

**Subject:** News Headlines: 3-22-24

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

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News Headlines: March 22, 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](mailto:asimon@ancelglink.com)

#### EDUCATION

Sickness Unto Junior High; Schools have embraced a new pedagogy of the couch that is making kids neurotic; What's happening "isn't a mental health crisis. It's closer to an emotional hypochondriasis and iatrogenesis crisis"

<https://bit.ly/3IT17NH>

Deeply Unhappy Gen Z and Millennials Cause U.S. to Drop in Global Happiness Ranking; The UN report cites factors like loneliness among Americans under 40

<https://bit.ly/3IJMY1>

Will Banning TikTok Make Kids Safer Online? It's More Complicated Than That

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

The Los Angeles school district unveiled a much-awaited AI tool named "Ed" to serve as a new student adviser, programmed to tell its young users and their parents about grades, tests results and attendance - while giving out assignments, suggesting readings and even helping students cope with nonacademic matters

<https://lat.ms/3TLQgLR>

Universities Build Their Own ChatGPT-like Tools; As concerns mount over the ethical and intellectual property implications of AI tools, universities are launching their own chatbots for faculty and students

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

When teaching entrepreneurship, where should educators start? Asking students to find opportunities to identify and solve problems that interest them is the best entry point

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

Make personal finance course a high school graduation requirement

<https://bit.ly/3x1JSaC>

Schools are vulnerable to breaches-and hackers know it; Fhe Federal Communications Commission is piloting a \$200M grant program for public schools and libraries to boost their cybersecurity  
<https://bit.ly/3VsPKUb>

A battle is brewing in the Mississippi Legislature over education funding; The bottom line is that under the worst case scenario, K-12 education should receive an additional \$210M under the early Senate plan  
<https://bit.ly/3IKSODR>

Amid influx of students new to the country, English development teachers in Colorado feel overwhelmed  
<https://bit.ly/4cmRrZr>

Curbing private equity's expansion into child care; With a greater investor presence likely, advocates push for tighter regulations  
<https://bit.ly/4ct5OvA>

Bringing joy and learning to preschoolers through science lessons; Exploring broad scientific concepts can build teachers' confidence and deepen students' foundational learning  
<https://bit.ly/43wqte6>

Supreme Court ruling could give school board members more freedom to block critics on social media; Can a school board member block a parent who criticizes them on Facebook? Does it matter if the parent posts one negative comment or 100?  
<https://bit.ly/4ck9VKh>

What defines a 'highly successful' learning program? UpSkill America and i4cp, a research firm focused on human capital, attempted to answer this question by looking at three of the biggest areas of upskilling  
<https://bit.ly/49buKVb>

This year it's a slow crawl to financial aid packages for students; Schools say they are getting some of the FAFSA applications from the department. But far fewer than they expected - or need - to get aid packages out to students  
<https://n.pr/3TLR4jR>

How are high schools supporting students through FAFSA delays?  
<https://bit.ly/3VLuU2T>

Is college still worth it? Yes (for now, at least); A college education currently provides roughly a 10% rate of return, beating the long-term performance of equities  
<https://bit.ly/3x1tmat>

Kentucky is poised to become the next state to ban diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs at public colleges and universities, prompting student backlash  
<https://tinyurl.com/y99wwzam>

Kansas considers fining public universities for diversity programs  
<https://nbcnews.to/4ajaa6m>

Teacher-led discussions on s. orientation and gender identity would be banned in public schools and

displaying Pride flags in classrooms would be prohibited under legislation lawmakers advanced in Alabama  
<https://bit.ly/4cidqRg>

Philadelphia principal says his school won't be defined by violence after 8 students shot  
<https://bit.ly/3Pv4LkG>

Education Department should ban federal funding for K-12 surveillance tech, civil rights groups say; The uptick in AI-driven school surveillance technologies is a "dangerous new chapter in the school-to-prison pipeline," a coalition of 41 groups wrote  
<https://bit.ly/3x5BOP8>

Germany, known for sorting kids into college and vocational tracks, takes a more flexible approach. Facing labor shortages in skilled trades, Germany starts to meld practical and academic studies  
<https://bit.ly/494ZTK6>

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CPS will start funding schools based on student need, not enrollment  
<https://bit.ly/3PBEGjZ>

