

Subject: News Headlines: 2-23-24

From: "Local Government News" <info@list.localgovnews.org>

Date: 2/23/2024, 6:26 AM

To: <members@list.localgovnews.org>

News Headlines: February 23, 2024

ASK ANCEL GLINK

Ancel Glink, P.C., a leading Illinois local government law firm, answers questions about local government law submitted by LocalGovNews.org readers. Responses posted weekly below the Quote of the Day. This service may constitute Advertising Material. The Question and Answer of the Week is generally written by Ancel Glink partner, Adam Simon. To submit questions, e-mail: asimon@ancelglink.com

EDUCATION

COVID's Reckoning is Coming to College This Fall; Colleges, brace yourself: the class of 2024 is going to be unlike anything we've seen previously

<https://bit.ly/3URFqVO>

Map Reveals States With the Most High School Dropouts

<https://bit.ly/49qwDhM>

The U.S. Department of Education released four new resources to help students with disabilities, their families and schools understand the civil rights protections guaranteed to students with asthma, diabetes, food allergies, and gastroesophageal reflux disease or gastroesophageal reflux

<https://bit.ly/48mRIIB>

Republican-led Wisconsin Assembly passes truancy bill package, including retention policy

<https://bit.ly/49MrDEb>

States are making progress on science of reading initiatives, resulting in better access to high-quality literacy instructional materials, expanded professional development and dedicated funding streams to help students read at grade level or better

<https://bit.ly/49oYDIV>

Multilingual teachers in short supply as newcomer needs grow; Some schools are beginning to tap into higher education partnerships to recruit teachers who work with English learners and newcomer students

<https://bit.ly/3uyNNed>

Online Teaching Is Improving In-Person Instruction on Campus

<https://bit.ly/3uM2Yk7>

What do superintendents need to know about artificial intelligence? District leaders shared strategies and advice on ethics, responsible use, and the technology's limitations at the National Conference on Education

<https://bit.ly/49NQxDr>

US colleges received \$58B in philanthropic support in FY23; It's the second-highest level of giving on record, despite representing a 2.5% decline from fiscal year 2022

<https://bit.ly/48zHjK0>

'Bungled' Financial Aid Rollout Leaves Graduating Seniors in Limbo; While the Education Department is helping colleges process forms amid delays, advocates want more help for K-12

<https://bit.ly/3OS1qvS>

Feds' College Financial Aid Change Would Penalize Multi-child Families; The new Student Affordability Index eliminates that sibling discount for families

<http://tinyurl.com/3zdrp2ry>

Biden's Student-Loan Lawlessness Must Not Go Unanswered; If congressional Republicans won't push back on the president's 'loan forgiveness' schemes, what purpose do they serve?

<https://bit.ly/3UQzZWV>

Here's where Ivy League colleges stand on SATs, ACTs, and standardized testing, post-pandemic

<https://bit.ly/49Kjf7X>

Yale reinstates standardized testing requirement, allows Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate scores

<https://bit.ly/48mMY5L>

Yale University Decides It Needs Better Students Again; Yale's explanation for the policy change is actually worth reading

<https://bit.ly/3OTEITQ>

Are HBCUs the Key to the Future? There is a compelling case to empower Historically Black Colleges & Universities to open charter schools

<https://bit.ly/49HpZ6t>

Inside the "Forbidden Courses" at the billionaire-backed University of Austin, the campus of the "anti woke" commentariat. Student names have been anonymized

<https://bit.ly/3wvei4Q>

The US Supreme Court has signaled it isn't ready to say anything more on affirmative action right now, frustrating conservatives who want the court to enforce and expand its blockbuster college admissions decision from last term

<https://bit.ly/42LEGU1>

Alabama Senate committee OKs 'divisive concepts,' anti-DEI legislation

<https://bit.ly/48mu5Qp>

S. education classes in some states may soon watch a fetal development video from an anti-abortion group

<https://bit.ly/3wxBWgM>

Black teenager suspended over dreadlocks in Texas heads to court in CROWN Act case

<https://bit.ly/3UUW0UN>

Texas school legally punished Black student over hairstyle, judge says

<https://bit.ly/49npaQN>

Texas judge says Black teenager's suspension over dreadlocks doesn't violate CROWN Act

<https://bit.ly/3T6tmi6>

Federal discrimination complaints continued upswing in 2023 with no signs of slowing; The Office for Civil Rights received yet another record-breaking number of complaints in fiscal year 2023

<https://bit.ly/48rhrzF>

Civil-Rights Complaint Filed over 'Black Excellence' Pledge by Denver School District; Contained the pledge, which stipulated that "all educators need to understand the prevalence & deep harm whiteness brings to students"

<https://bit.ly/42RS0q4>

Indiana Attorney General Sets Up Website for Snitching on 'Socialist' Teachers

<https://bit.ly/3SNwWfE>

The Georgia State Board of Education upheld the termination of a Cobb County teacher who was fired last year for reading a book about gender identity to her students

<https://bit.ly/3wkiZ12>

Race and LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Schools; What teachers, teens and the U.S. public say about current curriculum debates

<https://pewrsr.ch/3wBo1WY>

New survey captures national divide on teaching race, LGBTQ issues in classrooms

<https://bit.ly/3T7NJvd>

Child tax credit, funding for school meals: Five education bills to watch this legislative session

<https://bit.ly/3l6xh85>

Getting rid of school choice and police in schools is about politics, not what's best for kids and families

<https://bit.ly/48tgR4H>

Chicago school district, where students walked out to protest Israel-Hamas war, now faces federal Title VI investigation

<https://bit.ly/3UPrV8V>

Chicago moves to take away school police officers for equity amid violence

<https://bit.ly/3labcFW>

Chicago Board of Education votes to remove police from schools. CPS, in a separate vote, opted to drop janitorial giant Aramark as the district's cleaning provider

<https://bit.ly/3SPdTS3>

Chicago students rally in support of school board vote to remove officers from school

<https://bit.ly/4bPRUDa>

IHSA postpones Kenwood's state playoff game due to an eligibility investigation; The Illinois High School Association moved the second game of the Kenwood regional doubleheader to Oak Lawn and postponed the host Broncos game vs. Morton

<https://bit.ly/3T8ePIS>

Elmhurst School District 205 expects to see a nearly 40 percent hike in costs for its school bus service over three years

<https://bit.ly/3OShOfS>

What Gov. Pritzker's proposed budget includes on Illinois education

<https://bit.ly/3lbsoe6>

Chicago Public Schools Ranks First in Post-Pandemic Reading Gains among Large Urban Districts

