

Subject: News Headlines: 3-16-24

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News Headlines: March 16, 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

Superintendent pay fails to keep pace with inflation; School districts' top leaders are making around \$7K less than a decade ago when adjusted for inflation, according to a study from AASA

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

New Data: Despite K-2 Reading Gains, Students Face a 'Much Harder Journey' Ahead

<https://bit.ly/49SG0Hv>

The "no excuses" model is due for a renaissance

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

Grocery cards and car repairs: How COVID aid changed the way schools can help homeless kids; More schools are providing families with direct aid that allows them to choose which foods, clothing, and other supplies will best meet their children's needs

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

Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools; A look at the systematic denial of a good education to lower-class children in the United States and the built-in inequality of the public school system examines urban schools in Camden, Chicago, San Antonio, and other cities

<https://tinyurl.com/bdc89zeh>

Jonathan Kozol Fought School Inequality for Decades. Here's One Final Plea; With his latest, and last, book, the 87-year-old writer refuses false optimism

<https://nyti.ms/3TCzfUm>

End the phone-based childhood now; The environment in which kids grow up today is hostile to human development

<https://bit.ly/3vn9r5f>

Ohio educators, governor discuss cell phone usage among students

<https://bit.ly/3x0DS1S>

To Make Assignments More Meaningful, I'm Giving Students a More Authentic Audience

<https://bit.ly/43j1ZEQ>

Cyberattacks against public schools - and the sensitive data they store - are on the rise

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

Building the Child-Care Workforce We Need; Pay and benefits are important, but a better-trained, more professional workforce is crucial as well. State child-care administrators and agencies are key to making it happen

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

Education Department plans to ramp up transmission of FAFSA data to colleges; The agency also announced fixes to issues that prevented some students from completing the form, though it flagged several new glitches

<https://bit.ly/3TA7MTk>

The hostility Black women face in higher education carries dire consequences

<https://bit.ly/4ahHV8j>

Indiana governor signed a bill into law that will tie tenure at the state's public colleges to whether professors promote intellectual diversity and freedom of inquiry

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

More than 20 student groups protested. a lawsuit asks why Columbia only suspended two; In addition to Columbia, another Ivy League lawsuit by Penn faculty seeks to block the school's cooperation with a "McCarthyesque" House committee

<https://bit.ly/4ae0xWz>

Did Biden really steal the election? Students learn how to debunk conspiracy theories in this course

<https://bit.ly/3v3BRRT>

'Activism' Is Not an Educational Goal; The debacle in Long Beach schools shows a fundamental misunderstanding of what students are there to do

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

At least one school library in a South Carolina school district restricted access to its online card catalog in order to hide "critical race theory books" from parents, internal documents show

<https://tinyurl.com/4s3pmcce>

Anti-Israel Sentiment Festers in Montgomery County Public Schools; Parents Defending Education has discovered new details about the response of Maryland's largest school district to Hamas's October 7 attack against Israel

<https://bit.ly/3Ppx1W1>

Police officers who work in schools would be allowed to hold students facedown on the floor under a bill that passed the Senate and was signed by the governor, after months of debate over a 2023 law that banned

prone holds

<https://bit.ly/3wWMK8A>

Most Students Prefer Colleges That Restrict Guns on Campus; 81% of current and potential students say gun policies influence enrollment; One in three students worry at least a fair amount about gun violence

<https://bit.ly/4ahQ4cT>

Sixteen female athletes led by All-American swimmer Riley Gaines filed a federal lawsuit against the NCAA, accusing the organization of violating Title IX by allowing male-born athletes to compete in women's sports based on gender identity

<https://bit.ly/49Vz1NP>

Female Swimmers Sue NCAA over Male Competition, Demand Return of Trophies, Monetary Damages

<https://bit.ly/3VljqD0>

Is Private Equity Ready for College Sports? If someone can successfully navigate the commercial, legislative, and political hurdles to restructure this ecosystem for investment, there will be a gold rush

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

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The Chicago Teachers Union's Student Voter Army; The union plans to organize high school students and march them to the polls in support of a tax increase

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

Chicago student homelessness is rising. Could a tax change backed by the mayor help fix that? 21,855 students currently enrolled at CPS were considered Students in Temporary Living Situations

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

Chicago Teachers Union contract demands would bring the average teacher's salary to nearly \$145K after cost-of-living adjustments and annual step increases. That's \$51K more atop the \$43K union leaders have delivered since 2012

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

The Chicago Teachers Union has poured at least \$400,000 into Mayor Brandon Johnson's tax hike proposal. If it passes, the union wants to use the taxes generated to fund housing for its own members

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

Bill would require curriculum transparency for Illinois schools

<https://bit.ly/3TCE8wH>

Chicago student homelessness is rising. Could a tax change backed by the mayor help fix that?