Chicago Public Schools ending student-based budgeting in favor of set staffing levels at all campuses  
<https://bit.ly/3TLmLd3>

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has announced a new grant program called the Computer Science Equity Grant. The \$3M program is designed to support the development or improvement of computer science education programs for grades K-12  
<https://bit.ly/4a32rtA>

How the Chicago teacher's union benefits from failure  
<https://bit.ly/4akTpI3>

General education students not guaranteed busing next year, Chicago Public Schools CEO says  
<https://bit.ly/43qyQjp>

CPS says it cannot promise busing for all students as deadline to accept selective enrollment schools is extended  
<https://bit.ly/4anDfO3>

High schoolers can fast-track into careers in cybersecurity through new partnership by CPS, Illinois Tech, City Colleges  
<https://bit.ly/3x617Yb>

School District 131's Resilience Education Center offers counseling, classes and activities to mitigate trauma and encourage careers  
<https://bit.ly/3Tw7sUa>

Education campaign starts North Chicago D187's transition back to elected school board; 'We begin by becoming informed'  
<https://bit.ly/3TLfWbr>

Audience angered by Millburn D24's withdrawal from 'left-leaning' program; 'Removing the whole program for three pages of a book . that made some board members uncomfortable is ludicrous'

<https://bit.ly/3TtRPg2>

Outraged students, parents and teachers are continuing to blast Fenton High School District 100 officials over how they handled allegations against a staff member accused of sexual abuse

<https://bit.ly/43w0i7m>

Vote on Glenbard Dist. 87's \$183M request too close to call; Roselle voters OK home rule

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

Chicago Unveils Runway 606 Initiative to Fast-Track High Schoolers to Tech Careers

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

Incarcerated teacher fired for teaching that Jim Crow literacy tests were racist

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

She called the number on her syllabus offering counseling. No one picked up

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

Dist. 214 officials announced they are entering a long-term strategic planning agreement with Washington, D.C.-based DeliverEd. The district seeks to create a new vision of education that will not be obsolete 15 years later

<https://bit.ly/43vQ5Yf>

IL Senate GOP propose tax credits to address rising preschool, childcare costs

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

\$7.5M for Environmental Research at the University of Illinois

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

Culver-Stockton College signed a teach-out agreement with Fontbonne University, a private university in St. Louis, that will close at the end of the summer of 2025

<https://bit.ly/3vn0gIk>

Illinois moves to make it easier for schools to get asthma inhalers

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

High schoolers can fast-track into careers in cybersecurity through new partnership by Chicago Public Schools, Illinois Tech, City Colleges

<https://bit.ly/48ZtsN6>

Chicago alder-people request reinstatement of Chicago Public School busing, stipend amidst drive shortage; 85% of students affected come from low-income homes

<https://bit.ly/49Z8wXO>

Hinsdale High School District 86 warned media outlet against publishing a former board member's emails that criticized the board's president

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

The Hinsdale High School District 86 board decided against releasing all the minutes of a closed meeting that the attorney general requested. The local lawyer who filed the complaint on the matter called the board's statement "misleading"

<https://bit.ly/3Vrt1rG>

Hinsdale South Basketball coach fired two months after contentious reinstatement

<https://bit.ly/3Trn9w0>

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Construction starts plunge 8% as Fed toes line on rates; January's manufacturing gains were wiped away as the prolonged impact of higher interest rates and labor issues caught up with the sector

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

White House targets local zoning restrictions in push to address rising housing costs

<https://bit.ly/3Vv9OWk>

AOC and Sanders aim to place public housing at center of Green New Deal; Proposal aims to decarbonize all of nation's public housing units, with an investment of between \$162B and \$234B over next decade

<https://tinyurl.com/8spc5a7u>

AOC, Sanders unveil 'Green New Deal' for housing

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

It's 38% more expensive to buy a house than rent in US, analysis finds; The market is expected to stay that way for the next five years, a report found

<https://abcn.ws/3ILm65h>

Unaffordable-and Desirable; Despite high rents and the shift to remote work, jobs, amenities, and density continue to attract young people to cities

<https://bit.ly/3ILbP9h>

Realtors Reckon With a Seismic Shift to How They Get Paid; Some agents predict workarounds will protect their commissions, while others head for the exits

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

Communities hoping to build disaster resilience request record \$8B in FEMA grants; The requested amount is more than quadruple the amount the agency is offering

