

Sierra Club Lobby Training 2022



Why Lobby?

Some 5,000 bills cross Illinois legislators' desk each year. It is the only way to get bills known.

Legislators think people are not watching or don't care.

Counter the paid lobbyists: The structure is in place to make democracy work.



Ways to Connect with your Legislator

In-district lobby visit

Lobby in Springfield

Personal letter

Originally composed email

Social media posts

Phone call message with secretary

Click through email



There's power in numbers...



... AND there's
power in
relationships!

We need both to
win



Goals of Lobbying



To build relationships with your legislator and their staff members.

To be the voice of Sierra Club's legislative positions.

To educate your legislator about specific bills.

Goals of Lobbying



To ask for a commitment to co-sponsorship--bills get negotiated; the more co-sponsors, the more opponents are likely to compromise.

To ask for support (or vote) for a bill if he/she can't co-sponsor--legislators will not always co-sponsor bills they support.

Important Dates For 2022 Lobby Team

February 1 and 3, 6:30-8 pm

- Online briefings about the Sierra Club priority bills from experts

Mid February to early March

- Arrange online meetings with legislators

April 8th

- Bill deadline: bills have to pass before April 9th to become effective that same year they are passed
- ***Important to schedule your in-district appointment with your legislators before this deadline!****

Legislation & Laws Senate House My Legislation Site Map Translate Website

Resolutions

Bill Status of **SB0561** 102nd General Assembly

[Full Text](#) [Votes](#) [Witness Slips](#) [View All Actions](#) [Printer-Friendly Version](#)

Short Description: PFAS REDUCTION

Senate Sponsors
Sen. [Laura Ellman](#) - [Melinda Bush](#) - [Jacqueline Y. Collins](#), [Suzy Glowiak Hilton](#) and [Laura M. Murphy](#).

House Sponsors
(Rep. [Anna Moeller](#))

Last Action

Date	Chamber	Action
8/6/2021	Senate	Public Act 102-0290

Statutes Amended In Order of Appearance
New Act

Synopsis As Introduced
Creates the PFAS Reduction Act. Provides that a person, local government, fire department, or State agency may not discharge or otherwise use for training or testing purposes a class B firefighting foam containing intentionally added PFAS. On and after January 1, 2022, prohibits the knowing manufacture, sale, offering for sale, distribution for sale, or distribution for use of a class B firefighting foam containing intentionally added PFAS. Provides specified notice and recall requirements for manufacturers. Contains a prohibition and exemption for the manufacture, sale, offering for sale, or distribution for sale of food packaging containing intentionally added PFAS. Requires manufacturers of class B firefighting foam containing PFAS to register with the Environmental Protection Agency and pay to the Agency an annual registration fee of \$5,000. Requires the Agency to administer and

To Note:

- Chief cosponsors are denoted by hyphens between their names
- Regular cosponsors are denoted by commas between their names

Partners Are Important

2 or 3 is ideal number.

Split the bills in advance.

Second person to take notes.

Partner remembers to “ask” when you forget.

Respect your partner: don't interrupt or hog the time.



Getting the Appointment

Getting appointments is sometimes very challenging.

Be polite but persistent; keep calling.

Always mention you are a constituent and Sierra Club member speaking for all the members in the district.

Always reach out to Sierra Club staff or team members if you need scheduling help.



When Calling for an In District Appointment

- Normally, make sure to schedule your appointment with the district office and not the Springfield office
- ILGA website provides phone numbers for both, so ensure you are calling the correct one

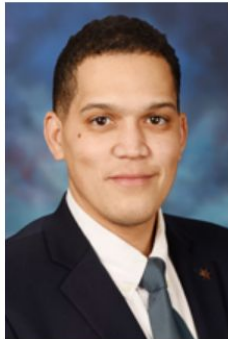
Illinois General Assembly

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Members
Committees
Schedules
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Live Audio/Video

Biography Bills Committees

Senator Robert Peters (D)
13th District



Springfield Office:
Senator 13th District
124 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5338

District Office:
1304 East 47th Street
Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60615
(708) 730-4283

Years served: 2019- Present

Committee assignments: Public Safety (Chair); Criminal Law; Environment and Conservation; Health; Human Rights; Labor; Revenue; App- Criminal Justice; App-Emergency Management (Sub-Chair); Subcommittee on Children & Family (Sub-Chair); Sub. on Long-Term Care & Aging; Redistricting- Chicago South (Sub-Chair); Sealing and Expungement.