<https://bit.ly/3wX1UdW>

Pranav Kothari, Chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education discusses some of the biggest issues facing higher education in Illinois, some of the Board's most exciting initiatives, and also what brought the Board to Monmouth College

<https://bit.ly/43hmqSF>

Illinois bill would offer \$10,000 stipends to student teachers

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

Seventeen Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grants totaling more than \$55,200 have been awarded for habitat development at schools and other public places

<https://bit.ly/3TEjHQ7>

Under public pressure, Hinsdale High School District 86 announced it was offering an early bird physical education class for freshmen and sophomores

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

New Principal Named At Willowbrook School In Glenview

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Weekly Initial Unemployment Claims Decrease to 209,000; Weekly claims were below the consensus forecast

<https://bit.ly/4af1loJ>

Businesses with nine or fewer employees, which account for 13M jobs nationwide, actually decreased their employment last month, shedding more than 23,000 jobs and signaling that this key portion of the economy needs focused attention

<https://bit.ly/3TD6TJL>

American Debt Stings Like Never Before in New Era for Households

<https://tinyurl.com/2s4arna8>

Construction input price surge signals bumpy road ahead; "There is reason to believe that inflation will remain stubbornly high for months to come"

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

If it wasn't for shelter costs, inflation - Biden's most pronounced economic problem - would be running at a healthy and stable 1.8%. Instead, it's hovering around 3.2%

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

The National Association of Realtors, a powerful organization that has set the guidelines for home sales for decades, has agreed to settle a series of lawsuits by paying \$418M in damages and by eliminating its rules on commissions

<https://bit.ly/4ciDX0P>

The National Association of Realtors agreed to settle litigation over commission rules for US real estate agents, clearing the way for widespread changes in how Americans buy and sell homes

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

The Case Against YIMBYism; Why encouraging more private development won't solve the housing crisis

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

Calling a Home an ADU Is Like Calling Coach Seats on an Airplane the "Accessory Seating" to First Class

<https://bit.ly/3Ti0n9O>

Major Cities Continue to Lose Population, While the South Gains

<https://bit.ly/3v3h80B>

Dallas-Fort Worth lead all metro areas in population growth in 2023; Texas counties also claimed eight of the top 10 spots for most new residents; From 2018 to 2023, Texas attracted 209 headquarters relocations, the most in the nation

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

These cities are winning the war for talent; A team of researchers unpacks the root issue in the war for talent and finds that it's really a competition for cities to win residents

<https://bit.ly/494JGoo>

Cincinnati city council aims to turn vacant downtown offices into residential units; The project surrounding The Atrium building would be tax-increment financing project

<https://bit.ly/4adSyc3>

Unblock Mass Timber By Incentivizing Up-To-Date Building Codes; Most States Are On Older Building Codes That Inhibit Use Of Mass Timber

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

Mass Timber is Great, but It Will Not Solve the Housing Shortage; Memo calls for the federal government to incentivize states to adopt the most recent version of the International Building Code

<https://bit.ly/3Pms8gk>

A group of financial officials from 16 states sent a letter to asset management giant State Street Global Advisors urging the firm to offer investors options that do not incorporate environmental, social, and governance concerns, which push green initiatives

<https://tinyurl.com/y2bccr7x>

5 Reasons Why We Should End Highway Expansion; We have to end highway expansion and focus on projects that actually build wealth in our cities

<https://bit.ly/3Vko6c5>

What's Driving Congestion Pricing in (Some) American Cities?

<https://bit.ly/4afr3il>

Lyft and Uber said they will cease operations in Minneapolis after the city's council voted to override a mayoral veto and require that ride-hailing services increase driver wages to the equivalent of the local minimum wage of \$15.57 an hour

<https://on.mktw.net/3VjCzov>

Charging, Cost Still Roadblocks to EV for Ride-Hail Drivers

<https://bit.ly/3TDFp6P>

GM uses AI tool to determine which truck stops should get EV chargers; GM wants to build out chargers at about 200 Flying J and Pilot travel centers by the end of 2024

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

Next-gen battery tech: Reimagining every aspect of batteries; From more efficient production to entirely new chemistries, there's a lot going on

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

California's High-Speed Rail Needs Another \$100B. That's a Great Reason Not To Build It; The whole project was supposed to cost \$33B when it was initially proposed

<https://bit.ly/3Pk3gWs>

Inside the Chipotle founder's new robot-powered vegan restaurant; The food is made largely by robots - so it's staffed by only three people; There's no posted menu - you order online, are told the exact minute to pick up your food, and use an app to open a locker with your order inside

<https://bit.ly/43luOk7>

Kroger and Albertsons hit back at the FTC; The regulatory agency has mischaracterized competition and labor dynamics in the grocery industry in seeking to block their merger, the grocers said in filings

<https://bit.ly/4a5EaTg>

Congress must expand the USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), which helps people who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) afford fruit and vegetables and maximize the benefits it provides to communities of color and people with lower incomes

<https://bit.ly/3VI76Cz>

Python farming could offer one of the most sustainable sources of meat in the world, according to a new study; Python produces large slabs of white meat similar to chicken filet

<https://abcn.ws/3Vjgzuc>

The Federal Communications Commission voted to raise its Internet speed benchmark for the first time since January 2015, concluding that modern broadband service should provide at least 100Mbps download speeds and 20Mbps upload speeds

