

# ABSTRACTS OF STATE REPORTS

MARCH 2024

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

## Reports Filed with the General Assembly

The CGFA staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly (25 ILCS 130/10-6). 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.

### **Attorney General, Office of the**

#### *Collection statistics, 2023*

State agencies referred 14,077 collection cases for nearly \$55 million to the Attorney General (89% from the Department of Healthcare and Family Services). Total collections (including older cases) were \$290 million. The report includes referrals by agency. Amounts do not include collections related to tobacco industry litigation (nearly \$300 million) and estate tax revenues (\$284.2 million). (30 ILCS 205/2(j); issued & rec'd Feb. 2024, 2 pp.)

### **Commerce Commission**

#### *Electricity, gas, water, and sewer utilities annual report, 2023*

Major electric utilities' 2022 average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) were: Commonwealth Edison, 13.50¢, MidAmerican Energy, 7.86¢, Ameren Illinois, 14.72¢, and Mt. Carmel, 16.29¢. Major gas utilities' 2022 average prices per therm were: MidAmerican Energy, 82.39¢,

Nicor Gas, 113.66¢, North Shore Gas, 101.80¢, Peoples Gas, 142.75¢, Ameren Illinois, 134.12¢, Consumers Gas, 99.71¢, Illinois Gas, 99.75¢, Liberty Utilities, 126.58¢, and Mt. Carmel, 133.93¢.

The report includes a review of Commission activities, examinations of the utility industry and energy planning, and information on the effects of federal actions on state utility services. It makes no legislative recommendations. (220 ILCS 5/4-304; Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 76 pp. + 2 appendices)

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

#### *African American Employment Plan, FY 2023*

At the end of FY 2023, 22% of state employees (9,829) identified as African American. African Americans made up 27.8% of new hires—including 2.8% of exempt positions or positions appointed by the Governor. The 5 agencies with the highest numbers of African Americans employed were the Departments of Human

Services (4,674); Corrections (1,423); Children and Family Services (1,186); Healthcare and Family Services (317); and Employment Security (304). (20 ILCS 30/15(b); undated, rec'd Feb. 2024, 42 pp.)

#### *Asian American Employment Plan, FY 2023*

At the end of FY 2023, 3.2% of state employees (1,419) identified as Asian American. About 4.4% of all new hires in FY 2023 were Asian American—including 5.6% of exempt positions or positions appointed by the Governor. The 5 agencies with the highest numbers of Asian Americans employed were the Departments of Human Services (647); Innovation & Technology (101); Public Health (97); Corrections (84); and Veterans Affairs (65). (20 ILCS 405/405-120; undated, rec'd Feb. 2024, 40 pp.)

#### *Hispanic Employment Plan, FY 2023*

At the end of FY 2023, 7.4% of state employees (3,304) identified as Hispanic or

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Latinx, up from 7.3% in FY 2022. About 7.1% of new hires were Hispanic or Latinx, and the number of such employees in supervisory or management positions increased from 165 to 193. The 5 state agencies with the highest numbers of Hispanic or Latinx employees were the Departments of Human Services (1,443); Corrections (473); Children and Family Services (278); Employment Security (211); and Healthcare and Family Services (142). (20 ILCS 405/405-120; undated, rec'd Feb. 2024, 41 pp.)

#### *Native American Employment Plan, FY 2023*

In FY 2023, 0.4% of state employees (198) identified as Native American. About 0.7% (27) of new hires in FY 2023 were Native American, up from 0.5% in FY 2022. The number of Native Americans in supervisory or management positions increased from 11 to 15. The 5 state agencies with the highest numbers of Native Americans employed were the Departments of Human Services (64); Corrections (52); Veterans Affairs (12); Transportation (10); and Children and Family Services (9). (20 ILCS 60/15(b); undated, rec'd Feb. 2024, 39 pp.)

#### **Human Services, Dept. of** *SNAP benefit theft report, 2023*

From July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023, 8,908 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients reported stolen benefits; 8,856 of those claims were approved.

There were 22,825 fraudulent transactions from approved claims totaling \$5.4 million in stolen benefits; some \$4.6 million of that was replaced. (305 ILCS 5/12-4.57(b); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 3 pp.)

