUMMER 2020

Sponsored by Visionary Society & Illinois Arts Council Agency



THE SCULPTURE OF
RONALD BLADEN

ANGLE/ EDGE/ PLANE/

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SHARON & JOHN AMDALL

Additional Support from The Junior League of Peoria



THOMAS D. MANGELSEN A LIFE IN THE WILD

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and the COULTER FAMILY



KEN HOFFMAN 50 YEARS IN PEORIA

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222 SW Washington St. Peoria, IL | 309.686.7000 | RiverfrontMuseum.org

awards & recognition

Advanced Healthcare, Inc., presented 5 Year Service Awards to Mark Brake, Shawndra Brown-Foote, Christopher Weatherspoon, Shelley Gault, Dionne Kelley, Heidi Campbell, Beth Komarek, Charlene Garman, and Angela Barcenas. A 10 Year Service Award was presented to Stephen Hutchins. ACH congratulates Jamie Nutz on receiving a Master of Science Degree in Nursing – Nursing Informatics, and Patricia Weaver on receiving an Associate Degree in Nursing. ACH welcomes Kerry Leach, Assistant Regional Nurse Manager and Tamara Woidan, Travel Nurse to their business family! Additionally, Danice Prescott has been promoted to Regional Nurse Manager. Congratulations to Sue Webster on receiving SPHR Certification, Amy Robinson on receiving PACE Certification, Danice Prescott on receiving a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree, and Dr. Annette Behney on receiving a Doctoral Degree in Nursing Practice.

First Mid Insurance Group's Commercial Division in Forsyth, IL was honored by West Bend Mutual Insurance Company with their President's Award for earning top status in the company's 2019 agency incentive program: Partners In Excellence. This marks the second time in three years that First Mid's Forsyth office has earned this prestigious award.

Hanson Professional Services Inc. is 172nd on the Engineering News-Record's (ENR) "Top 500 Design Firms" for 2020.

Illinois American Water, a subsidiary of American Water Company (NYSE: AWK),

has received the J.D. Power award for ranking highest in customer satisfaction among large water utilities in the Midwest according to the J.D. Power 2020 U.S. Water Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction StudySM.

Peoria Police Chief Loren Marion III announces the retirement of Captain Todd Green, effective May 30, 2020, ending a 26-year career with the Peoria Police Department.

Vistra Energy placed 270th on the 2020 list of America's largest companies.

WEEK-TV announced that they are the recipient of a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award for its special report "The Adjustment Argument". The award, given by Radio Television Digital News Association RTDNA, recognizes WEEK 25 News for outstanding local news journalism. WEEK-TV News 25 was specifically cited by the RTDNA in the Hard News category.

business moves

The American Theatre Guild is proud to become the new presenter of the Ameren Illinois Broadway In Peoria Series at the **Peoria Civic Center** Theater beginning with the 2020-2021 season. This 2020-21 season includes AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN, HAIRSPRAY and the rescheduled BLUE MAN GROUP and BEAUTIFUL - The Carole King Musical. The Season will also include TURNING 15 ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM as a Season add-on.

CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) is pleased to announce the following new hires to the Peoria office: Erica Kottabi, as Principal of Financial Institutions. Erica

business moves

is an assurance principal specializing in auditing, accounting, and consulting services for primarily financial institutions in the Peoria, Illinois office. Catherine Hahn joins as Service Processing Coordinator of Internal Operations. Alise Gromala joins BizOps Staff in BizOps Accounting & Finance. Ruben Mendez joins as a BizOps Senior at BizOps Accounting & Finance.

Cullinan Properties Ltd. is pleased to announce the addition of Tim Hogenkamp as Chief Financial Officer and manager of investor relations. Hogenkamp brings over 30 years of financial and accounting experience to the Cullinan team.

Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm, has announced that Larry Hlavacek, AIA, SE, has rejoined the firm as a principal and the national director of public safety.

Hanson Professional Services Inc. has named Mat Fletcher, P.E., S.E., a senior vice president and the firm's railway market principal.

Illinois American Water has announced the following promotions of two employees into key statewide roles: Rachel Bretz has been promoted to Director of Water Quality and Environmental Compliance. Bernie Sebold has been promoted to Senior Program Manager, Health and Safety. Rhonda Carter Adams has been promoted to Program Manager, Workforce and Supplier Diversity for Illinois American Water. Karen Cooper, formerly Senior Operations Manager in the Southern Division, has been promoted to Operations Director of the Southern Division and Central

Divisions in Southern Illinois. Joe Ahlvin was named Senior Operations Manager for the Southern Division (Metro East, Cairo, Hardin County). Brian Wiemers has been named Senior Operations Manager in the Eastern Division (Champaign, Pontiac, Streator and Sterling service areas). Eric Larson has been named Senior Operations Manager for the Western Division (Peoria, Pekin and Lincoln service areas). Ethan Steinacher has been named Operations Manager for the Central Division.