<https://bit.ly/49pl8aw>

Measure would allow Illinois schools ability to deny polling places

<https://bit.ly/4bKrcMh>

Chicago Board of Education votes to remove officers from schools and create 'holistic' safety policy

<https://bit.ly/49pizVW>

Local superintendents weigh in on Pritzker's \$449M budget proposal for K-12 education

<https://bit.ly/48tTXdp>

Illinois Department of Public Health Authorizes Schools to Stock Life-Saving Opioid Antagonists

<https://bit.ly/49pn5DQ>

US Department of Education Opens Civil Rights Investigation Into Chicago Public Schools, Area Universities Over Gaza Protests

<https://bit.ly/49EXO8Z>

Loss of State Invest in Kids Scholarship Program Forces Closure of Two Catholic Schools

<https://bit.ly/49p4tnw>

A grassroots committee is hitting the streets and advocating for voters to support a \$25.5M referendum during the March 19 primary election, which if approved, would help result in the implementation of full-day kindergarten in Prospect Heights Elementary School Dist. 23

<https://bit.ly/48rxgq4>

District 87 School Board signs off on \$4.5M deal to buy former State Farm offices

<https://bit.ly/4bHgGWd>

District 87 buys former State Farm building to expand early childhood education

<https://bit.ly/3T82M82>

FCC approves radio station for Eureka College

<https://bit.ly/3T82EW6>

Bloomington-Normal: Unit 5 leaders consider details of proposed strategic plan, along with mid-year budget update

<https://bit.ly/3I6v64C>

The department of addictions studies and behavioral health at Governors State University has been awarded a \$507,000 grant to increase the number of certified alcohol and drug abuse counselors in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3uL8DXl>

Metro-east school district making fourth appeal to voters for tax rate increase

<https://bit.ly/4bL0H9w>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Why the Fed will keep rates higher for longer than markets expect

<https://bit.ly/3I7j6zV>

Mortgage demand takes a massive hit as interest rates cross back over 7%; Applications for a mortgage to purchase a home fell 10% for the week and were 13% lower than the same week a year ago

<https://cnb.cx/49GZf6j>

5 of the largest office-to-residential conversions underway across the US; Over 55,000 residential units are in the pipeline, concentrated in major metros

<https://bit.ly/49naAZf>

State and local governments have an opportunity to fill a sizable gap in housing by subsidizing the conversion of market-rate properties into affordable housing. While costly, it's still cheaper than building new

<https://bit.ly/3wlFCSK>

Why New York City Can't Fix Its Ugly Scaffolding Problem; Thanks to archaic laws, the Big Apple is filled with sidewalk sheds that stay for years

<https://on.wsj.com/4bPXlge>

Appeals court resets independent contractor fight as new rule looms; The Labor Department will get a second chance to defend its withdrawal of a Trump-era rule

<https://bit.ly/48qCJNS>

Biden's latest equity push could backfire and reduce salaries; If enacted, the rule would likely apply to 89,822 federal contractors who handle about \$694B in federal contracts

<https://bit.ly/48lHdFy>

College Graduates, Underemployment, and the Way Forward; A college degree is not always a guarantee of labor market success

<https://bit.ly/3wtSSVB>

More than half of recent four-year college graduates, 52 percent, are underemployed a year after they graduate; Many recent graduates don't land jobs that require a degree

<https://bit.ly/42RxDsI>

Colleges are using AI to prepare hospitality workers of the future; AI-powered simulations can mimic front desk operations, kitchen management or even crisis situations. This provides students with hands-on experience and enables immediate feedback

<https://bit.ly/3ULmY0Z>

This Economy Is Also Working Well for Lower Income Workers

<https://bit.ly/3SWBK2u>

Why Giant Food's search for workers took it to a local prison; The mid-Atlantic grocer hires incarcerated people for roles in its fresh food distribution center through a work release program with a Maryland correctional facility

<https://bit.ly/435epAI>

The portion of fully remote workers dropped from about 18 to roughly 15 percent between 2021 and 2022; Fewer Americans are working fully remotely as hybrid schedules become the new norm

<https://bit.ly/3V83W5d>

Most firms stick with a four-day working week after taking part in world's biggest trial; Of the 61 companies that took part in a six-month four-day working week pilot in 2022, at least 54 (89%) said the policy was still in place, while 31 firms (51%) said they had permanently switched to a shorter working week

<https://cnb.cx/3Ib3qvw>

Office culture falters against remote flexibility; Study shatters traditional office myths, advocating for flexible work environments

<https://bit.ly/49EAZIP>

Denny's is still shrinking; Denny's closed 57 units in 2023, for a net decrease of 29 units, according to the chain's most recent earnings release

<https://bit.ly/3uJzCms>

Accelerate Autonomy; Self-driving cars offer expanded freedom and opportunity, especially for the elderly-if regulators don't block the road

<https://bit.ly/3wj7jLZ>

Waymo's robotaxi expansion plans in California put on hold by regulators; The California Public Utilities Commission wants more time to review the Alphabet-owned company's application

<https://bit.ly/3UOPSgI>

Teamsters' Autonomous Vehicles Fight Spreads Across Statehouses; Tech groups fight restrictions on self-

driving vehicles; Bills in states such as Washington, California, New York

<https://bit.ly/3SN1GNF>

More Riders, Fewer Stations for Intercity Bus Lines; Intercity bus ridership is up and should return to pre-pandemic levels by 2026. Other trends, including the closure of Greyhound stations in big cities such as Philadelphia, are less positive

<https://bit.ly/3UVsuyd>

Seattle will become the first city in North America with double-decker electric transit buses using inductive wireless charging

<https://bit.ly/3ORYlq8>

Biden's sweeping green vision crashes into reality

<https://bit.ly/49KDgLS>

These Are Not Serious People; Biden's 'green vision' is forever failing its visionary, and the average Americans he would draft into its execution are made to suffer to realize his dream

<https://bit.ly/3T9vjJx>

Biden's big bet on EVs is poised to take a detour; Slowing electric car sales, anxious union workers and the president's campaign difficulties in Michigan are complicating one of his most ambitious climate policies

<https://politi.co/42Mb3BX>

Biden Is Picking Cars Over the Planet; The White House's decision to roll back its own emissions regulations points to a broader problem with Biden's climate policy

<https://bit.ly/49BgJBa>

Europe faces industrial wipe-out; Chinese firms are about to dump Ms of cheap EVs on the European market; Instead of sparking a manufacturing renaissance in Europe, the pursuit of net zero is leading instead to imminent deindustrialization

<https://bit.ly/3I7hQNd>

Podcast: Why China Wants You to Drive an EV; The factors that have led to China's economic challenges and how Beijing is seeking to overcome its economic woes by further dominating the energy market

