

# ABSTRACTS OF STATE REPORTS

AUGUST 2020

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

## Abstracts of Reports Required to be Filed With the General Assembly

The CGFA staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly. Legislators may receive copies of entire reports by emailing the form that was delivered to their Springfield office to [isinfo@ilsos.net](mailto:isinfo@ilsos.net) or by mailing it to the State Government Report Distribution Center at the Illinois State Library. This report is posted monthly on our website.

### **Central Management Services, Dept. of**

*Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities annual report, FY 2019*

In FY 2019, agencies and universities made over \$649 million of contracts with businesses certified under the program (21.3% of all eligible contracts—over the 20% goal), which was the most since the program's inception. Over 1,000 vendors got contracts—also a record high. JCAR approved CMS rules clarifying how and when the Business Enterprise Council can declare a sheltered market. Other policy changes include a revised utilization plan and dispute resolution process. The report lists statutory and targeted goals by agency or university, and the value of contracts with certified firms. (30 ILCS 575/8f; issued & rec'd Mar. 2020, 66 pp.)

*Service-disabled veteran-owned business and veteran-owned small business report, FY 2019*

To date, CMS has certified 158 vendors under the program: 101 as veteran-owned and 57 as service-disabled veteran-owned. It made 202 contracts for \$41.3 million under the program in FY 2019. CMS held 5 statewide presentations and workshops, serving 215 businesses. The report lists recommendations made by chief procurement officers, veterans' organizations, and businesses for CMS consideration. (30 ILCS 500/45-57(b); issued & rec'd Mar. 2020, 4 pp.)

### **Commerce Commission**

*Accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials on railroads in Illinois, 2019*

The Commission checked 8,355 railroad cars carrying hazardous materials in 2019. Inspectors found violations in 1.1% of inspections. Among 45 railway incidents involving

hazardous materials, 6 derailments released hazardous materials and 6 did not; 33 releases occurred without derailment. For each incident, tables show location, railroad, material, suspected causes, amounts involved and released, and dates. (625 ILCS 5/18c-1204(3); April 2020, rec'd June 2020, 11 pp. + attachments)

*Crossing Safety Improvement Program, FYs 2021-2025*

Preliminary data showed 93 collisions at public railroad crossings in 2019, up 6.9% from 2018. The report calls for \$44.4 million in safety improvements for FY 2021, including \$12.2 million for bridge projects. It also lists \$271 million in proposed safety crossing improvements for FYs 2022-2025, to be funded by the Grade Crossing Protection Fund and affecting over 1,200 crossings in over 54 counties. Projects are listed by county. (35 ILCS 505/8(c); April 2020, rec'd June 2020, 11 pp. + 8 appendices)

*Cable & video services access annual report, 2020*  
Currently, 25 companies are approved to provide cable or video services. In 2019, AT&T offered access to 2.8 million households (29% low-income); WideOpenWest Illinois to 453,026 (34% low-income); Highland Communication Services to 4,160 (30% low-income); Mediacom Illinois, LLC to 270,470 (41% low-income); MCC Illinois LLC to 91,307 (39% low-income); Comcast to 100% of low-income households in Chicago (363,910 households); Computer Techniques, Inc. to 8,236 (40% low-income); Illinois Electric Cooperative to 1,369 (14% low-income); Mediacom Southeast LLC to 2,025 (43% low-income); RCN Telecom Services of Illinois to 27,870 (18% low-income); Co-Mo Comm, Inc. to 32,209 (35% low-income); iTV-3, LLC to 11,111 (32% low-income); Frontier North, Inc. to 45,243 (14% low-income); Wabash Communications to 512 (39% low-income); Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. to 78,301 (34% low-income); Zito Midwest LLC to 4,624 (17% low-income); Telecommunications Management, LLC to 432,040 (40% low-income); Madison Communications, Inc. to 2,525 (5% low-income); and Cass Cable TV, Inc. to 8,370 low-income households in its service area. Pavlov Media Cable Illinois, LLC reported that technical issues delayed cable and video services; it expects to

start providing service later in 2020. MCC Network Services, LLC; Illinois Fiber Connect LLC; and Surf Air Wireless, LLC were issued authorizations to provide video services in 2020. (220 ILCS 5/21-1101(k); issued & rec'd June 2020, 17 pp. + attachments)

**Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Dept. of Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) Tax Credit Program annual report, 2019**

The EDGE program gives tax credits to eligible firms to expand or keep jobs. Eligibility is based on capital investment and new jobs. In 2019, 29 projects were approved (projecting tax credits of \$32.5 million, \$347.8 million in capital investment, and 1,437 new jobs). The report profiles projects approved in 2019; describes amendments to previously approved projects that were approved in 2019; and reports on vendor diversity and sexual harassment policies. It also has historical information on credits awarded under the Program. (35 ILCS 10/5-70; issued & rec'd July 2020, 67 pp.)