Illinois Central College is proud to announce ICC President Dr. Sheila Quirk-Bailey has been appointed to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) COVID-19 Campus Reopening Committee to help shape the reopening of Illinois college campuses. The 16-person committee includes 12 Illinois college presidents with four from public universities, four from private universities and four representing community colleges.

The **Illinois SBDC at Bradley University** has announced Eric Sampson as their new SBDC Director as of May 4, 2020.

Methodist College announced their plans for the fall 2020 semester. The college intends to be open for the fall 2020 semester with courses delivered as planned in a full range of formats to best support student learning. Courses will be delivered in a variety of formats, including: face-to-face in the classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings; completely online in selected programs and courses; and blended format including a mix of face-to-face and online methodologies.

Northwestern

Mutual

business moves

welcomes Jeff Nelson and Eric Higgs to their Peoria branch.

OSF HealthCare Foundation is pleased to welcome Jim Ardis as Strategic Philanthropy Officer. In his role, Ardis will be building relationships and partnerships to support the OSF HealthCare Mission, particularly in the Peoria area.

Summer & Associates Insurance – A Division of Troxell, has welcomed Luke Hoerr, CSM as a Commercial Lines Account Executive. Luke is a graduate of Illinois State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Risk Management, Insurance, and Finance.

UnityPoint Health announces that after more than 20 years of dedicated service, Kevin Vermeer has chosen to step down as President and CEO to pursue other opportunities effective April 30, 2020. As UnityPoint Health continues to confront the COVID-19 crisis, the organization remains dedicated to serving our patients and community. Sue Thompson, MS, BSN, Senior Vice President of Integration and Optimization and CEO of UnityPoint Accountable Care, has accepted the UnityPoint Health Board of Directors' request to serve as interim CEO as a national search is conducted for a permanent replacement.

UnityPoint Health-UnityPlace launched the new behavioral health access center. The launch of this center has been a priority to improve access to mental health and substance use disorder services for the community. Individuals and families can be connected with the care they need at any time to start their journey of healing and recovery, just by picking up the phone.

member news

The **Community Foundation of Central Illinois (CFCI)** is pleased to announce a donation in the amount of \$20,000 from **Homefield Energy** to the Central Illinois Disaster Recovery Fund. Another donation in the amount of \$75,000 from the **Caterpillar Foundation** to the Central Illinois Disaster Recovery Fund was made. The second-round grant recipients of the Central Illinois Disaster Recovery Fund have been announced. CFCI received 27 applications and was able to fund 14 organizations, including \$10,000 going to the **Heart of Illinois United Way** to further support their grantmaking related to COVID-19.

Cullinan Properties, Ltd. announced the opening of a new Panera Bread location at The Levee District on Wednesday, June 3rd. The free-standing 4,380 SF bakery-café is located at 496 W. Washington St., opposite Target near the Washington Street roundabout.

101.1 ESPN Peoria recently raised nearly \$10,000 for the **Peoria Area Food Bank** through its Central Illinois Food Drive Radio-thon with Jim Mattson and Tim van Straten. The 12-hour event took place on Thursday, April 30, 2020.

F&M Bank processed more than 300 loans totaling over \$30 million under the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to help local small businesses support payroll and related costs, saving approximately 2,944 jobs within the Galesburg, Brimfield and Peoria areas.

Homefield Energy announced they are committing \$60,000 to support Illinois communities as they begin the process

of economic recovery from COVID-19.

Howard & Howard is pleased to announce that three of their attorneys have been appointed/reappointed to committees within the Illinois State Bar Association for the 2020-2021 term.

Illinois Central College and eight other Midwestern community colleges in the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement (C2A3) will receive a portion of a combined \$529,924 over the next four years as part of a cooperative agreement issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS).

Illinois American Water is announcing environmental grants for eight watershed initiatives across the state. The environmental grant recipients will receive a share of funds totaling \$25,672 for community projects that improve, restore or protect watersheds. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Peoria will receive a \$5,000 grant to support efforts to decrease storm water runoff. The funds will be used to build a rain garden and create a butterfly sanctuary. St. Paul's Episcopal Church will partner with U of I Extension Master Gardeners to ensure successful planning. When social distancing measures are lifted, volunteers from the **Dream Center** and local Boy Scout Troops will be engaged. **Peoria Park District** will receive their grant request in full. An \$860 grant will support the Illinois River Sweep when it is held later this year. Funds will help supply gloves, trash bags, dumpsters and tire recycling. Illinois American Water has supported these efforts for many years.

Junior Achievement has committed to meeting students where they are, partnering with schools, and adapting to a changing world. That commitment is not changing as students continue learning from home! The 14th Annual JA Titan Business Challenge brought the competition to where the students were – online, of course.