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

Massive robotic arm 3D prints 27-ft-high two-story house in a first

<https://bit.ly/49dPL1S>

Economic impact of a shortage of plumbers should concern everyone; The deficit of licensed plumbers who install bathroom fixtures and piping systems drained \$33B from the economy in 2022; The industry will be short plumbers by 550,000 tradesmen within three years

<https://bit.ly/3PuVQ2G>

The Home Builders Institute's Construction Labor Market Report found 55% of builders reporting plumber shortages

<https://bit.ly/3x2S8a9>

Texas immigration battle has implications for contractors; A new law that was halted by an appeals court this week presents ramifications for the industry, where an estimated one in four workers is foreign-born

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

The number of Americans signing up for unemployment benefits fell slightly last week, another sign that the labor market remains strong and most workers enjoy extraordinary job security

<https://abcn.ws/3TvM7u2>

Feds Seek to Heal Community Scars from Interstate Highways; The Reconnecting Communities program is giving \$3.3B to help cities address problems caused by highways. But in most cases, the projects stop short of removing highways altogether

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

Food prices could increase further due to climate change's effect on inflation around the world; Extreme weather events could disrupt agricultural productivity in the future

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

Wendy's is starting a new drone delivery program in Christiansburg, Virginia where residents will be able to choose airlight as an option on DoorDash. Autonomous drones from Wing will fly 65 mph

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

Best Buy says it will close 10 to 15 stores in 2024

<https://bit.ly/3ITNQ7z>

The EV market has stalled in recent years. Why? Because the market has reached a difficult point in the technology-adoption lifecycle. Specifically, automakers and policymakers alike can no longer make plans based on what early adopters of EVs want

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

The House Energy and Commerce Committee is set to vote on the possible repeal of the \$27B Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which hasn't been distributed yet; A taxpayer-funded giveaway to the ailing solar industry and environmental nongovernmental organizations

<https://tinyurl.com/3572vxur>

Biden's softer climate regulation shows big US bet on subsidies to decarbonize

<https://tinyurl.com/5s2ep88x>

Why is US energy demand soaring - putting climate goals at risk? New industries such as cryptocurrency and cannabis are boosting industry forecasts, straining efforts to cut emissions

<https://tinyurl.com/yc4j4xew>

Innovative solar rooftop solution using LFP batteries has eliminated the need to install a separate battery pack and the extra wiring that it needs

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

Containerized powerhouse packs massive 240 solar panel modules; The energy generation system is pre-assembled and wired and can be put to work in five hours straight with a click of a button

<https://bit.ly/4a1szEV>

Opposition to U.S. Steel Sale Shows How Similar Biden and Trump Are on Trade; Economic nationalists are claiming the agreement endangers "national security" to convince Americans that what is good for investors, employees, and the U.S. economy will somehow make America less secure. That's nonsense

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

23M low-income households appear set to lose internet subsidies; Congressional leaders did not include funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program in its final six spending bills

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

Apple accused of monopolizing smartphone markets in US antitrust lawsuit

<https://tinyurl.com/3w7tdtnj>

The US Justice Department and 16 attorneys general sued Apple Inc., accusing the iPhone maker of violating antitrust laws by blocking rivals from accessing hardware and software features on its popular devices

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

OpenAI's chatbot store is filling up with spam; Review finds many GPTs offer bizarre services, potentially infringe on copyright laws, impersonate people, jailbreak ChatGPT, and more

<https://tcrn.ch/4ctVqn1>

Nvidia announces "moonshot" to create embodied human-level AI in robot form; As companies race to pair AI with general-purpose humanoid robots, Nvidia's GR00T emerges

<https://bit.ly/49ZOY5R>

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Despite Slight Unemployment Uptick, Illinois Sees Surge in New Jobs - Optimism for Chicago's Diverse Economy

<https://bit.ly/4cFk84f>

3 Chicago precincts vote in favor of idea of turning lakefront into national park

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

Chicago Bears offer blunt statement after questions on Arlington Heights future; "Our focus is on the City of Chicago project at this time"

<https://bit.ly/49aw7n8>

As Bally's troubles mount, City Hall has to make sure casino is a winning bet; Bally's \$800M financing hurdle is just the latest glitch in the project's bumpy road