<http://tinyurl.com/5md7acr7>

Wyoming's Rare Earth Breaks China Dependency; The discovery could help to reign in China and President Xi's ambitions over the coming decade

<https://bit.ly/49olA90>

U.S. to Invest \$Bs to Replace China-Made Cranes at Nation's Ports; Biden administration fears security threats at hundreds of sites

<https://on.wsj.com/3wrj4QK>

Semi-transparent solar cells achieve record-breaking energy conversion; The solar cells can be teamed up with tandem solar cells and also pave the way for use in windows to tap into solar energy

<https://bit.ly/3I9QeqI>

The Lego Group has put the pieces together, hiring a joint venture to build its \$1B manufacturing facility near Richmond, Virginia; Will build 13 buildings, totaling 1.7M square feet across 340 acres

<https://bit.ly/3UP4T27>

How Farmers Are Preparing for a Saltier Future; As salinity affects more cultivated land due to climate change, researchers and growers are turning to salt-tolerant crops

<https://bit.ly/3l9View>

Cover Crops and Covered Cropland, 2022 US Census of Agriculture

<https://bit.ly/3uBobxg>

Can nanoparticles help fight hunger? Designing nanoparticles that could protect plants from disease and crop loss, helping farmers reap abundant harvests and grow food that will make its way to markets and dinner tables

<https://bit.ly/3ULEOAZ>

This DVD-sized disk can store a massive 125,000 gigabytes of data It can hold the same amount of information as 10,000 Blu-rays; A 3D nanoscale optical disk memory with petabit capacity

<https://bit.ly/4bLkCVS>

Nvidia's boom, Intel's big plans show how AI has turbocharged chipmaking

<https://bit.ly/3wrtBeC>

Customer demand for Nvidia chips is so far above supply that the CEO had to discuss how 'fairly' the company decides who can buy them; Estimates that the chip industry would grow to \$1T a year, once seen as aggressive, now look like they might be way too conservative

<https://bit.ly/48ps6Lq>

Nvidia CEO Says AI Has Hit a 'Tipping Point'

<https://bit.ly/49AEdWW>

These three companies show why the next AI wave won't revolve around chatbots; Companies are racing to launch smart assistants, agents and visual systems that are even more powerful than classic chatbots

<https://bit.ly/3uMhAQv>

Governor Pritzker Renews \$400M Fund to Lure Companies to Illinois; Illinois has been trying to position itself as a hub for new technologies from quantum computing to life sciences and electric vehicle manufacturing

<https://tinyurl.com/yzpaj3fb>

Retailers push back on Pritzker's proposal to cap sales tax credit they claim

<https://bit.ly/48lWCpm>

Illinois auto and home insurance rates keep rising with planned double-digit hikes

<https://bit.ly/3V7Zlun>

Illinois auto and home insurance rates keep rising as Allstate, State Farm plan double-digit hikes

<https://bit.ly/3uFNxtP>

Illinois Drivers Hit with Sky-High Insurance Rate Hikes by Allstate and State Farm

<https://bit.ly/3uKOj8S>

Metra to begin buying battery-powered train sets; The initial order of eight trainsets will cost \$154M. The bulk of the amount will be covered by a federal grant

<https://bit.ly/4bPYt94>

Metra orders battery-powered trains, gets funding for new bilevel passenger cars

<https://bit.ly/3wsEv3S>

Metra's \$154M Deal Electrifies Chicago Transit with New Battery-Powered Trains

<https://bit.ly/49JZ5uL>

Metra to buy first battery-powered trains as part of effort to provide more frequent all-day service

<https://bit.ly/3wtBlgj>

Metra CEO pay hiked to more than \$325,000

<https://bit.ly/3OUtTRx>

Chicago dollar stores face new restrictions after city council approves small box retail ordinance; There are 149 dollar stores in Chicago, mostly in minority, low income neighborhoods

<https://bit.ly/3SJfp8i>

A 'Less Antagonistic' Hinsdale Historic Process? Acknowledging the local Historic Preservation Commission's frustration that the village's ordinance has no teeth in stopping demolitions

<https://bit.ly/3UKSfRE>

Aurora closer to tearing down former YMCA building

<https://bit.ly/42WwlwL>

U of I nuclear professor encouraged by record setting fusion test

<https://bit.ly/3Tb5UjP>

Eliminating grocery tax would help Illinois families

<https://bit.ly/3uMwupV>

Hard liquor sales proposed at rooftop clubs surrounding Wrigley Field

<https://bit.ly/48rbrXG>

Reinsdorf's 'save-the-Sox-for-Chicago' argument has a familiar ring. But the argument is less compelling and believable now than it was in the late 1980s, when St. Petersburg, Fla. was already building a stadium for the team

<https://bit.ly/3SR1tJh>

Rivian Cuts 10% of Salaried Workforce Amid EV Demand Dip; 8,000 Normal Assembly Jobs Safe for Now

<https://bit.ly/3UJvfCy>

Rivian has more than 8,000 workers in Normal, including about 7,000 hourly assembly workers who will not be affected by cuts, the company said

<https://bit.ly/3T9eOy4>

A third of Walgreens headquarters property in Deerfield to be sold for residential development

<https://bit.ly/42WTMWL>

The largely vacant Spring Hill Mall will close on March 22

<https://bit.ly/3T9VuB1>

Proposed state budget includes \$1M for Route 53 corridor greenway master plan in Lake County

<https://bit.ly/3wq1cFZ>

How Chicago's Black Steelworkers Struggled, Thrived And Survived The Industry's Rise And Fall

<https://bit.ly/3UQ0oEb>

Little Village Dispensary Plan Rejected By City's Zoning Board

<https://bit.ly/3SX2obw>

Chicago Mayor Sells \$1.25B Affordable Housing Plan: It's 'About Us Investing' In South, West Sides. If approved, the mayor's plan would invest in affordable housing, developments and small businesses while overhauling the city's TIFs

<https://bit.ly/49ue9wX>

Mayor's \$1.25B Affordable Housing Plan Would Mean The End Of TIF Districts

<https://bit.ly/49mXEmd>

Chicago's Dollar Store Crackdown Passes As Council Members Reject 'Bulls-t' From Companies

<https://bit.ly/48tCr9d>

The Chicago Park District is crafting a new framework plan for Washington Park to guide developments in it for the next 20 years

<https://bit.ly/3If3hXC>

New Lockport residential, retail development proposed for downtown

<https://bit.ly/4bKNjlL>

Transmission line monopoly back on agenda at Statehouse after Pritzker's veto

<https://bit.ly/42RA7rp>

A new Distillery District Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plan for the south side of Peoria could help develop the area, but some city leaders say it could also increase health and environmental disparities among an already vulnerable population