The **Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (PACVB)** in conjunction with **ArtsPartners**, are pleased to announce that thanks to the donations made during the Enjoy Peoria: The At Home Sessions, a Facebook concert series featuring local musicians and artists, successfully raised \$1,500.

RSM US LLP ("RSM") – the nation's leading provider of audit, tax and consulting services focused on the middle market – is honored to support the communities of Central Illinois with the donation of \$20,258 to local food banks by the RSM US Foundation. The organizations receiving benefits are the **Peoria Area Food Bank**, Eastern Illinois Foodbank, Central Illinois Foodbank and FISH of Galesburg.

State Senator David Koehler, **JOANN Fabric & Craft Stores**, and **UnityPoint Health – Central Illinois**, have teamed up to distribute 2,500 cloth face coverings, in an effort to protect some of Central Illinois' communities hardest hit by COVID-19.

WTVP, the **Peoria County Regional Office of Education (ROE)** and **Neighborhood House** have forged an alliance to give students access to supplemental educational content via broadcast television.

SAVE THE DATE

BUSINESS EXPO 2020

SEPTEMBER 16 | 4:00 - 7:00PM



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Join fellow Peoria Area Chamber Members to visit with prospective clients. Take this opportunity to share your current services/products or launch new ones!

The public can visit with businesses, ask questions and learn more about what each organization has to offer.

More information at
www.PeoriaChamber.org

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20/20

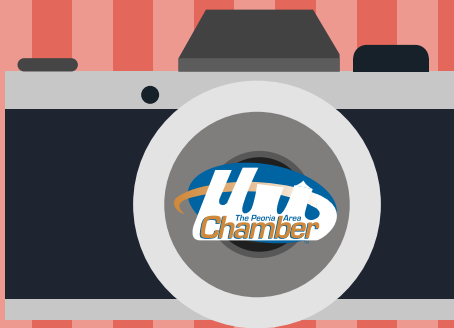
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PICTURE DAY

AT PEORIA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AUGUST 27, 2020

Blissful Images



Blissful Images will be taking professional headshots! The \$25 fee includes professional sitting fee for the head shot and a digital copy of your photo.

Register online at www.peoriachamber.org

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 30

2nd Annual Monster Bash: Nightmare on State Street



The **Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program** has launched a free digital tool that can help you manage your energy usage at your facility. You can see how your energy usage compares with similar businesses, share savings tips with co-workers, and explore personalized energy efficiency recommendations – specific to your business! Now more than ever, it's important to understand how your business is using its energy, so you can make small changes to make a big impact on your utility bills and save money in the long run. This tool, called the Energy Analyzer, is available at no charge to you. We understand times are hard right now, and we want you to have access to information that can help your business save money.

By knowing how and when the energy you are using is the most expensive, you can find ways to reduce use and reduce overall costs. The **Energy Analyzer** provides you with high level energy insights including a tracking report. The Energy Analyzer provides average daily cost and average daily usage as well as average temperature and humidity to help you determine how these conditions may affect your usage. You can see how your facility compares to similar facility types and if you have multiple sites, you can use the

account ranking feature to view how your annual costs compare for each location.

The **Energy Analyzer** will provide you with recommended solutions and best practices on how to conserve energy in different categories. With better visibility into your energy usage and spend, you can save money and find energy savings solutions, which in turn should help improve your bottom line.

Energy Analyzer Dashboard

The Total Electric Usage chart below is used to display kWh use on a monthly or yearly basis. Additional annual data, if available, can be added to the cart for comparative purposes to determine energy efficiency results. Temperature and humidity are shown as a reference to determine the effects of either or both on energy consumption.

Registering for the **Energy Analyzer** is free and easy, just go to AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Engage and enter your account number and zip code for immediate access. Please call the **Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program** if you have any questions or need additional assistance with registering for your free account at **1.866.800.0747**.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Visit PeoriaChamber.org for More Details & Updates

Business After Hours

August 13, 4:30pm

August BAH: *Industry Brewing*

September 10, 4:30pm

September BAH: *EPIC - Details to come*

Business Before Hours

July 28, 7:30am

July Virtual BBH: *US Cellular*

September 22, 7:30am

September BBH: *St. Francis Woods*

Upcoming Events

August 27, 8:30am

Chamber Picture Day

September 16, 4:00pm

Business Expo 2020

September 21, 11:30am

Golf Outing-*Weaver Ridge*

October 30, 7:00pm

YGP 2nd Annual Monster Bash:

Nightmare on State Street

HUMANA NEWS

Best practices for companies as they prepare for a return to the office, from Humana's senior VP of Associate Health and Well-Being



"We started with simple non-negotiables: employee safety, well-being and confidence" –Tim State, *Senior Vice President of Associate Health and Well-being at Humana*

Millions of employees have adjusted to working from home during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of them may soon be re-adjusting as businesses resume in-office work. But the workplaces they return to will differ from those they left. Crowded cubicles will be gone; health screenings will emerge.