<https://bit.ly/3TLi0jF>

Uber and Lyft say they plan to leave Minneapolis. Here's a cautionary tale for Chicago's progressives

<https://tinyurl.com/bdd6jxdm>

Earle School Affordable Housing In West Englewood Approved For \$4.6M; The new funding will support a \$33M adaptive reuse project to transform the long-vacant former Charles Warrington Earle School into 50 apartments and social services offices

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

Chicago Housing Authority to revive historic buildings in \$37M redevelopment plan on North Side; The development includes 121 subsidized units, 92 affordable units and 96 market-rate

<https://bit.ly/495XA9q>

Illinois families owed \$Ms after retirement community files for bankruptcy; Once the largest non-profit continuing care retirement community in Illinois, Friendship Village of Schaumburg charged residents a large entrance fee to move in, with those funds meant to be refunded if the resident moved out or passed away

<https://bit.ly/43t0OCO>

Illinois and Army Corps at an impasse over building barrier to prevent invasive carp; Governor Pritzker sent a letter expressing concern over costs of the \$1B project and the burden to Illinois taxpayers

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

State awards local food infrastructure grants as advocates seek program's extension

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

Forest Park: Family-run grocer Ed's Way closing after 30 years to make way for townhomes

<https://bit.ly/3Tw8rDY>

March Madness sports betting big business in Illinois, but Bally's Chicago remains on the sidelines

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

Kendall County to get \$15M for broadband project to help 'bridge our digital divide'

<https://bit.ly/3INL57V>

What walk/bike/transit upgrades would make Pilsen's 18th Street an even "cooler" corridor?

<https://bit.ly/3xg8bkU>

Chicago Airports Gear Up for 2.9M Spring Break Travelers Amid Security Hiring Boost and Festivities

<https://bit.ly/4a21B0d>

Chicago to Expand Midway Airport's Reach with Acquisition of Adjacent State-Owned Building

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

Chicago's O'Hare Airport is partnering with NREL to enhance sustainable energy, in line with the O'Hare 21 project, prioritizing eco-friendly solutions in their infrastructure developments



<https://bit.ly/4a4Z3hH>

Cubs propose new billboards on buildings across from ballpark; new building also planned

<https://cbsn.ws/3IPk7N8>

'Dream Realized' as Illinois Conservation Groups Add 1,000 Acres to Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge

<https://bit.ly/3vcJ4iF>

Wildlife refuge gets 1,000 new acres, touted as largest open land acquisition in Chicago area in decades

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

Englewood Food Hub Approved For \$5M TIF Funding 5 Months After South Side Alderpeople Stalled Vote

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

Anti-Gentrification Law Protecting Homes Near The 606, Pilsen Extended Through End Of Year

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

Evanston will begin work on its Main Street Corridor Improvement Project in early April, with an anticipated completion date of mid- to late-September, weather permitting

<https://bit.ly/4a5amq4>

Evanston: Wesley apartments' decline, city's response reviewed at housing meeting

<https://bit.ly/4ajv0m0>

Northfield trustees like idea of zoning changes to enable more restaurants, housing

<https://bit.ly/4cu3GUm>

Harbor Freight to open new Batavia store

<https://bit.ly/3PuHW0o>

Joliet City Council Approves Warehouse Project on Route 53 Despite Concerns over Truck Traffic

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

Governor's Plan to Close Stateville Prison Sparks Concerns for Workers and Local Economy

<https://bit.ly/3x3YExB>

Coal City updates strategic planning process

<https://bit.ly/3IOIEC8>

The Oswego Village Board will provide a restaurant owner with \$380,000 in economic assistance so he can redevelop the space that formerly housed Oswego Brewing Company.

<https://bit.ly/4a25HoN>

City of Dixon hires comprehensive plan consultant

<https://bit.ly/4cqIrl6Q>

County Board OKs 11,000-panel Locust Street Solar Farm project north of Sterling

<https://bit.ly/3IU6sEt>

Bloomington's O'Neil Aquatics Center to open in May with an accessible and inclusive emphasis

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

After being rebuffed by regulators, utilities file slimmed-down spending plans

<https://bit.ly/4a3gcZg>

Another Champaign Unit 4 School Board member has resigned after serving less than a year on the board, making it the second member to resign in just over two weeks

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

The Springfield Project got a big boost when the Springfield City Council on March 5 approved a \$500,000 allocation to the nonprofit from the Far East Tax Increment Financing District