<https://bit.ly/3PIYxn8>

FCC scraps old speed benchmark, says broadband should be at least 100Mbps

<https://bit.ly/3PIYxn8>

FCC cracking down on cable 'junk fees'

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

Cable's Continued Collapse; Both cable and satellite (and fiber) services are not only losing members, but losing more customers each year than the year before

<https://bit.ly/43IHdV7>

Bitcoin exchange-traded funds have drawn \$Bs from investors since they launched in January, but their target market-financial advisers who oversee \$Ts in client assets-has remained largely out of reach

<https://on.wsj.com/48Z565Y>

Crypto's cash-heavy campaign to sway the Senate is winning converts

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

El Salvador will transfer "a big chunk" of its bitcoin assets to an offline device that will be stored in a physical vault within the Central American country's territory, the President said

<https://tinyurl.com/y5vz2z2m>

Watch an AI Robot Dog Rock an Agility Course It's Never Seen Before

<https://bit.ly/3veft8k>

Enhancing ergonomics in industrial domains with 'cobots' and intelligent wearable systems

<https://bit.ly/3TFtV2J>

Can AI Solve the Math Mysteries Stumping the Field's Brightest Minds? Artificial Intelligence already won a gold ribbon in the most elite high school math competition. It could help humans conduct boundary-pushing math research next

<https://bit.ly/4ah0rOa>

A case brought in Massachusetts over the use of artificial intelligence as a "lie detector" in the employee interview process raises broader concerns over whether software that claims to evaluate candidates' integrity is illegal, and perhaps even discriminatory

<https://bit.ly/3PmNJp1>

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Illinois metros continue to lose population

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

Cook County's population dropped in 2023, U.S. Census says, but the exodus is slowing

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

Cook County Population Decline Slows with 24,000 Departures in 2023, Chicago Remains Resilient

<https://bit.ly/3v56Gwn>

A Mansion Tax Could Accelerate Chicago's Urban Exodus; Businesses considering getting their start in Chicago would have to face a potential tripling of the tax increase on their initial property investment, on top of Chicago's second-highest-in-the-nation commercial property tax

<https://bit.ly/3IC1pZk>

CTA Red line extension project may receive \$350M in federal funding; The plan is to extend the Red Line more than five miles to the Far South Side and includes four new accessible stations. The project will provide a new, more direct connection to downtown through the Red Line

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

Chicago Boat Show leaving McCormick Place for Rosemont; Organizers said they decided to move after "thorough market analysis, exhibitor demand, and boater feedback"

<https://cbsn.ws/3ThNtsA>

Wheaton residents express opposition to parking lot expansion at Cosley Zoo; "The Park District has rebutted claims about wetlands and increased flooding, future tax increases and plans to expand the zoo"

<https://bit.ly/4a6Bt40>

Wheaton's highest-priced mansion is listed for \$3.6M, and the seller will accept full payment in cryptocurrency

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

Aurora panel approves plans for Habitat for Humanity subdivision. The subdivision will include 17 homes of between 1,500 and 1,700 square feet

<https://bit.ly/3vha3td>

West Dundee adds two downtown buildings to list of real estate its purchasing for redevelopment

<https://bit.ly/3x3RF7y>

Transit advocates weigh in on the CTA's Refresh & Renew program. Advocates say the program to occasionally deep-clean 'L' stations is nice, but it would be great if the agency put more effort into keeping train stops sanitary all the time

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

Chicago Transit Authority Launches 'Ask CTA' Video Series to Boost Engagement and Transparency

<https://bit.ly/4cg9xfM>

Illinois has launched the Next Gen initiative to promote minority involvement in affordable housing development by providing selected developers with capital, training, and strategic support

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

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Conservation Foundation awarded grants for youth-led habitat projects across Illinois totaling over \$55,000

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

Seven new stores, restaurants coming to Gurnee Mills in addition to massive entertainment venue

<https://bit.ly/4ceXr6z>

Marquette Greenway bike trail from Chicago to Michigan moves forward. Creators said the \$40M trail will be very picturesque, including a section crossing Indiana Dunes National Park

<https://cbsn.ws/3x5UEfJ>

Crystal Lake turned down NVA's truck terminal expansion. But that's not likely the end of the story. A trucking expansion could be possible without a rezoning request

<https://bit.ly/3TCNx7j>

Des Plaines Likely To Hire Company To Manage Beer, Food Sales At Taste Of Des Plaines

<https://bit.ly/3PsO2hV>

Homer Glen referendum proposes eliminating township government

<https://bit.ly/3TijD79>

DeKalb County Board latest to take up consideration to add nearly 800 more acres to Zone for economic development

<https://bit.ly/4chC0BI>

Dixon City Council earmarks \$200,000 for housing rehabilitation program

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

Wyndham City Centre in Downtown Springfield set to go up for auction this coming April

<https://bit.ly/49Ugi5n>

Quincy: South TIF district hearing receives overwhelming support

<https://bit.ly/3wTH4wa>

Pritzker Administration Announces New Cohort for Program Focusing on Equity in Affordable Housing Development

<https://bit.ly/48VO9JN>

Governor Pritzker Announces \$5M in Funding for the Home Illinois Workforce Pilot Program