**Council on Women and Girls Annual report, 2020**

The Council was created in 2018 and met throughout 2019. It formed four committees, which issued 14 policy and advocacy recommendations listed in the report. Recommendations include: improve efficiency of publicly

funded crime laboratories to reduce rape kit backlogs; increase access to affordable childcare to allow more women in the workforce; and expand access to postpartum healthcare coverage. (20 ILCS 5130/30; Jan. 2020, rec'd Mar. 2020, 13 pp.)

**Natural Resources, Dept. of Coal statistical report, 2019**

Illinois' 16 coal mines employed 2,746 workers and produced 45.7 million tons in 2019. The report lists counties with mines; fatalities; transportation methods; explosives use; mining methods; addresses of mines; and historical data on Illinois coal mines, along with data on physical characteristics of each mine. (225 ILCS 705/4.18; undated, rec'd July 2020, 23 pp.)

**State Board of Education, Illinois**

*Evidence-Based Funding Strategic Plan report*

The report describes ISBE's progress in developing a strategic plan to help districts and schools prepare for adequacy-based school funding. It lists current or completed activities and projected strategies under these categories: (1) collaborative, professional, innovative, and 21st century learning environments; (2) educator preparation and support; (3) student, school, and financial accountability measures; and (4) adequate funding. It

---

has details on 12 current and completed activities and 10 projected strategies under those categories. The strategies align with broader planning efforts being developed. (105 ILCS 5/18-8.15(h)(10); issued & rec'd Mar. 2020, 6 pp.)

*School Construction Task Force report, 2020*

The Task Force was created in 2019 to review the School Construction Grant Program. Since FY 2004, the Program has received annual funding applications from school districts, regardless of whether funding for such grants was appropriated. The Task Force asked ISBE to survey the 52 districts on the FY 2004 construction list. Of 48 responding districts, 26 had finished their construction and had over \$200 million in remaining debt; 15 districts did not complete their projects. The Task Force made six recommendations—including

allowing districts to apply for grants only when funding is available, and revising the state and local match using evidence-based funding. (105 ILCS 230/5-43(c); Feb. 2020, rec'd Mar. 2020, 8 pp. + 3 appendices)

*Security breach annual report, FY 2020*

The report summarizes four security breaches at ISBE during FY 2020. In three instances, employees received additional training to limit such errors. To combat one security breach, ISBE implemented controls to identify duplicate Illinois Educator Identification Numbers. (815 ILCS 530/25; issued & rec'd June 2020, 1 p.)

**State Police, Illinois**

*Court decisions on FOID cards, 2019*

The State Police received 38 decisions from Illinois courts on its denials of Firearm Owner's

Identification (FOID) cards. Courts upheld its actions in 25 and reversed them in 11; 2 (one upheld and one reversed) were on appeal. (430 ILCS 65/11; Feb. 2020, rec'd Mar. 2020, 6 pp.)

*Report on use of eavesdropping devices, 2019*

State's attorneys in 48 counties filed eavesdropping reports with the State Police; 20 reported no eavesdropping. The other 54 counties did not report. Counties reported 318 eavesdropping applications (280 original and 38 extensions) to judges. Crimes investigated were reported as 79% drugs, 4% sex-related, 0.9% murder-related, 0.6% theft-related, and 5% other; 11% were not reported. Eavesdropping brought 169 arrests with 40 convictions; 54 arrests and 97 trials were pending. (725 ILCS 5/108A-11(c); undated, rec'd Mar. 2020, 8 pp.)

802 Stratton Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
Phone: (217) 782-5320

Email: [webmastercgfa@ilga.gov](mailto:webmastercgfa@ilga.gov)

Website: <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/CGFAInterim.html>