

Public Policy Newsletter

April 13, 2020



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Bending the Curve

On Thursday, April 9 Gov. Pritzker kicked off his press conference with a cautiously hopeful note: Illinois may be starting to see a [bend in the curve](#). Despite the number of infections and deaths still rising, Illinois has data to suggest that the rise is appearing less exponential. He accredited the trend to Illinoisans staying home and practicing social distancing.

Gov. Pritzker also expressed concern to the idea that Illinois could “reopen” all at once. He mentioned that [large gatherings](#) could be under restrictions into the summer months and beyond. “The fact of the matter is we are not going to be able to truly [move on](#) until we have testing, much greater testing, contact tracing, and treatment,” said Pritzker. In the meantime, Pritzker encouraged citizens to stay the course and continue practicing social distancing.

In other state public policy news

The Illinois House and Senate were not in session last week and it is unclear when session will resume. However, [Politico](#) announced 17 [Senate working groups](#) which began working last week and will meet by conference call until further notice.

Tune in to Governor [Pritzker's press conference](#) every day at 2:30 pm.

The [Secretary of State](#) is extending some expiration dates for at least 90 days after Driver Service facilities reopen.

The [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) provides practical strategies and tips for businesses navigating new, COVID-19 restrictions.



ILLINOIS

Federal public policy news

The [Paycheck Protection Program](#) is available to small businesses, sole proprietors, self-employed, independent contractors, and some non-profits impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. The program offers potentially forgivable loans to cover payroll, mortgage interest, rent, and utilities for an eight week time period. Review the [small business guide](#) for eligibility and questions and answers. Apply by contacting your financial institution.

Dr. Anthony Fauci says the U.S. may see [antibody tests](#) in a matter of days.

Department of Labor provides [questions and answers](#) about the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act, which are part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA).

[OSHA](#) released guidance on better preparing workplaces for COVID-19.

The [CDC](#) has an entire webpage filled with guidelines and best practices for essential workplaces to help ensure the safety and health of their workplaces.

The [Democratic National Convention](#) has been postponed until August.



Local public policy news

Langfelder signs [emergency order](#) for essential businesses to enforce social distancing.

Langfelder signs [emergency order](#) to better enforce stay at home order.

Springfield's "[no sticker](#)" yard waste and leaf collection program returns today.

[\\$33 million](#) has been pledged for three Springfield underpass projects by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

The [Sangamon County Fair](#) is developing a back-up plan should the Fair be unable to proceed as scheduled in June.



Bids and RFPs

City of Springfield

Bid Opportunities: Dallman Building Heat Replacement, Contract Work for Shoreline Stabilization, FY2021 Crackfilling, Lead Water Service Line Replacement Project (FY21) and Riprap Materials.