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

After the three most profitable years in history, Illinois corn and soybean farmers are bracing for a slowdown

<https://bit.ly/3PLE77x>

Understanding Increasing Debt Levels on Illinois Grain Farms

<https://bit.ly/3VqqYV3>

PUBLIC SAFETY

70% chance COVID-19 did come from Wuhan lab, new analysis of patients, records says; Although the findings don't pinpoint the exact origin of COVID-19, they challenge the conventional focus on animal-to-human transmission due to a lack of solid evidence, such as an identifiable animal host

<https://bit.ly/3IACt4y>

Conditions affecting the nervous system - such as strokes, migraines and dementia - have surged past heart disease to become the leading cause of ill health worldwide; More than 3.4B people - 43 percent of the global population - experienced a neurological condition in 2021, far more than had previously been thought

<https://tinyurl.com/4zukv3vn>

Brazil to release anti-dengue mosquitoes as death toll from outbreak mounts; Mosquitoes infected with Wolbachia bacteria that inhibit spread of disease to be introduced in six cities after successful pilot scheme

<https://tinyurl.com/3cpa5pct>

The miracle of organ donation - and a breakthrough for the future; Cutting-edge advances in machine

perfusion - a portable platform that keeps organs alive outside of the body - that could help put time back on the patient's side

<https://bit.ly/3Pj9cPG>

Urban humans have lost much of their ability to digest plants; Rural populations still have lots of the gut bacteria that break down cellulose

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

More than 4,000 plastic chemicals are hazardous, report finds; Year-long effort compiles comprehensive database of chemicals in plastics

<https://go.nature.com/3TDsRw4>

Toxic plastic chemicals number in the thousands, most are unregulated, report finds

<https://tinyurl.com/4scutb6p>

Detergent pods are only the start of clothing's micro-plastic pollution problem

<https://bit.ly/3TDB1ob>

Citing cancer risk, the EPA vows to limit the use of a chemical that sterilizes medical equipment; Ethylene oxide produces emissions that increase cancer risk for workers in sterilization facilities and in nearby neighborhoods

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

New EPA Rule Cracks Down on Toxic Chemical That Sterilizes Medical Equipment; Children's health have been impacted by carcinogens including ethylene oxide

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

New research this week seems to throw cold water on the Wim Hof method, an endurance training technique that intentionally exposes people to frigid temperature

<https://bit.ly/3IFH19M>

Are religions simply cults that have gone mainstream? Or are cults the religions we find distasteful?

<https://bit.ly/4acB8wl>

After You Die, This Is the Ultimate Way to Give Your Body Back to Nature; The process of grinding up your bones in a "cremulator" may sound grisly, but it's quickly gaining traction in the death market

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

For-profit nursing homes are cutting corners on safety and draining resources with financial shenanigans - especially at midsize chains that dodge public scrutiny

<https://bit.ly/3Tgo0j7>

With Another Nasty Election Looming, Prepping Goes Mainstream; Nearly 15M Americans had 31 days or more of at-home preparedness in 2020

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

'We need to stop telling kids they've been traumatized'; How therapy culture makes children miserable

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

Tennessee foster care and adoptive parents won't be required to affirm or accept a child's s. orientation or gender identity under a GOP-backed bill heading for a vote on the House and Senate floors

<https://bit.ly/3v2VwkZ>

Indiana Enacts Law to Allow State Child Services to Investigate More Abuse Claims at Youth Centers

<https://bit.ly/3v4mU1Z>

Why do our traffic laws prioritize speed over safety? Reducing traffic accidents is not rocket science. Lower speeds mean fewer accidents and less severe injuries when crashes do occur

<https://bit.ly/49Quf48>

Study Estimates Nearly 96% of Private Property Is Open to Warrantless Searches; The Institute for Justice says its data show that a century-old Supreme Court doctrine created a huge exception to the Fourth Amendment

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

The father of a Michigan school shooter was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter, a second conviction against the teen's parents who were accused of failing to secure a gun at home and doing nothing to address acute signs of his mental turmoil

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

'Gross negligence': why a parent can be found guilty for their child's crimes

<https://bit.ly/4a6sP5y>

The Michigan Shooter's Parents Have Been Convicted. Black Parents Will Likely Pay a Price, Too; The parents of a Michigan school shooter are facing prison terms for their son's crime

<https://bit.ly/3Tn4Yrp>

After five years and four different versions of the bill, a law requiring firearm training before purchasing a handgun, known as "permit-to-purchase," passes in the Delaware General Assembly

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

How Chinese Organized Crime Is Dominating America's Illegal Pot Market; A quadruple murder in Oklahoma shows how the Chinese underworld has come to dominate the booming illicit trade, fortifying its rise as a global powerhouse with alleged ties to China's authoritarian regime

<https://bit.ly/3IDYX4B>

The Futile Subway Ploy; New York strap-hangers want to feel safer underground, but deploying the National Guard won't accomplish that-and strikes many riders as authoritarian overreach

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

The Supreme Court ruled that thousands of low-level dealers are ineligible for shortened prison terms under a Trump-era bipartisan criminal justice overhaul

