

Tollway Board Shake Up Proposed

IRTBA Insider

January 7, 2019



IRTBA Insider

Monday, January 7, 2019

Tollway Board Shake Up Proposed

The lame duck session of the Illinois General Assembly today took up a new bill ([SB 1298](#), [House Amendment 002](#)) that would abolish the term of every Illinois Tollway director -- including the chairman -- and create a vacancy for each office. It provides for the appointment of directors and a chairman to fill the vacancies created, and requires that the Governor do so by February 28, 2019. The measure would also allow those directors whose terms are abolished to be eligible for reappointment. In a committee meeting today, the bill sponsor, **Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie (D-Chicago)** , stated that this measure was the result of negative news articles about the Tollway. It passed out of committee 10-0, and has strong bipartisan support. While it appears that this measure is not intended to impact bond indenture agreements, delay payments, or impair existing contracts, IRTBA is in the process of clarifying all effects it would have on industry and the upcoming construction season. A separate bill also passed out of committee that would allow the State of Illinois to increase the pay for top level appointees, including the **Secretary of Transportation** . The Governor-Elect has not yet revealed who will be appointed as IDOT Secretary. IRTBA members will receive updates on lame duck matters as events warrant.