Biography: Organizer, former political director for Reclaim Chicago and The People's Lobby, former operations director for

Before the Visit

Study bills and fact sheets online.

Write down chief sponsor and co-sponsors from both parties.

Important!! Check if he or she is already a co-sponsor.

Knowing what committees a legislator is on can be helpful information.

Fill out the online In-District Meeting Scheduler Form.



Email an Agenda

Legislators appreciate it

Leads to a more productive
discussion.

Keeps you and legislator on track.

“Senator, I want to be respectful of
your time....”



SIERRA CLUB
ILLINOIS CHAPTER

The Honorable (legislator name)

Agenda

(Date)

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. Clean Energy Jobs Act: Acting on Climate/Just Transition to 100% Clean Energy
SB2152 (Castro): HB3624 (Williams)
Creates the Clean Jobs Workforce Hubs Act, the Expanding Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Act, the Community Energy and Climate Planning Act, and the Clean Energy Empowerment Zones Act to reduce emissions, promote renewable energy sources, improve energy efficiency, and reduce carbon pollution related to transportation.
- III. Illinois Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act
SB3462 (Villivalam)
Adds a new purpose and increases funding to the Partners for Conservation Fund in order to implement Illinois' Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. Provides funding for reporting, research, water quality monitoring, technical assistance through the Illinois Department of Agriculture and soil & water conservation districts, and cost-share funding to support farmers in reducing nutrient runoff from Illinois' agricultural lands.
- IV. Cut the Glut of Single-use Plastics: 2020 Platform
SB3677 (Fine): HB 5169 (Gong-Gershowitz)
Ban on polystyrene food service containers beginning 2022.
SB3424 (Bush): HB5552 (Williams)
Creates a statewide container deposit program similar to those in Michigan and 9 other states.
SB3764 (Morrison)
Incentivizes state procurement of recyclable and compostable materials.
SB3423 (Bush): HB3335 (Williams)
Creates the Carryout Bag Fee Act. Institutes a statewide \$0.10 carryout bag fee.
- V. Rebuilding Illinois EPA to Protect Public Health
Bill Number: Chief Sponsor
A University of Chicago report outlines recommendations for reversing Illinois EPA's decline and empowering the agency to fully protect public health. An effective IEPA also creates a healthy and equitable business climate by issuing timely and appropriate permits, conducting necessary inspections, and enforcing regulations that keep communities safe and the playing field level.

Thank you!

Your Name
Address
Contact Information

Partner Name
Address
Contact Information

Meeting Materials to Send in Advance

Copy of agenda for everyone

Fact sheets



Confirm Visit the Day Before

Legislators can have quickly changing schedules and they do not always call to cancel.

If you have difficulties finding a time to meet with your legislator, remember to always stay friendly with their staff members and contact the Lobby Team Co-Chairs.



“You don’t pass a bill
by being right.”

~ George Lakoff, Professor of Cognitive Science and
Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley

So think about messaging

What might appeal to legislator?

Choose words based on your
audience: “Unions on board” versus
“Jobs in your district”

Find your emotional center;
personalize; tell your story.

Use value words.

Write this all down before visit.

“You don’t pass a bill
by being right.”

*~ George Lakoff, Professor of Cognitive Science and
Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley*

Continued...

Your legislators have the ability to
find any facts they want about
priority bills, so don’t worry about
knowing all the information. They
have a million ways of getting it
already!

What legislators can’t look up is
why YOU care

That is what you’re in these
meetings to share

That is what resonates

Tell YOUR story

Sharing Your Story

Pull from experience!

- A fond memory in nature from childhood
- A family member/close friend
- A health condition (if you feel comfortable sharing)
- Access or lack of access to different rights or resources
 - either growing up or currently
- Experiences you've had in your local environment
- Can you think of any others?



Message Discipline

Stay on Sierra Club Message. If you are not 100 percent supportive of the Club's position, see your representative as a private person, not a Club member.

If the conversation gets off track, gently guide everything back to the Sierra Club message.

Do not bring up another organization's concerns or your own while on a Sierra Club visit.



Visits Build Relationships

Start with a Thank You
(Even if it's just for the appointment)

Be respectful of the legislator's schedule. Find out how much time you have for your visit.