<https://bit.ly/3TAS36y>

Supreme Court Justice Kagan issued a majority opinion that will make it more difficult for criminal defendants to be eligible for relief under the First Step Act of 2018, a tough-on-crime decision that made for

an unusual ideological split among the jurists

<https://bit.ly/4ag5b6i>

For a shrinking police force, co-response should be a top priority; A professional social worker accompanies police officers to suitable calls

<https://bit.ly/4aa0bjC>

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Illinois' High Court Reports 'Breathtaking' Rise in Appeals Following Elimination of Cash Bail

<https://bit.ly/48VxR3B>

More than \$4M has poured into the Democratic primary for Cook County state's attorney. Here's who's contributing to the campaigns

<https://bit.ly/494NQg0>

CTA union leader voices support for National Guard joining security detail

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

The city's data shows there are 6,139 homeless Chicagoans. That number has barely budged since 2014, when the city counted 6,294 homeless Chicagoans, but city spending on homelessness has jumped from \$21.7M in 2014 to \$58M in 2023

<https://bit.ly/3Vhog3R>

A week before measles outbreak, less than half of CPS students without stable housing were fully immunized

<https://bit.ly/49VUVR0>

What we know (and don't) about Chicago's measles outbreak

<https://bit.ly/43kx4Ik>

State Provides Hotel Shelter for High-Risk Asylum-Seeker Families in Need of Space to Quarantine After Potential Exposure to Measles

<https://bit.ly/3v5d9R9>

Pritzker announces \$900M plan to demolish Stateville, Logan prisons. The plan still requires legislative approval and places the governor at odds with AFSCME Council 31, the union representing 10,000 corrections employees

<https://bit.ly/3lDw34r>

A state plan to rebuild two aging prisons has some state and local government leaders in Logan County concerned about the future of a facility that provides nearly 500 jobs in the area

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

Chicago Weighs Record \$45M Settlement for Teen Injured in Police Chase

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

ShotSpotter Missteps Could Be Turned to the Chicago's Advantage

<https://bit.ly/3vkvjy8>

CASA Kane County ready to 'raise the bar' on child abuse and neglect prevention

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

Naperville residents have lost \$750K to crypto scams this month. Here's how to avoid falling prey

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

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul Introduces Legislation to Beef Up Worker Protections Against Employer Retaliation

<https://bit.ly/43IFOxV>

Routine traffic stops have resulted in gun charges for thousands of Chicagoans

<https://bit.ly/4a0V99O>

Evanston PD changes gun disposal policy to prevent reselling of parts. City ends relationship with Naperville gun store that picked up gun buyback weapons

<https://bit.ly/3x0N9XK>

Do cicadas bite or sting? 'Bs' of cicadas soon emerging in Illinois are 'really chill'

<https://bit.ly/4clc2gE>

State Rep. Jeff Keicher seeks supporters to overturn Illinois senior driving test

<https://bit.ly/43iWd6a>

McLean Co. Board OK's thousands in tax dollars for rape crisis program

<https://bit.ly/3lEN0M1>

House Debates New Rules For EMS Workers: A measure that would suspend EMS professionals who have been charged with a crime while performing their duties

<https://bit.ly/49XRaL8>

Darien residents can now get emergency notifications by text message from Darien police

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

San Francisco has become the latest municipality that will use government ad dollars to help support local media

<https://bit.ly/4ciBMu5>

The United States government said it is immune to 27 lawsuits filed by local and state governments, businesses, and property owners over the military's role in contaminating the country with deadly PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals"

<https://bit.ly/4cfw5gG>

The Designer Who's Trying to Transform Your City Into a Sponge; Kongjian Yu pioneered China's "sponge

city" concept-less concrete and more green spaces to exploit stormwater instead of fighting it. Metropolises all over the world are following suit

<https://bit.ly/3TClu77>

The American Library Association announced that 2023 saw 4,240 unique book titles targeted for censorship, up 65 percent from the previous record in 2022 of 2,571 unique titles

<https://bit.ly/3Po9uEP>

The Perks of Virtual Coworking With Strangers; Amid the rise of remote work, "body doubling" has been helping those with ADHD - and those who just want more support - get things done

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

The "New Happy": Rethinking happiness through science and philosophy; Happiness is not a five-star holiday. It's often the result of struggle - and asking for help

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

How AI can help companies better disclose their financial information; Corporations could use a chatbot that draws from the financial disclosures of their websites

<https://bit.ly/49S0Kz6>

Would you trust big work-life decisions to an AI coach?