<https://bit.ly/49ImCw5>

West Peoria voters to consider a pair of a tax increases for ambulance service, fire protection

<https://bit.ly/4bOr6mJ>

\$22M Iconic Energy redevelopment project suffers setback over parking

<https://bit.ly/3lath6D>

Ford County to become intervener in CO2 pipeline hearings - at a cost of up to \$40,000

<https://bit.ly/42MPMBj>

Rides Mass Transit District will receive 41 new vehicles from the Illinois Department of Transportation. The award is part of the largest award of the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program history, according to a news release. The Rides Mass Transit District serves 18 counties in Southern Illinois

<https://bit.ly/3lciBEs>

New grocery stores coming soon to McHenry County towns

<https://bit.ly/3wB8SVF>

Moving Pillsbury Forward is a nonprofit that acquired the 18-acre Pillsbury site in 2022 and has raised \$6M so far to help demolish buildings and remove hazardous materials

<https://bit.ly/42SwJMA>

Moving Pillsbury Forward receives \$1.5M from Springfield to help demolition

<https://bit.ly/49Mcltq>

PUBLIC SAFETY

Unvaccinated Florida kids exposed to measles can skip quarantine, officials say; On Tuesday, nearly 20 percent of the school's 1,067 students were reportedly absent

<https://bit.ly/3lbeetk>

MEGA-CRISPR tool gives a power boost to cancer-fighting cells; A system that edits RNA rather than DNA can give new life to exhausted CAR T cells

<https://go.nature.com/3Pg7lev>

Political correctness now a bullying tactic aimed at stifling legitimate debate; Science explains how the natural world works. PC views, however, are more aspirational, setting out how the world should be, according to their adherents

<http://tinyurl.com/yc6exkx4>

Are Evidence-Based Medicine and Public Health Incompatible? At stake are deep divisions over how scientific evidence should be used to make decisions; Versions of this debate pop up regularly - over masks, school closures, and even in areas outside of pandemic policy, such as treatment for children experiencing gender dysphoria

<https://bit.ly/3UQYfIG>

ADHD may have been an evolutionary advantage, research suggests; Traits associated with the neurodevelopmental disorder could have helped early humans when foraging for food

<http://tinyurl.com/yc2wzey2>

Study Finds Clear Biological Hallmarks of Chronic Fatigue; Study points to immune dysfunction and brain abnormalities at core of long-dismissed disease

<https://bit.ly/4bPzIPu>

Vital Clues to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Found in Major New Study; New evidence links changes in people's immune systems and brains to the life-changing condition known as ME/CFS

<https://bit.ly/3OTs1J3>

Hackers are finding more opportunities to log in via legitimate credentials, rather than hacking into networks; info-stealing malware grew 266% YoY in 2023

<https://bit.ly/3UQ9EZ8>

Meet the shady companies helping governments hack citizens' phones

<https://bit.ly/3wpp10p>

Researchers find differences in the brains of children from different backgrounds; Children who grow up in a home with highly educated parents read more books. Does that change their brains?

<https://bit.ly/48lKWmF>

How Does Technology Rewire the Intricate Circuitry of the Teenage Mind?

<https://bit.ly/3l5CIEEx>

It's Time for States and Congress to Protect Parental Rights; Giving parents the final stamp of approval before an app is downloaded would allow for parents to have time to research and approve which apps they allow their teens to use

<https://bit.ly/49odwFf>

Mothers' dieting habits and self-talk have profound impact on daughters - 2 psychologists explain how to cultivate healthy behaviors and body image

<https://bit.ly/3l9IRiN>

Pet food is a huge industry, with vast resources spent on working out how best to nourish and delight our beloved charges. But how do we know if we're getting it right?

<https://tinyurl.com/2h2rxxav>

A new algorithm could help detect landslides in minutes; Landslides can trigger devastating tsunamis. Tracking them in real time is a challenge

<https://bit.ly/3SMCOFP>

States Must Act Now To Save Rural Lives From Fentanyl Crisis; Rural communities, where hundreds of hospitals have already closed and more are on the chopping block, are bearing the additional weight of overdoses; Fentanyl is responsible for over 150 deaths every day in the US

<https://bit.ly/3T5KQLu>

Oregon Democratic lawmakers reach tentative agreement to address addiction crisis; They plan to create a new class of misdemeanor and add opportunities to avoid jail and enter treatment

<https://bit.ly/48lELio>

After years of intense debate around how New Mexico courts should handle people accused but not convicted of a felony crime, the state's Legislature backed a proposal to make it harder for people to get out of jail a second time if they are accused of another felony-level crime while out of jail as the first one is still pending

<https://bit.ly/3SMm01H>

No Questions, Multiple Denials: This Mississippi Court Appoints Lawyers for Just 1 in 5 Defendants Before Indictment; Mississippi has long been known as one of the worst states for providing a lawyer to any defendant who can't afford one

<https://bit.ly/3OOgdI0>

Low wages, high costs: Washington prisoners say they're being exploited

<https://bit.ly/3SOkyMj>

Releasing suspects pretrial doesn't lead to higher crime rates, experts say; Some states and jurisdictions are taking different approaches to cash bail

<https://bit.ly/3SPXI73>

Philadelphia mayor might consider these lessons from New York City before expanding stop-and-frisk

<https://bit.ly/3UNHX32>

Texas Gives \$125M to Rural Sheriffs, Prosecutors for Pay Increases; The 2023 legislation establishing the grant program also includes new equipment for rural sheriffs

<https://bit.ly/3UQ8zk1>

The governor of Maine unveiled legislation meant to address gun violence and strengthen the state's mental health care system

<https://bit.ly/48zkx4Y>

Minnesota Dems offer modest gun control agenda, fearing election backlash

<https://bit.ly/3URpAuk>

After 2-year-old girl shoots self, man becomes first person charged under Michigan's gun storage law

<https://bit.ly/3Ia0QFP>

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Illinois' judicial system is trying to solve a big problem - it's overwhelmed with appeals from accused felons who want to be released from jail under the state's new defendant-friendly SAFE-T Act. Since the law took effect Sept. 18, Illinois' five appellate courts have been overwhelmed with nearly 1,700 appeals requiring prompt review

<https://bit.ly/3V80Z4D>

Chicago police traffic stops skyrocket after CPD ends stop-and-frisk, data shows

<https://bit.ly/3OUa9xp>

Chicago parking garage customers sue companies over data privacy concerns

<https://bit.ly/3wrR53o>

Cook County's tax on guns and ammunition is still in place, but a case alleging the ordinance violates the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment has been revived