#### *Strengthening and Transforming Behavioral Health Crisis Care in Illinois Act action plan and status report, 2024*

As required by the Act, the Department engaged stakeholders to discuss strategies for a cohesive behavioral health crisis response system. Representatives from a number of state agencies participated in the National Academy for State Health Policy's behavioral health learning collaborative; and the Department held two meetings with government and private agencies. At a future meeting, the group will develop recommendations for the state's Unified Crisis Continuum for all state residents who experience a behavioral health crisis. (405 ILCS 160/25 and 160/30(d); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 4 pp. + appendix)

#### **Labor Relations Board**

##### *Annual report, FY 2023*

The Board's State Panel handled 128 charges of unfair labor practices, 196 representation cases, and 262 mediation or arbitration cases (including 3 grievance cases); it issued 2 declaratory rulings. The Local Panel handled 58 charges of unfair labor practices, 39 representation cases, and 7 mediation or arbitration cases.

The report gives an overview of the Board's functions and selected case summaries. The Board's FY 2023 expenditures were \$1.755 million. (5 ILCS 315/5(e); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 36 pp.)

#### **Legislative Audit Commission** *Annual report, 2023*

The Commission reviewed 246 financial audits and compliance examinations, parts of 2 statewide single audits, and 2 performance audits in 2023. It reviewed statements for 207 emergency purchases totaling over \$90 million; monitored reports of travel control boards created; reviewed awards not made to lowest bidders; and updated audit guidelines for public universities. (25 ILCS 150/3; issued & rec'd Feb. 2024, 24 pp. + 4 appendices)

#### **Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority**

##### *Procurement report, FY 2023*

The Authority spent \$80.1 billion in FY 2023, of which 23.5% went to minority-owned businesses and 6.7% to women-owned businesses. Tables show amounts paid by ethnicity and gender of business owners and type of contract. (70 ILCS 210/23.1(b); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 6 pp.)

#### **Public Health, Dept. of**

##### *Breast reconstruction and prostheses options and education program, FYs 2020 to 2021*

The Department of Public Health (IDPH) partners with other agencies and public

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universities to raise awareness of breast reconstruction and prostheses options, especially among patients of racial and ethnic minority groups. IDPH and its partners updated the *Your Right to Know* booklet for breast cancer patients, and provided information through conferences, webinars, training, and IDPH's website. Breast and cervical cancer educational materials were viewed on IDPH's website 1,228 times in 2020 and 2,351 times in 2021. (20 ILCS 2310/2310-670(e); undated, rec'd Jan. 2024, 8 pp.)

#### **State Board of Education**

##### *Strategic plan, 2024-2027*

The report describes goals in four areas: educational equity; student learning; learning conditions; and supporting educators. Major goals include: implementing an Equity Impact Analysis Tool to guide programming decisions; implementing a comprehensive literacy plan; providing schools with resources to support resiliency among students and educators; investing in technology infrastructure; expanding professional development opportunities focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion; and continuing to support districts participating in the Teacher Vacancy Grant

to improve recruitment and retention of educators. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.47a(b); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 24 pp.)

#### **State Fire Marshal**

##### *Report on intentionally added PFAS in Illinois firefighting foam, 2023*

The Office of the State Fire Marshal surveyed Illinois fire departments on the prevalence and use of Class B firefighting foam containing intentionally added PFAS (chemicals used in some industrial and consumer products, including firefighting foam, that can harm health). The survey period was October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. The Office received responses from 177 fire departments, which had 85,800 gallons of Class B firefighting foam as of September 30, 2023. The Office worked with foam makers to determine the likely PFAS content of that foam. Some 35% likely contained intentionally added PFAS, and 52% contained unintentionally added PFAS. Responding departments discharged 5,000 gallons of Class B foam and disposed of 1,800 gallons, all likely containing intentionally added PFAS. (415 ILCS 170/25(b); Jan. 2024, rec'd Feb. 2024, 5 pp.)

#### **State Police, Illinois**

##### *Juvenile charge report, Oct.-Dec. 2023*

The State Police received 4,137 charge reports in the fourth quarter, for a 2023 total of 18,091. Charges are listed by county. (20 ILCS 2605/2605-355; issued & rec'd Feb. 2024, 3 pp.)

#### **Treasurer, Office of the**

##### *Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program Fund financial audit, FY 2023*

By June 30, 2023, 9,757 employers had registered with the Program and 4,909 were submitting payroll deductions. Active accounts rose from 105,459 to 125,390 during the fiscal year, and their average balance rose from \$785 to \$1,017. In FY 2023, the Fund's total assets rose from \$83.2 million to \$128.3 million, and contributions exceeded distributions by \$32.7 million. (820 ILCS 80/80(a); undated, rec'd Jan. 2024, 31 pp.)

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