<https://bit.ly/3IA1DQR>

Making Sustainability More Tangible; Both employees and customers value sustainability. Here's how to help them recognize the impact of your efforts

<https://tinyurl.com/esx2649d>

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Lori Lightfoot; The former mayor, 61, on her enemies, lessons from COVID, and why she's finished with politics

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

For Toni Preckwinkle, another election and another chance to wield her political muscle; Allies and rivals alike describe a "masterful" politician and talk about how she's held onto power for so many years

<https://bit.ly/48Rtqa9>

Cook County offers to chip in on food costs for migrants, approves delay to paid-leave mandate for schools, parks

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

Chicago area loses population for third year in a row, third-worst loss among big metros

<https://bit.ly/43h33Jv>

Chicago Mayor Johnson exempts migrant families with children and those with measles from shelter evictions; With these new exceptions, the city is proceeding with a plan to require migrants leave shelters after 60 days and will require vaccinations

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

During the first week of expanded Early Voting for the March 19 Democratic Primary, the turnout in Chicago's Black wards increased by over 1,000 percent, according to an analysis of data released by the Chicago Board of Elections

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

Beginning with 35 individuals Sunday, more than 2,000 individuals will be evicted by the end of April, the city of Chicago announced Friday. Families will get a break until the end of the school year

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

New water leak detection technology to help Naperville detect leaks in real-time, saving resources and money

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

Three former employees sue Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henyard, alleging retaliation for not following orders

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

Waukegan mayor urges indicted city clerk to act in 'best interests' of city; 'A multi-count felony indictment is a considerable distraction'

<https://bit.ly/3TCtlm2>

South Holland Mayor Tiffany Henyard in Federal Custody According to Reports

<https://bit.ly/49ZI2XI>

Embattled Dolton mayor and Thornton Township supervisor Tiffany Henyard faces more problems - this time, wrongful-termination lawsuits filed this week in federal court on behalf of three former employees

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

Dolton Trustee Andrew Holmes reportedly toward himself in to federal authorities at the South Holland police station on an extradition warrant

<https://bit.ly/4aazqM2>

Judge rules Hobart can move to demolish unsafe building

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

A summary of Daily Herald political endorsements

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

Here's Where Chicago Voters Who Need Language Assistance Can Vote in Tuesday's Primary Election

<https://bit.ly/48W81fV>

A Law Meant To Prevent Candidates From Using Fake Irish Names Is Being Used Against Divorced Women

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

Members of the committee that will recommend how much Evanston's elected officials will be paid for the next four years asked for comparable pay data from other suburban communities

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

Evanston environment board mulls gas leaf blower ban equity issues

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

A long-brewing plan to create a task force to study voluntary payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) by Evanston's largest nonprofit landowners was unanimously rejected by City Council

<https://bit.ly/3wX9jKg>

Oak Park Public Library's board of trustees scheduled its third special meeting in the span of two weeks to discuss the "appointment, employment, discipline, or dismissal of Executive Director"

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

DuPage County budgets \$2.1M to fight food insecurity

<https://bit.ly/43IHxTV>

McHenry County property tax bills get new look, paperless option

<https://bit.ly/3PnlAy0>

Federal funds coming to Peoria Heights for water infrastructure

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

Freeport Park District addresses feral cats in local parks

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

The City of Freeport proposes new sales tax to fund road construction, residents give their opinions

<https://bit.ly/3Tm412j>

Champaign Co. Clerk urges early voting for IL Primary amid election judge shortage

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

Activists want to keep a Champaign post office and dozens of employees from moving to Chicago

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

With no GOP candidates running, Democratic primary is likely the deciding race for 1st District seat

<https://bit.ly/3lFu13Z>

U.S. Rep. Eric Sorensen (IL-17) has secured over \$123M in tax dollars for infrastructure projects in Western Illinois, including Rock Island, Moline and Monmouth

<https://bit.ly/4chWz0Y>

Danville: With Contract Bid Chosen, Palmer Arena Board Looking for Next Action from City & County on HVAC Issue

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

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Governor Pritzker's administration plans to rebuild two Illinois prisons, including the nearly century-old

Stateville Correctional Center just southwest of Chicago, as part of a nearly \$1B project scheduled to be completed over the next three to five years

<https://bit.ly/3vfrkD3>

The Illinois Department of Corrections has announced plans to tear down and rebuild Stateville Correctional Center

<https://bit.ly/43rzC7G>

Chicago's First Fully Inclusive Playground Will Be Built Near Obama Presidential Center; The playground will be built under requirement to replace park land lost to the Obama Center

<https://bit.ly/49Ur2Rh>

Voters in Avoca District 37, which includes portions of Wilmette, Winnetka and Northfield, will decide if Avoca 37 can borrow \$89.8M to support the construction of a new school and renovations in its other school, Marie Murphy junior high

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

Village Hall remodel recommendation heads to Oak Park's board. The police station would be moved out of the basement, but the final costs aren't yet clear

<https://bit.ly/3VD5Ef9>

'It's good to see progress being made on the site': Revised vision for Liberty Theater property in Libertyville

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

Demolition of aging Oswegoland parks administration center moving forward. Construction of a smaller, more efficient 11,000-square-foot administration building and a new 15,000-square-foot park maintenance and operations building is set to begin this summer

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

Clay County Hospital received a \$2.5M grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program to expand its senior care facilities

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

STATE & FEDERAL

The state's Budget Director told lawmakers Thursday she expects an increase of \$777M in general fund revenues during 2025

<https://bit.ly/4ctzg4y>

Increased spending, growing demands, fund transfers part of Illinois' budget process

<https://bit.ly/3TzcS25>

An amendment proposed in the Illinois General Assembly would restrict voting in any Illinois election to citizens only, heading off proposals to allow noncitizens to vote in local and municipal elections

<https://bit.ly/43jQKfj>

Proposed age-verification law could force adult websites to pull out of Illinois

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

A state law that limits where lawsuits challenging state laws can be filed has been ruled unconstitutional as applied to a case from Madison County

<https://bit.ly/3TkwK7Z>

Stop Assisted Suicide group opposes Illinois bill

<https://bit.ly/3IFHZ5V>

Senate bill builds hope for infertility patients

<https://bit.ly/3wWI57L>

Illinois Republican state legislators continue to urge for policy changes to address what they see as a poor business climate.