"Employees are going through a lot, which will continue. Physical and psychological safety is going to be key to ensuring a healthy, productive re-entry," State said. "It is critical that teammates feel confident and trust they'll be cared for as they walk back into the office."

State offers the following guidance to employers based on Humana's experience forming its return to work plans.

Start planning return to work plans early

A return to work plan should outline the processes, requirements or restrictions that an employer intends to put in place to enable employees to return to work safely, both physically and psychologically, as well as necessary communication with employees. The leadership team of a company or organization can anticipate possible problems and address them better when they form plans early.

Psychological safety considerations

"Addressing the psychological safety of employees has to start with understanding the unprecedented emotional needs that employees will be bringing with them when the doors open," State said. "Employees will be grappling with concerns of both catching the virus and the risk of potentially exposing their family, colleagues or others. That reality, combined with other uncertainties and pressure means many people sometimes won't be at their best, so employers need to continually find ways to help their employees speak up for support and build resilience together." Encourage employees to practice self-care and ease their return by giving them tools such as tips for recognizing and addressing their emotional needs and maintaining a healthy work environment.

Additional tips to implement the plan are:

- Communicate clearly.
- Be transparent in decisions and changes.
- Enforce consistently.
- Adapt based on new learnings.

Humana is committed to providing the coronavirus resources and information that employers need to make their workplace as safe as possible. View webinar recordings and download resource guides, like Humana's Workplace Reentry Essentials Guide at humana.com/employersupport

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF GREATER PEORIA

YPGP Events:

Monthly Socials

To Be Announced.
Typically, Socials start at 5pm
and locations vary.
Stay Tuned!

October 30

Save The Date:
2nd Annual Monster Bash
Nightmare on State Street

More Details to follow

YPGP News:

YPGP 309K Distance Challenge with Shazam Racing:

Participating YPGP members logged 650 Miles
or 1045 Kilometers in the month of June!

Renew '20-'21 Memberships or Join Today:

Annual Membership - \$50.

For more info:

www.peoriachamber.org



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Recent Updates

Reopening the Doors

Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan is here. Governor Pritzker and health officials largely praised Illinoisans for their work in bending the curve; however, they did caution that COVID-19 has not been eradicated and that there is still a level of risk. Washing hands, wearing a mask and watching your distance are still vital to furthering limiting the spread. Pritzker stated that he would not hesitate to move a region back in phases should a need arise. A new website feature has been launched to monitor risk metrics county by county. In Phase 4, some of the big changes include the return of indoor dining and some gathering of 50 or less permitted.

Minimum Wage Increases

On July 1, 2020, Illinois' minimum wage increased to \$10/hour. The next increase is set for January 1, 2021 where the minimum wage will increase to \$11/hour. The minimum wage will increase a dollar annually until 2025 at \$15/hour. Many business groups have advocated for a delay of the increase during the COVID-19 pandemic for employers; however, no action was taken by IL state government to enact that change despite repeated calls.

Pritzker Signs Workers' Compensation Legislation

Gov. Pritzker signed HB 2455 into law as PA 101-633. The new public act makes a number of different changes to various laws, including workers' compensation. Below is a brief summary of the entire legislation that went into effect June 8. Included below are some highlights from the legislation:

- Amends the Illinois Works Jobs Program Act to require appointments to the Illinois Works Review Panel to be made within 30 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly. Requires the Panel to hold its first meeting within 45 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly.
- Amends the Chicago Police and Chicago Firefighter Articles of the Illinois Pension Code. In provisions concerning eligibility for ordinary death benefits and certain annuities related to death in the line of duty, provides that the death of any fireman or policeman as a result of the exposure to and contraction of COVID-19, as evidenced, shall be rebuttably presumed to have been contracted while in the performance of an act of duty.
- Amends the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act with respect to claims related to COVID-19.
- Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act and authorizes the payment of extended benefits for weeks beginning on or after March 15, 2020, through the end of the fourth week prior to the last week for which federal sharing is provided. Benefit limits do not include Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation amounts provided for in Section 2104 of Public Law 116-136. Eliminates the waiting period in certain circumstances.
- Clarifies that employers will not be charged for benefits paid due to the waiver of the one week waiting period; Regular benefits are extended by an additional 20 weeks; and without these changes, Illinois would not be able to receive the approximately \$2 billion in federal funds to pay benefit expansions under the CARES Act.

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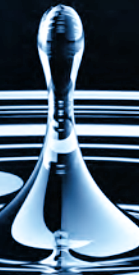
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