Remember the ask. "Senator, will you co-sponsor HB...?"

Reference the fact sheets.



The Visit

Dress nicely, be on time and prepared.

“I do not know” is a great answer. Do not guess!

Remember that the goal is commitment. You may need to politely ask them to clarify if they will support or not a few times, and that's okay.

Look for common ground.

Take a photo with your legislator!



After the Visit

Meet with teammates immediately after visit to divide follow-up jobs:

- File online Report Back Form within two days.
Make sure report includes request for any additional info the legislator has requested.
- Send summary/thank you letter to the legislator highlighting commitments made.
- Check ILGA.gov to see if legislator honored co-sponsor commitment. If they haven't, contact their staff to remind of the commitment and find out if their plans have changed.

Stay With It

Relationships take time.

Payoff is by third year.



Our Commitment to You

The Sierra Club is committed to giving you enough ongoing support to make this a rewarding experience for you.



How to Navigate the Website!





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[Read how COVID-19 is impacting our activities.](#)



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Lobby Team Resources Center



Lobby Team Documents:

[2021 Spring Model Agenda](#) (once in the document, go to File > Make a copy in order to edit your own agenda)

[2021 Spring Lobby Meeting Scheduler Form](#)

[2021 Spring Lobby Meeting Report Back Form](#)

Fact Sheets:

[PFAs Bills Fact Sheet](#)

[PFAS Incineration Ban Fact Sheet](#)

[Clean Energy Jobs Act Fact Sheet](#)

[Nutrient Pollution Fact Sheet](#)

[Environmental Justice Fact Sheet](#)

Other Resources:

[How a bill becomes a law in Illinois](#)

[2021 Spring Lobby Team Training Presentation](#)

Priority Legislation Page



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Protector E-News

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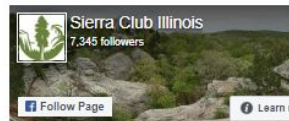
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Tweets by SierraClubIL





Spring 2022 Virtual Meeting Scheduler

Please let us know when you have scheduled a meeting with your state legislator

(Fill out after you have already scheduled your appointment with your legislator)

You will be able to go back in and edit your submission if you schedule your State Senator and State Representative meetings at different times.

If you have any questions, email Emilee (Legislative Apprentice for Sierra Club) at emilee.chaclas@sierraclub.org

Your Name *

Full Name

Short answer text



Spring 2022 Lobby Meeting Report Back Form

After visiting with your state legislator, please share the details of your visit.

You will be able to go back in and edit your submission if you schedule your State Senator and State Representative meetings at different times.

If you met with one legislator, select "Not Applicable" for the other legislator or leave it blank.

Your Name *

Full Name

Short answer text

Email Address *

Reminders:

1. Fill out within two days of attending your in-district meeting with your legislator
2. Fill out separate forms for your state representative and state senator (two total)



Lobby Team Resources Center

[Legislator Meeting Agenda](#)

[In-District Meeting Scheduler](#)

[Lobby Meeting Report Back Form](#)

Other Resources:



[How a bill becomes a law in Illinois](#)

(This presentation will be added to the “Other Resources” section for your convenience)



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Lobby Team Resources

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Priority Legislation

This is the Sierra Club priority legislation page which details our priority bills for 2021! We have recently switched over to new bill tracking software so this page's appearance may be different than you've experienced before. Priorities are separated into different rows that include fact sheets, the Illinois General Assembly link for that bill, a short description, and more. The spreadsheets each have grey scroll bars along the vertical and horizontal axes, which you can use to see all the information.

Environmental Justice Priority Issue:

One of our priorities is not officially a bill, therefore it is not included in the bill tracker below. To see the fact sheet for this priority, [click here](#).

Having trouble seeing the entire spreadsheet? [Click here](#).