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

Wisconsin Supreme Court: 'Religious motivation' doesn't exempt Catholic Charities from unemployment insurance

<https://bit.ly/3vbr5sM>

Exemptions that allow religious organizations to avoid paying Wisconsin's unemployment tax don't apply to a Catholic charitable organization because its on-the-ground operations aren't primarily religious, a divided state Supreme Court ruled

<https://bit.ly/3lCx5Ob>

Working-class people rarely have a seat 'at the legislative table' in state capitols; Just 116 of the nation's nearly 7,400 state lawmakers qualify as 'working class,' in a new survey

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

Senate Race Revealed Shortcomings of California's 'Top Two' Primary Reform; A change that promised to be a moderating influence on politics has instead made campaigns more vicious than ever

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

There are 100,000 fewer Election Day polling places in 2024

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

John Roberts Just Dropped the Hammer on Rogue, Lawless Trump Judges; For more than a decade, conservative plaintiffs have been gaming the judiciary by filing lawsuits before a hard-right judge who's guaranteed to rule in their favor

<https://bit.ly/3Pkscx2>

Supreme Court Justices Barrett and Sotomayor, ideological opposites, unite to promote civility

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

Quiet Fears About Sotomayor Echo Ginsburg Retirement Concerns; Justice Sonia Sotomayor made a point of

describing how "tired" she is at a recent public event and how she's working harder than expected on the eve of turning 70

<https://bit.ly/3Tm9VAM>

Supreme Court to hear case on how the government talks to social media companies; Murthy v. Missouri could change how platforms deal with Covid misinformation, election threats, and more

<https://bit.ly/49U1zHo>

The Supreme Court said public officials can sometimes be sued for restricting access to their private social media feeds, ruling in two cases that evoked former President Trump's efforts to block people from his Twitter account

<https://bit.ly/3vkhjV5>

Supreme Court: Blocking People on Facebook Can Violate the First Amendment; This is a bad result, and it is disappointing that it attracted no dissent across the Court's ideological lines

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

Democrats are hemorrhaging support with voters of color; The trend is real in polls, and in at least some election results

<https://bit.ly/4ci8VGf>

The Rough Years That Turned Gen Z Into America's Most Disillusioned Voters; Young adults are more skeptical of government and pessimistic about the future than any living generation before them

<https://on.wsj.com/3TDhW5A>

We Have to Beat Donald Trump. Clearly, the Broken Legal System Won't; How the law warps and harms our democracy

<https://bit.ly/43hZZfY>

Trump makes radical overhaul of Republican National Committee at furious pace

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

As Trump continues to remake Republican National Committee in his image, new memo outlines what that looks like

<https://n.pr/49RL66B>

Trump campaign woos skeptical Republicans

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

Trump tried to destroy these Republicans. Now they're backing him

<https://bit.ly/3TBLgt5>

Mike Johnson, the First Proudly Trumpian Speaker; Though he has adopted a "nerd constitutional-law guy" persona, he is in lockstep with the law-flouting former President

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

What is the 'great replacement theory'? A scholar of race relations explains

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

French President Macron has doubled down on the possibility of sending troops into Ukraine, a day before a key summit with Germany, which is staunchly opposed to the idea

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

Putin revels in German coalition rift over Ukraine aid; The ruling coalition is openly fighting over aid to Ukraine, making Berlin an easy target for Russian influence operations

<https://tinyurl.com/4py5kpbj>

Demands for Ukraine to Negotiate with Russia Are Calls for Ukraine to Surrender; The Russian regime is openly saying that its plan for Ukraine entails death and suffering on a scale unseen on the European continent since 1945

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

Russians head to polls in a vote set to extend Putin's rule. His foes are in jail, in exile or dead

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

Using coercion, Russia has successfully imposed its citizenship in Ukraine's occupied territories; Russia has successfully imposed its passports on nearly the entire population of occupied Ukraine by making it impossible to survive without them

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

G7 issues stern warning to Iran over possible missile shipments to Russia; The statement follows reports that Iran has sent ballistic missiles to Russia - a charge Tehran denies

<https://politi.co/43gWF4Z>

Almost half of the respondents in a new survey want President Biden to put more pressure on Israel to ease the humanitarian crisis in Gaza

<https://bit.ly/4a9TGxe>

Israel, Hamas offer competing stories after at least 20 Palestinians die waiting for aid