<https://bit.ly/48x6UTE>

Nearly 1 of every 900 Chicagoans was shot last year, and 1 in 5,000 killed by gunshot. Where was the greatest risk? The Austin neighborhood reported the most fatal shootings as well as the most shootings overall, with 1 shooting for every 414 residents

<https://bit.ly/49B8R2q>

Pritzker to call for health insurance reforms in State of the State address

<https://bit.ly/3I7HyBd>

Mayor Johnson spends \$8.6M on nine-month ShotSpotter deal - more than entire past year's cost

<https://bit.ly/3SR1HjB>

New report critiques Cook County's experimental neighborhood courts, recommends reforms before expansion

<https://bit.ly/3SJAVK6>

Report Calls for Major Overhaul of Chicago's Restorative Justice Courts Amid Push for Economic Equity in Cook County

<https://bit.ly/3IbjaPa>

Illinois State Representative LaShawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) has introduced legislation which would require any law enforcement agency in Illinois which encrypts police scanner transmissions to provide real time access to those transmissions to accredited media in the state

<https://bit.ly/49F9AiU>

Inseparable, a national organization focused on closing the treatment gap for people with mental health conditions, improving crisis response, and supporting youth mental health, applauded the introduction of legislation in the General Assembly to improve access to mental health treatment by eliminating "ghost networks

<https://bit.ly/3UQD2hL>

Rockford officials: Violent crime down, homicide solve rate up

<https://bit.ly/3wqIKOD>

Central Illinois pharmacies affected by software cybersecurity issue

<https://bit.ly/4bJTID>

Transmission line monopoly back on agenda at Statehouse after Pritzker's veto

<https://bit.ly/48qZAsS>

The Illinois State Police, working with law enforcement and community partners, continues to decrease the supply of illegal guns and drugs

<https://bit.ly/3uAYvAT>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Ohio counties to study how wastewater treatment plays a role in economic development; Lucas, Ottawa and Wood Counties are looking at an economic development tool that could be a big draw to potential new businesses, but it's not one you'd expect

<https://bit.ly/42Qt9To>

A New York City law that would have allowed roughly 800,000 noncitizens to vote in local elections has been deemed unconstitutional

<https://tinyurl.com/mpace3cc>

Housing, baby bonds and reparations: The Newark Mayor lays out progressive overhaul for New Jersey; The mayor of New Jersey's largest city says the state has been too moderate

<https://politi.co/3T8Xx8c>

Report: The fiscal fallout of Boston's empty offices; More than one-third of Boston tax revenue comes from commercial property taxes, by far the highest proportion among major U.S. cities

<https://tinyurl.com/pfrwavzw>

Boston is projected to lose \$1.4B in tax revenue thanks to a decrease in office building spaces over the next five years, a new report has found. Within the next five years, the Massachusetts capital is set to lose \$500M in revenue annually

<https://bit.ly/3T7J0JZ>

Municipalities taxing stay-at-home workers during pandemic was OK, court says; The Ohio Supreme Court upheld a temporary state law that allowed employers to withhold municipal income tax irrespective of where their employees performed their work. The ruling sets a precedent in the state

<https://bit.ly/3wyidxu>

The race heats up for massive IRA state and local climate funding program; The Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program will award \$4.6B to states and metro areas this year to implement aspects of local climate action plans

<https://bit.ly/49IS7wv>

Confidence in state and local government may have been waning in recent years, but there are ways communities can help to bolster their resident's faith in them

<https://bit.ly/3SQzqtD>

Unsanctioned software-as-a-service purchases by employees can annually cost businesses \$Ms in wasted spending depending on the size of the organization

<https://bit.ly/4bPLZhI>

17 Tips to Take Your ChatGPT Prompts to the Next Level

<https://bit.ly/42Rinw5>

How Co-Leaders Succeed; Seven strategies for performing this role with integrity, intelligence, and positivity
<https://tinyurl.com/2v3d4nbf>

—
The Illinois Municipal League is strongly opposed to the proposal to eliminate the 1% grocery sales tax that is dedicated for local governments
<https://tinyurl.com/444syec6>

Governor Pritzker proposes permanently eliminating state's grocery sales tax
<https://bit.ly/48n4cjr>

Eliminating grocery tax would help Illinois families; Illinois is one of only 13 states with a grocery tax, and the only one of the nation's 10 largest states
<https://bit.ly/49siHnI>

State picks up travel tab for migrants who want to leave Chicago; At least 3,194 individuals have received financial support from the state of Illinois to reunite with friends and family in other states and U.S. cities since mid-November
<https://bit.ly/3OSUvCK>

Chicago Closes 4 Shelters as Number of Migrants in City Facilities Drops 17% Since Mid-December
<https://bit.ly/4bKixcP>

Chicago Mayor Johnson pushes plan to borrow \$1.25B for housing, development and climate goals
<https://bit.ly/3UKTa4w>

Chicago Mayor Johnson asks to add \$1.25B to city's massive debt; Chicago has the second-highest debt per taxpayer in the U.S. Chicago also has the highest amount of unfunded pension benefits
<https://bit.ly/3UWU4uC>

Mayor Brandon Johnson's borrowing plan raises questions about how Chicago will spend the money
<https://bit.ly/48womYm>

An Early Referendum on Chicago's Mayor? Brandon Johnson's proposed tax hike would harm the city's already-suffering commercial real-estate sector
<https://bit.ly/48xjGkV>

It's the public who loses the most when Mayor Johnson avoids the press; The former teacher and union organizer considers himself a man of the people, but to reach the people, a big-city mayor has to be ready every day to take tough questions from journalists
<https://bit.ly/49oYBKY>

Newly obtained records shed light on cost of Mayor Brandon Johnson's trip to Los Angeles
<https://bit.ly/4bQdass>

"Forgotten West Side flood victims" call on Mayor Brandon Johnson to aid recovery efforts
<https://bit.ly/3Tco7gY>

Mayor Johnson, City of Chicago Sue Oil And Gas Companies For Climate Deception

<https://bit.ly/42RnXi6>

After the city of Granite City sold its sewer treatment plant, residents have raised concerns about their sewer bills doubling; If the plant hadn't been sold, there would be at least \$30M needed to put into the facility to make improvements

<https://bit.ly/3UQJNAi>

FBI investigating Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henyard while Illinois attorney general orders her charity to stop soliciting donations

<https://bit.ly/3uLgl41>

State Bars Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henyard's Nonprofit From Fundraising. The Illinois Answers Project previously reported that Henyard voted to steer thousands of dollars in taxpayer money to her foundation for a trip to Springfield

<https://bit.ly/3l8h3LV>

The Lake County Board of Elections Tuesday said it would like to address the issue of duplicate addresses in its voting rolls, but since it was named as a defendant in the complaint, it ethically cannot do so