<https://bit.ly/4cteZw0>

## PUBLIC SAFETY

'15 Days To Slow the Spread': On the Fourth Anniversary, a Reminder to Never Give Politicians That Power Again; In the name of safety, politicians did many things that diminished our lives-without making us safer

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

Antibodies against anything? AI tool adapted to make them; Right now, making antibodies means immunizing animals. But that may change

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

World's first gene-edited pig kidney transplant breathes new life into man; The pig donor's genes were edited using CRISPR-Cas9, replacing harmful pig genes with ones more compatible with humans

<https://bit.ly/3TL9fGh>

In a first, surgeons successfully transplant a pig kidney into a man

<https://nbcnews.to/4cocsTD>

House committee launches investigation into organ transplant network

<https://abcn.ws/3TJl28f>

The Brain Goes Through 'Rapid and Unstable' Change During Middle-Age; Age in terms of biological measures is more informative about your future health than age in terms of years lived

<https://bit.ly/3VtA2si>

New studies suggest Ms with mild cognitive impairment go undiagnosed, often until it's too late

<https://bit.ly/4a30z40>

Watch Neuralink's First Human Subject Demonstrate His Brain-Computer Interface

<https://bit.ly/3x3bHPR>

How Viz.ai is harnessing AI to expedite lifesaving diagnoses; Uses algorithms to examine medical imagery and patient tests to detect critical conditions such as stroke or pulmonary embolism

<https://bit.ly/3Tunr59>

Patients deserve to know whether private equity owns their health care

<https://bit.ly/3Tr38FV>

Study finds racial disparities in online patient portal responses

<https://cbsn.ws/4cnwyNR>

England is limiting gender transitions for youths. US legislators are watching

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

U.S. life expectancy in 2022 was 77.5 years, according to new federal data, going up by 1.1 years and marking the first time the metric has risen since 2019

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

A slowdown of fentanyl overdoses led substance-related deaths to level off in 2022 as U.S. mortality rates declined for the first time since before the coronavirus pandemic

<https://bit.ly/3IJAif4>

Alcohol-related liver disease rises among women, alarming federal officials

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

Narcan Babies; As child overdose deaths rise, anti-law-enforcement groups are advising doctors not to report exposed infants to child protective services

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

Unpatchable vulnerability in Apple chip leaks encryption keys; Fixing newly discovered side channel will likely take a major toll on performance

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

Hackers Found a Way to Open Any of 3M Hotel Keycard Locks in Seconds

<https://bit.ly/4cqFxO7>

A Mexican Cartel's New Target? Seniors and Their Timeshares; The timeshare industry is booming, with \$10.5B in sales in 2022, a 30 percent jump from the year before

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

Retail theft surge fuels \$4.4B shadow economy in New York state

<https://bit.ly/3Tq2okp>

Ridgely, Maryland, commissioners suspended the town's entire police force pending an investigation, leading to speculation from residents

<https://bit.ly/4cnFR0f>

America's first biometric 'smart gun' is finally here. Will it work?

<https://nbcnews.to/3PvVXew>

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Defense lawyers to bear burden of detention appeals; If current numbers continue, there will be more than 4,500 appeals during the SAFE-T Act's first year, the overwhelming majority of which will be denied

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

Illinois House to vote on Sammy's Law; would allow parents to track child's social media activity

<https://abc7.ws/4a5GSsg>

Chicago police officers who are accused of serious misconduct will be able to plead their cases to an arbitrator, according to a Cook County judge's ruling announced. The arbitration, though, will be publicly accessible

<https://bit.ly/4cp4p9c>

Chicago police officers accused of serious misconduct have the right to ask an arbitrator to decide their fate - but those proceedings must take place in public, a Cook County judge ruled

<https://bit.ly/43ru7pg>

Chicago cops facing serious discipline can take cases to arbitrator, but judge says hearings should be public

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

New law Chicago is using to sue Glock being challenged in state, federal courts

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

Chicago Announces Lawsuit Seeking Accountability for Manufacturing, Selling Pistols that Easily Turn into 'Glock Switches'

<https://bit.ly/3PvW49M>

A scathing audit shows that the Illinois Department of Public Health dropped the ball in its response to a COVID-19 outbreak at the LaSalle Veterans' Home.