SIERRA CLUB		2021 Illinois Spring Priority Legislation				
Search by title...						 Download
These are the priority bills our Conservation Committee picked for the 2021 Statewide Lobby Team. Please let your lobby team managers know if you have any trouble navigating through the pieces of priority legislation. This spreadsheet automatically updates, so any information on which committee a bill is currently in will be up to date.						
Bill	Committees	Official Description	Bill #	Title		
1	H.B.3190: Safety-Tech	IL House Rules Committee; IL Senate ...	Amends the Environmental Protecti...	H.B.3190	H.B.3190: Safety-Tech	
2	S.B.0561: Pfas Reduction	IL House Rules Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the PFAS Reduction Act. Provide...	S.B.0561	S.B.0561: Pfas Reduction	
3	S.B.2474: Finance-Conservation Funds	IL Senate Assignments Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the Illinois Partners for Nutrient Lo...	S.B.2474	S.B.2474: Finance-Conservation Funds	
4	S.B.1718: Clean Energy Jobs Act	IL Senate Assignments Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the Clean Jobs, Workforce and ...	S.B.1718	S.B.1718: Clean Energy Jobs Act	
5	H.B.0804: Clean Energy Jobs Act	IL House Rules Committee	Creates the Clean Jobs, Workforce and ...	H.B.0804	H.B.0804: Clean Energy Jobs Act	
6	H.B.1792: Finance-Conservation Funds	IL House Rules Committee	Creates the Illinois Partners for Nutrient Lo...	H.B.1792	H.B.1792: Finance-Conservation Funds	

Example of Past Legislative Priorities

Having trouble seeing the entire spreadsheet? [Click here.](#)

SIERRA CLUB		2021 Illinois Spring Priority Legislation			
Search by title...				Download	
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	Bill	Committees	Official Description	Bill #	Title
1	H.B.3190: Safety-Tech	IL House Rules Committee; IL Senate ...	Amends the Environmental Protecti...	H.B.3190	H.B.3190: Safety-Tec
2	S.B.0561: Pfas Reduction	IL House Rules Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the PFAS Reduction Act. Provide...	S.B.0561	S.B.0561: Pfas Reduction
3	S.B.2474: Finance-Conservation Funds	IL Senate Assignments Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the Illinois Partners for Nutrient Lo...	S.B.2474	S.B.2474: Finance-Conservation Funds
4	S.B.1718: Clean Energy Jobs Act	IL Senate Assignments Committee; IL Senate ...	Creates the Clean Jobs, Workforce and ...	S.B.1718	S.B.1718: Clean Ener Jobs Act
5	H.B.0804: Clean Energy Jobs Act	IL House Rules Committee	Creates the Clean Jobs, Workforce and ...	H.B.0804	H.B.0804: Clean Ener Jobs Act
6	H.B.1792: Finance-Conservation Funds	IL House Rules Committee	Creates the Illinois Partners for Nutrient Lo...	H.B.1792	H.B.1792: Finance-Conservation Funds

Summary of Bill Process

Bills may originate in either House or Senate, but must be passed by both chambers.

Unlike federal bills, state bills maintain the number assigned in chamber of origin (HB 422 is called HB 422 when it goes to the Senate).

Sometimes identical bills are started in each house in case one dies.

A session lasts two years:
102nd = 2021-2022:

- Spring session lobbying runs from February through March
- Fall session is the veto session
- Bills are assigned to a substantive Committee and oftentimes if leadership doesn't like a bill it stays in Rules (House) or Assignments (Senate)
- Bill progress can be followed on ILGA.gov

Shell Bills - Legislative Vehicle

Bill in title only

Used to introduce bills late in session

Text of bill amended later



How a Bill Becomes Law

1st READING

Bill Introduced

2nd READING

Bill Read to Full Chamber

3rd READING

Bill Voted On

Bill Introduced



Assigned to Committee
(Rules/House -- Assignments/Senate)



Assigned to Substantive Committee



Hearing. Amendments may be added.



To 2nd Reading

1st
READING



Bill Read 2nd Time
May Add Amendment(s)