<https://bit.ly/49L2euw>

Invitation to Bid to Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago for flood control project in Robbins. Bid opening April 2, 2024

<https://bit.ly/48Ahhq0>

What to know about the 2024 primary races in Cook County. uburban Cook County can begin traditional early voting on March 4

<https://bit.ly/3OW7ljA>

McHenry County Board delays vote on speed limit reduction

<https://bit.ly/3OVa9gR>

Kane County dismisses bipartisan push for statement on migrant busing

<https://bit.ly/3wtUrmv>

Bourbonnais preparing ordinance dealing with migrant buses

<https://bit.ly/48mjxko>

Normal to get rid of all toxic lead lines by 2025

<https://bit.ly/49Fgplj>

Illinois representatives sent a letter to the United States Postal Service Postmaster General expressing concerns over the possibility of moving jobs out of Peoria's USPS facility to a Chicago suburb

<https://bit.ly/48tQ3RM>

Peoria: Concerns raised over potential Distillery TIF District

<https://bit.ly/48mjbdy>

East Moline wants public input on downtown revitalization plan. The extensive project is funded by a \$24M federal grant and looks to connect key areas of downtown.

<https://bit.ly/48v5TLI>

Springfield city officials are asking the City Council to approve a \$95,000 settlement of a civil rights complaint filed by a transgender former city employee who was denied medical coverage for gender-affirming care

<https://bit.ly/4bPfEaM>

Water rates in Springfield will rise 32% beginning March 1 and another 32% a year later after contentious debate among City Council members and a 7-3 vote on Feb. 20

<https://bit.ly/3T6C7IX>

Pittsfield is expanding its current City Hall building as part of a reconstruction project that began in 2022. The \$400,000 project began with the purchase of a former dance studio next door

<https://bit.ly/3T8G3Zv>

Effingham County approves \$600K for energy saving solar project for the Effingham County Office Building

<https://bit.ly/3wtXECz>

Godfrey considers anti-camping ordinance

<https://bit.ly/3OSEYCK>

Here's why Belleville residents will see trash bills increase over the next few years

<https://bit.ly/3wtP5Yt>

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Under restrictive school funding policies, Idaho districts struggle to repair and replace deteriorating buildings. If voters agree, the proposal would, in some elections, reduce the two-thirds threshold needed to pass bonds for school repairs

<https://bit.ly/3l9yKur>

Demo Of Old Will County Courthouse Hits Its Stride

<https://bit.ly/49LoR1K>

Chicago Park District officials to announce a \$4.3M plan for enhancements to Cornell Square Park in Back of the Yards

<https://bit.ly/42Ng0KC>

Despite mayoral opposition, East Dundee trustees say they want a downtown parking deck with retail space

<https://bit.ly/4bKpF93>

Chicago Bears Face Soaring Tax Estimate as Cook County Values Proposed Stadium Site at \$124.7M

<https://bit.ly/49sFUGm>

Mayor Johnson comments on Bears, White Sox stadium pursuits

<https://bit.ly/3latreo>

White Sox Could Get City Funding For New Ballpark, Mayor Hints

<https://bit.ly/49KFVoF>

The City of Evanston Thursday issued a request for proposals for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the lakefront Harley Clarke mansion

<https://bit.ly/3USjXvW>

Evanston's Ecology Center is scheduled to close 8 months for a substantial rehab project.

<https://bit.ly/3OVwSJz>

Open House Details Plans For Major Renovations At Buffalo Grove HS Athletic Fields. Officials revealed blueprints and drawings for the first phase of a planned three-phase project, which will replace and/or remodel existing football, softball, baseball, lacrosse, soccer and other athletic fields

<https://bit.ly/4bQvJg8>

Morris Council approves \$1.7M in total bids for West Side Park project

<https://bit.ly/48xWmU9>

East Peoria's EastSide Centre getting \$2.7M upgrade with artificial turf and new dugouts

<https://bit.ly/49uxkGX>

Village leaders agree to study for Godfrey recreation facility

<https://bit.ly/3T68F5I>

STATE & FEDERAL

Several special interest groups, including the Illinois Education Association, are pushing to enhance benefits across the state's entire Tier 2 pension system

<https://bit.ly/49NhM0T>

Illinois' state budget is nearly \$13B higher today than it was 6 years ago

<https://bit.ly/3OTbx3t>

With budget proposal and fiery address, Pritzker paints himself as progressive pragmatist

<https://bit.ly/3SHeOnq>

Budget reaction: Retailers, municipalities critical of Pritzker's proposed tax changes

<https://bit.ly/49KDfaB>

Pritzker proposes over \$2B in spending growth, backed by tax increases for corporations, sportsbooks

<https://bit.ly/49p1lli>

Pritzker's \$52.7B Budget Proposal Funds Migrant Care and Early Childhood Education, Angers Business Community

<https://bit.ly/3wsCUeo>

Gov. JB Pritzker's 'more austere' \$52.7B budget proposal revamps pension system

<https://bit.ly/4bYAPXY>

Pritzker proposes \$1.8B in spending growth, backed by tax increases for corporations, sportsbooks

<https://bit.ly/49gc081>

Governor Pritzker is proposing the state increase its statutory funding ratio goal for its woefully underfunded pension funds to 100% by fiscal year 2048 from the current goal of 90% by fiscal year 2045

<https://bit.ly/48sStQo>

Illinois and Chicago avoid confronting pension debt at their peril; "Pension costs, including interest on the debt, are eating up 25% of the state budget and growing"

<https://bit.ly/49np8YR>

Governor Pritzker's \$52.7B Budget Proposal Funds Migrant Care and Early Childhood Education, Angers Business Community

<https://bit.ly/48rHTsQ>

Budget breakdown: Tax increases draws ire from Illinois lawmakers

<https://bit.ly/49NVXOJ>

Illinois Democratic PAC loses appeal of massive fines for not timely reporting campaign spending

<https://bit.ly/3wt5Bld>

State picks up travel tab for migrants who want to leave Chicago

<https://bit.ly/49OrNLj>

Illinois has spent over \$850,000 to aid migrants leaving Chicago, easing overcrowded shelters and responding to individuals' preferences for other destinations

<https://bit.ly/49ISy9S>

IL Freedom Caucus Statement on Governor's State of the State Address

<https://bit.ly/3uHDKn2>

Republican lawmakers react and raise concerns about State of the State and Budget address

<https://bit.ly/3uKteLK>

Gov. JB Pritzker wants to increase a state tax credit, but Republicans say it's not enough