<https://bit.ly/43g1fR3>

The Israel Defense Forces said Palestinian gunmen opened fire on civilians waiting for aid convoys in Gaza City, rejecting claims from the Hamas-run health ministry that IDF troops were behind the slaughter Thursday that left 21 people dead and more than 150 wounded

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

Behind the "Uncommitted" Vote Against Genocide-and for Democracy; Organizers discuss the origin of a powerful protest vote

<https://bit.ly/3TAF5po>

Will Netanyahu defeat Biden? How perverse it would be if the colossal tragedy of the Gaza war were compounded by the political defeat of the American president standing against the excesses of both Benjamin Netanyahu and Donald Trump

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

Why Biden and Bibi Are Tangling, and Why Biden Could Win; In this feud, a desperate Netanyahu has much

to lose, and Biden has very little to lose by confronting him

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

The Earthquake That Could Shatter Netanyahu's Coalition; Polls show that the overwhelming majority of Israelis want Netanyahu to resign, either now or after the war; that most Israelis want early elections; and that the current hard-right coalition would be crushed if those elections were held tomorrow

<https://bit.ly/49UFo47>

Israel's army exemptions for the ultra-Orthodox are part of a bigger challenge: The Jewish state is divided over the Jewish religion

<https://bit.ly/43jFvn8>

Amid all the calls for an Israeli cease-fire in the war with Gaza, a few key facts are getting short shrift. Israel has put forth a cease-fire plan. It was negotiated along with U.S., Egyptian, Qatari, and Saudi diplomats. Its terms are quite favorable to Hamas. And Hamas is the party that's rejecting it

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

Does the US need a Palestinian state? For the U.S. the Palestinian question should be foremost about the effectiveness of American power in the region - particularly with regard to Iranian adversariality - and credibility throughout the world

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

Israel-Palestine Debate: Norman Finkelstein and Benny Morris are historians. Mouin Rabbani is a Middle East analyst. Steven Bonnell is a political livestreamer

<https://bit.ly/4ciGjN7>

Does the Yemen Conflict Show the Future of the Marine Corps? The Marines are being transformed to look a lot more like the Houthis

<https://bit.ly/3Pn3hsM>

The Biden administration's renewal of a sanctions waiver allows Iran access to \$10B in frozen funds, sparking criticism for concessions and a soft-line stance

<https://bit.ly/3VgEZ7p>

Why Everything Changed in Haiti: The Gangs United; "The situation totally changed now, because the gangs are now working together," a Haitian consultant said. Their unity forced the prime minister to resign

<https://nyti.ms/3TzMhC6>

Podcast: A new Haitian revolution? Rampaging gangs, deploying revolutionary rhetoric, have vowed to repel an international intervention

<https://bit.ly/3wU2n0p>

Washington Is Leaving Haiti in Limbo; Aid to the embattled Caribbean nation is caught in a Capitol Hill logjam. But this is no ordinary partisan impasse

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

Guns and weapons trafficked from US fueling Haiti gang violence; Experts say most guns smuggled from states with lax firearms laws such as Florida, Arizona and Georgia

<https://tinyurl.com/296zc3r3>

Remember When the U.S. Built a Social Network to Destabilize Cuba? U.S.-funded social networks were launched in 2010 with ZunZuneo and Piramideo in 2013

<https://bit.ly/4abT1vm>

Trump asked CIA to create fake social media accounts to troll China; An operation to turn public opinion against them through negative news

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

Banning TikTok Would Give the Feds Way Too Much Power; "It's a disturbing gift of unprecedented authority to President Biden and the Surveillance State"

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

Is Beijing bracing to crash into a Western wall? Rather than a decoupling strategy, the U.S. has opted for a three-pronged de-risking approach: increased investment in strategic importance at home, intensified controls on exports of services and goods that could make China (and other) opponents stronger against America and stricter screening of foreign investors

<https://bit.ly/4924jkS>

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality will begin recreating a key program meant to reduce the state's overall greenhouse gas emissions after a lawsuit brought by gas companies derailed it

<https://bit.ly/3IG4esy>

California isn't on track to meet its climate change mandates - and a new analysis says it's not even close

<https://bit.ly/3Pjv7N>

The California Green Innovation Index tracks the state's progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, spurring technological and business innovation, and growing businesses and jobs that enable the transition to a more resource-efficient economy

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

How 'Dune' became a beacon for the fledgling environmental movement - and a rallying cry for the new science of ecology

<https://bit.ly/3vfe9lz>

800-mile neutrino beam probes Earth in DUNE experiment; This research facility spans an underground space the size of eight soccer fields

<https://bit.ly/4chfh8Y>

Giant rail gun to launch hypersonic planes into space, China's bold plan; The rail gun will be used to launch Boeing747-sized space planes into space at twice the speed of sound

<https://bit.ly/49Ri0Ep>

Putin's cosmic plan: Russian president wants to install nuclear power unit in space

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

SpaceX comes close to completing test flight of mega rocket but loses spacecraft near end

<https://bit.ly/4aixVf3>

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Machines don't fight wars, terrain doesn't fight wars. You must get into the minds of humans. That's where the battles are won."

--John Boyd

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Q: Can a local government accept a tax deductible donation?

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