2nd
READING

Bill Read 3rd Time
Voted On

3rd
READING

FAILS

PASSES



Sent to Other Chamber

2nd CHAMBER

Same as 1st Chamber up to 2nd Reading

Sent to 3rd Reading Without Amendments

Sent to 3rd Reading WITH Amendments

Fails

Passes

Fails

Passes



Goes to Gov



Goes back to 1st Chamber for Concurrence

Fails

Veto

New Law

Passes

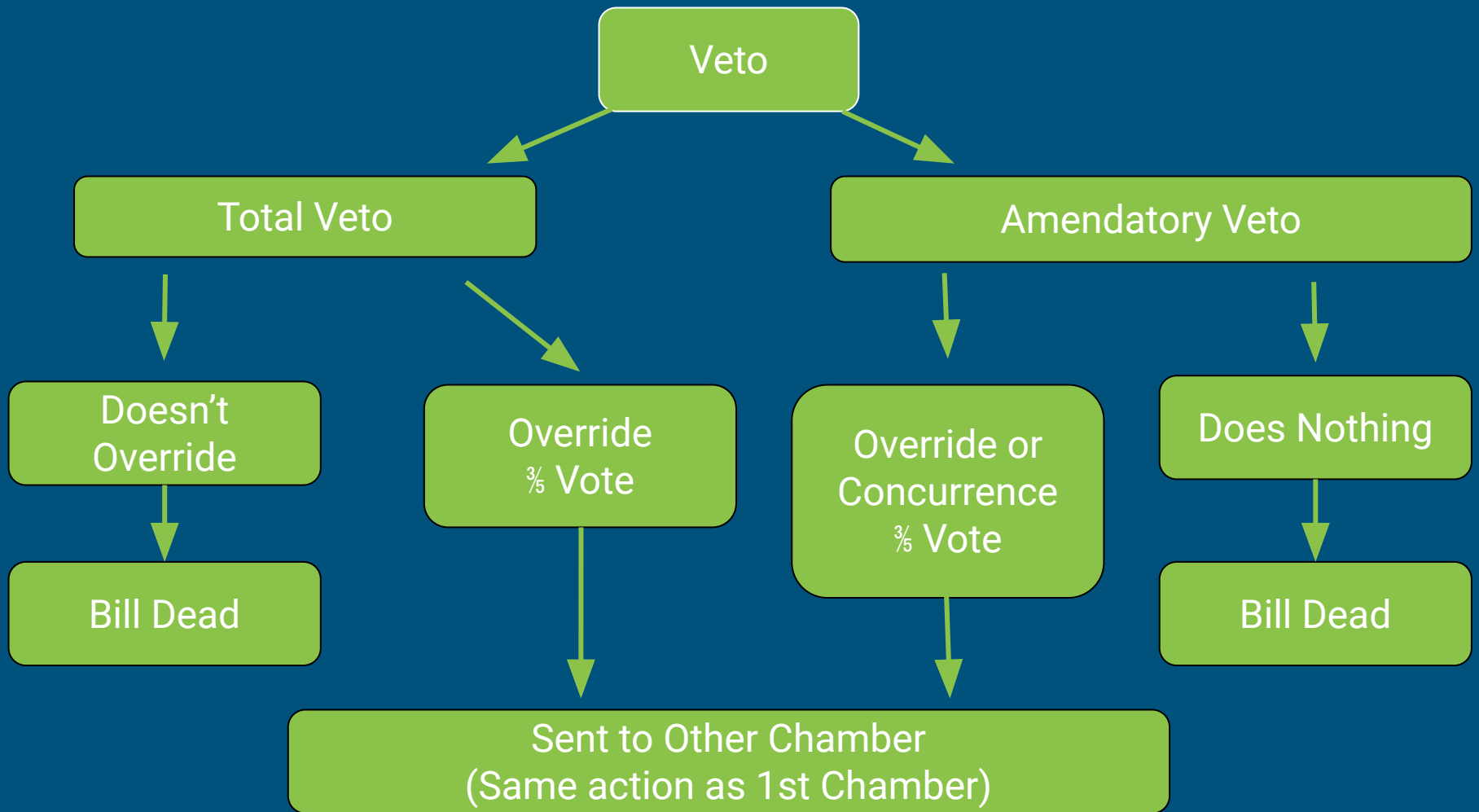
After Bill Passes in Both Chambers

Bill must be sent to the Governor
within 30 days

Governor then has 60 calendar days
to sign it, or to return it with his
veto.

If the Governor does nothing, the bill
will automatically become a law
after the 60-day period.

If the Governor vetoes a bill that has
been sent to him, the bill can still
become law.



Grassroots Lobbying Means Leverage

Lobbying is about the most empowering and effective thing you can do to help the environment.

You have been chosen for this special team because someone saw in you the potential to do a great job.

Have FUN!



We are here to help:
Lobby Team Co-Chair
Chris Pinc, chrispinc@sbcglobal.net

Illinois Sierra Club Conservation Organizer
Emilee Chaclas,
emilee.chaclas@sierraclub.org