<https://bit.ly/49OsQed>

Illinois seniors are encouraged to apply for a property tax deferral program before the March 1, 2024 deadline, which allows deferring up to \$7,500 in taxes with a 3% interest until certain conditions are met

<https://bit.ly/3SSGztx>

A bipartisan task force of legislators and journalism industry leaders has filed a report to the General Assembly detailing the decline of local journalism in Illinois and exploring ways the legislature can help revive it

<https://bit.ly/49HLFzy>

Native Americans hope Illinois lawmakers can transfer stolen land, ban racist school mascots

<https://bit.ly/3OQdn56>

—

Single-payer healthcare is a 'tough, tough sell' as California faces massive budget shortfall; A legislative analysis of the CalCare bill pegged the cost between \$314B and \$391B in state and federal funds

<https://lat.ms/4bJoRBI>

A Republican-backed "religious liberty" bill opponents say would weaken Kentucky local governments' ability to enforce Fairness Ordinances and embolden individuals who wish to discriminate based on religious beliefs won approval from a legislative committee

<http://tinyurl.com/4d883e8n>

Tennessee House panel passes potentially unconstitutional ban on expelled lawmakers

<https://bit.ly/49KVxsc>

The 'Visible Power' of Black Lawmakers; A total of eight African Americans are serving as the top chamber leaders in state legislatures. Meanwhile, the fallout from an Oregon Supreme Court ruling that barred some state senators from seeking re-election won't be as great as you might think

<https://bit.ly/49oIYTQ>

The Oklahoma Right to Human Life Act would create a database of every person who obtained an abortion; The bill moves to a full House vote next month

<http://tinyurl.com/mhwt8t3s>

How Alabama IVF ruling could cause political chaos for the GOP; Republicans are facing another political headache in the wake of the overturning of Roe v. Wade, this time involving in vitro fertilization procedures, that could spell disaster for the party heading into the 2024 election

<https://bit.ly/3uKre69>

Biden ties Trump tight to the Alabama court's IVF ruling; The ruling has scrambled GOP politics. And the ex-president has, so far, not commented on it

<https://politi.co/3wyj5Cg>

GOP contenders grapple with in vitro's place in abortion debate

<https://bit.ly/4bLFHiY>

How an Alabama court ruling that frozen embryos are children could affect IVF; The Alabama Supreme Court's ruling could potentially leave clinics vulnerable to lawsuits and restrict access to treatment. It's also raising concerns about how the decision could affect the future of in vitro fertilization

<https://bit.ly/3SPJ9Ah>

Alabama's Unhinged Embryo Ruling Shows Where the Anti-Abortion Movement Is Headed; The Christian right is paving the way for a world without abortion or IVF, but with lots of embryo adoptions

<https://bit.ly/3SQsYmf>

Alabama Supreme Court Rightly Defers to State Law in Frozen Embryo Case; The court looked at the wrongful-death statute for what it says and refused to see a location restriction that the Legislature did not put there. By using the proper method of interpreting the statute's text and then separately applying it, the majority was able to settle this legal dispute and leave the policy speculation and issue politics to the Legislature

<https://tinyurl.com/4y6sjafd>

In wrongful death suits, Florida Republicans want fetuses to be covered as soon as they're in the womb

<https://bit.ly/49mtEHm>

Your 401(k) Will Be Gone within a Decade; The intellectual case for getting rid of tax-advantaged retirement plans is strong, and the political case is catching up

<https://bloom.bg/3SMndq0>

Tax evasion by wealthy tops \$150B a year; Audits of taxpayers making more than \$1M a year fell by more than 80% over the last decade, while the number of taxpayers with income of \$M jumped 50%

<https://cnb.cx/3ThZvU5>

Pandemic karma: Fraudsters now stealing from people who stole COVID relief funds; Call it the scam within a scam; It's been "deadly effective" at snaring folks because there was so much fraud in the original pandemic program

<https://bit.ly/48uuy30>

Americans Offer Anemic State of the Nation Report; Under Biden, public satisfaction has fallen in more areas than it has improved

<https://bit.ly/42R7hqP>

America's Two-Party System Failure; While Republicans seek power on behalf of their disgraced former leader, Democrats have all but gone into hiding

<https://bit.ly/3SOxn9p>

Most voters say Biden, Trump both mentally unfit for 2nd term, poll finds

<http://tinyurl.com/4u579vjw>

Old men lace up: Biden, Trump try to keep up with Gen Z and Millennials

<https://bit.ly/49MHolI>

Why Republicans Are Making a Big Mistake on Biden's Age

<https://politi.co/4bLEnww>

25th Amendment Push Intensifies Against Biden; Lawmakers crafted the amendment to address concern about what to do if the president were still alive but experiencing a health crisis

<http://tinyurl.com/4dnxfcb>

Replacing Biden at the Convention Is Risky and Unprecedented

<https://bit.ly/49meBx7>

The Drumbeat for Biden to Step Aside Will Only Grow Louder; Would an open convention actually energize the Democrats?

<https://bit.ly/3UQnBGU>

Biden should withdraw from the race at the Democratic National Convention, aware that the fight to replace him will be bloody but ultimately productive in allowing the party to choose someone other than Harris to be the Democratic nominee

<https://bit.ly/3UKwJMR>

Are Democrats ignoring the next Obama to save Biden's struggling campaign? Moore is currently the nation's third African-American to be elected governor of any state. He is Maryland's first. Given this record, why are Democrats still sticking with Biden-Harris instead of someone who possesses at least as much charisma as a 2004-era Obama?

<https://bit.ly/3uJZZsu>

Why Biden Allies in Michigan Are Worried About Protest Votes Over Gaza

<https://bit.ly/3UP8dtN>

James Biden Testifies Payments to Brother Were for Loans, but Has No Documentation; James Biden testified that although his brother provided short-term loans, he was not involved in and did not benefit from his family's business dealings

<https://tinyurl.com/59cab52s>

How is an ex-FBI informant charged with lying about Bidens allegedly linked to Russian intelligence?

<https://bit.ly/49GW3aP>

House Oversight Committee Chair Comer says indicted FBI informant 'wasn't an important part of this investigation'

<https://bit.ly/3la1RO9>

Is the Russian disinfo narrative real? It is important for those of us who want to have honest political debates in the U.S. to shrug off the McCarthyite labels used to protect the Russian Disinfo Narrative from obvious fact-based criticism and call it what it is: a hoax

<http://tinyurl.com/43xzuh57>

Lately, it's become popular in conservative media circles to brand certain things as a psychological operation, or "psyop." Climate change, for example. Or covid. Or the media coverage of Donald Trump. Or even the prosecution of Hunter Biden

<https://bit.ly/3SOpmkP>

Amid a barrage of headlines that often veer into sensationalism, Democrats have a critical mission to steer every policy conversation back to their foundational commitments - addressing income inequality, expanding health care access and championing compassionate, orderly immigration reform

<https://bit.ly/4bPEUxE>

New York Attorney General says she'll seize Donald Trump's property if he can't pay \$454M civil fraud debt
<https://bit.ly/3OR6H6K>

How the ADL's anti-Palestinian advocacy helped shape US terror laws; Long before 9/11, Zionist groups like the Anti-Defamation League lobbied for counterterror legislation that singled out Palestinians
<https://bit.ly/48ln3LS>

Fake: It's only a matter of time until disinformation leads to calamity
<https://bit.ly/3wnvFnX>

The Pentagon's Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office tapped Scale AI to produce a trustworthy means for testing and evaluating large language models that can support - and potentially disrupt - military planning and decision-making
<https://bit.ly/49muuE0>

Pentagon tells AI experts: 'We really need your help'; Private industry to help prepare for war
<https://bit.ly/3wuexNp>

Putin took a short flight on a supersonic bomber, part of his pre-election effort to project confidence and power inside Russia, and a conspicuous reminder to the West of his country's nuclear capabilities
<https://bit.ly/3USRBS3>

The Soviets Had Their Commissars; We Have DEI Officials; At the heart of DEI is the idea that government power must be used to help the supposedly downtrodden groups at the expense of their imagined oppressors
<https://bit.ly/3l7zqAm>

If NATO's leaders are to draw any lesson from Ukraine's bitter two-year-long conflict, it is that the alliance remains woefully ill-prepared to deal with the existential threat Moscow poses to its future security
<https://bit.ly/49mupjr>

Trump Is Blunt and Right About NATO; Trump's rhetoric is unvarnished. He's still right
<https://bit.ly/49n85GE>

4 Myths About Ukraine that Might Sound Right But Are Actually Wrong; Two years after the Russian invasion, some myths have been dispelled, but new ones have taken hold
<https://politi.co/3PgSDR>

Desperate for soldiers, Ukraine weighs unpopular plan to expand recruitment draft; As the war enters its third year, the most urgent and politically sensitive challenge pressing on Ukraine is whether it can muster enough new soldiers to repel an enemy with far more fighters at its disposal
<https://bit.ly/3T83t1g>

The Strange Resurrection of the Two-State Solution; How an Unimaginable War Could Bring About the Only Imaginable Peace
<http://tinyurl.com/ywvjymtx>

The 'day after' in Gaza and the heavy cost of 15 years of Netanyahu's rule

<https://bit.ly/3UKwhhD>

A Troubling Moral Relativity Hangs Over Israel-Hamas Conflict; Instead of good and evil, we now have a set of other "moral" categories: rich and poor, white and black, colonizers and colonized, strong and weak, oppressors and oppressed

<http://tinyurl.com/ytpjpj6p>

A trove of leaked documents from a Chinese state-linked hacking group shows that Beijing's intelligence and military groups are attempting large-scale, systematic cyber intrusions against foreign governments, companies and infrastructure - with hackers of one company claiming to be able to target users of Microsoft, Apple and Google

<https://bit.ly/3UMtsfR>

Argentinian President Milei has done something truly astounding - something American politicians have universally failed to do. He delivered on a campaign promise to cut deficits and created a surplus in Argentina for the first time in 12 years

<https://bit.ly/3TizbJv>

The Value of Doubt; A ruthless dissector of unwarranted assumptions takes on environmental catastrophists and techno-optimists; Thus far, the world has mostly failed to meet even relatively unambitious climate goals. Is that about to change?

<https://bit.ly/3SMTgWB>

New Jersey's Plastic Bag Ban Backfire, Explained; The outcome of New Jersey's ban on single-use plastic bags is a perfect illustration of an economic truth

<https://bit.ly/4bJDUEj>

The Rising Cost of the Oil Industry's Slow Death; Unplugged oil and gas wells accelerate climate change, threaten public health and risk hitting taxpayers' pocketbooks; Funds set aside to fix the problem falls woefully short of the impending cost

<https://bit.ly/3I9yCuX>

Inflation, high interest rates are threatening energy innovation. Here's what the US can do; Our first objective should be to remove red tape. The faster companies complete projects, the sooner we reap the energy and tax benefits

<https://bit.ly/48qHabA>

Supreme Court sounds skeptical of cross-state air pollution rule; Conservative justices criticize the EPA's approach in challenge brought by industries and three GOP-led states

<https://bit.ly/3OU3xzj>

EPA has tightened its target for deadly particle pollution - states need more tools to reach it

<https://bit.ly/3wpqzHZ>

A major coal-fired power plant in the United States is slated for a significant transformation, as it is now earmarked to become the site of a pioneering prototype fusion energy facility

<https://bit.ly/3SP5IW3>

Ant geopolitics; Over the past four centuries quadrillions of ants have created a strange and turbulent global society that shadows our own; There are roughly 200,000 times more ants on our planet than the 100B stars in the Milky Way

<https://bit.ly/49KfdfP>

A new AI model has solved one of the major roadblocks to generating fusion energy; This model predicts, and then figures out how to avoid, plasma becoming unstable and escaping the strong magnetic fields that hold it inside certain donut-shaped reactors

<https://bit.ly/49EC38C>

Private lunar lander is closing in on the first US touchdown on the moon in a half-century

<https://bit.ly/4bK7Qa9>

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I always hear that we have a needle in the haystack problem. I think the challenge is more fundamental in that we don't know what the needle looks like and often we don't even know what hay is."

--Matthew Devost

ASK ANCEL GLINK...the question changes each Friday. Information submitted to Ancel Glink through this service is not considered confidential, nor does the service create an attorney-client relationship with Ancel Glink.

Q: Do the traditional requirements to obtain injunctive relief apply to code enforcement proceedings?

A: No. This question was recently addressed in the case City of Rock Falls v. Aims Industrial Services, LLC. The Appellate Court stated that "where a governmental agency is expressly authorized by statute to seek injunctive relief, the traditional equitable elements necessary to obtain an injunction need not be satisfied." Further, the Appellate Court explained that "because there is a presumption of harm to the public when an ordinance is violated, a governmental agency seeking an injunction need only show that the ordinance was violated and that the ordinance specifically provides for injunctive relief." On appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court, the Court emphasized when a trial court is confronted "with a continuing violation of statutory law, it has no discretion or authority to balance the equities so as to permit that violation to continue." The trial court should only have considered whether the City met its burden in establishing a violation of the ordinance had occurred.

(Note: This column is not meant to provide legal advice. Consult with your local attorney. This service may constitute Advertising Material.)

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