<https://bit.ly/3Tn0dxY>

Study of mislabeled hemp products prompts calls for regulation in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/4csG6as>

Ban on unregulated THC products introduced in Chicago City Council

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

State lawmakers consider measures aimed at blocking e-cigarettes from young people

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

Fairview Heights' U.S. Attorney Rachelle Aud Crowe Appointed to AG Advisory Committee

<https://bit.ly/3x6nc98>

Nearly 70% of children in Chicago are exposed to lead-contaminated water: Study

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

3 Chicago precincts vote in favor of idea of turning lakefront into national park

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

A \$70M settlement in a whistleblower lawsuit against eight of the nation's largest banks has been finalized and executed, making it the largest reported settlement ever under the Illinois False Claims Act

<https://bit.ly/49Yvo9U>

Sycamore police to expand license plate reader program

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

Petersen Health Care files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

<https://bit.ly/4aI7WDB>

Illinois trooper starting compensation rises to \$90K per year

<https://bit.ly/3TORqq9>

Illinois lawmakers look to improve public safety after the death of an 11-year-old boy

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

Consultants are suggesting that the Urbana Police Department add new, non-sworn "Community Service Responder" positions that can be dispatched in certain situations

<https://bit.ly/4a3fbjU>

Narcan vending machines can curb overdose deaths. Galesburg now has two of them

<https://bit.ly/496IqRz>

New proposed legislation looks to protect youth from electronic cigarettes

<https://bit.ly/3TrYOX4>

Sherman mayor asks for help after ambulance service proposition fails

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

Jersey County voters say NO to Public Safety Tax

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

A question put to the voters of Massac County to increase the Massac County Fire Protection District's fire tax failed by 90 votes.

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

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Norwalk reveals its sustainability, resiliency framework as it plans to become Connecticut's greenest city

<https://bit.ly/3IJ4ffg>

Playing the Blame Game Won't Make Our Roads Safer; Needs to "decide" whether it wants to prioritize foot traffic or vehicular throughput, whether it wants to be a neighborhood street or a highway

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

How one county hopes to end chronic homelessness and could be a model for other

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

Where to Start with AI? From strengthening cybersecurity to improving 311, a handful of early adopters are finding safe and practical uses

<https://bit.ly/3Tc7Zuz>

How Does AI Predict Governments Will Use AI? It Depends Where You Live; Gemini delivered 50 detailed responses for each state; no two responses were the same

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

Eighth Circuit Partly Revives Religious Case Over Bias Training; Court examines pleading test for challenging DEI programs; Race, pronoun training contrary to religious beliefs, workers say

<https://bit.ly/3PxXCA2>

When You Know You Weren't the First Choice for Your New Role; Four ways to make the most of the opportunity - and keep imposter syndrome at bay

<https://bit.ly/43Jgp1v>

The Challenges of Becoming a Less Hierarchical Company; Lessons from one company on how to navigate the ups and downs of going flat

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

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Voter apathy and four key takeaways from Illinois' 2024 primary elections

<https://bit.ly/3x3IW5B>

Officials from eight Illinois counties are grappling with the fallout of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that could jeopardize the longstanding practice of seizing homes over unpaid property taxes

<https://bit.ly/3PxzNZ4>

Chicago Mayor Johnson Is the Real Loser of Tuesday's Primaries; He must have lost enough of his progressive coalition to make it truly sting, and all through his own cack-handedness

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

Apparent failure of Bring Chicago Home tax referendum may slow Mayor Johnson's agenda, critics say

<https://cbsn.ws/3Tpic73>

Apparent flameout of Bring Chicago Home is an opportunity for Mayor Johnson

<https://bit.ly/3INlv1S>

Chicago Mayor Johnson's chief of staff stepping down; Resignation comes as the mayor's rift with more moderate politicians and the city's business community has widened since Johnson assumed office last May

<https://bit.ly/3x1UICN>

Progress report? Election brings mix of cheers and tears for Chicago progressives

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

While some are arguing for more resources and protections for non-citizen migrants in Illinois, many Chicago residents say taxpayers have had enough and feel less safe

<https://bit.ly/3J7Wlfl>

Voters on the South Side and West Side of Chicago supported Mayor Brandon Johnson just a year ago. They just vehemently rejected his plan to raise the real estate transfer tax, which threatened businesses and lacked details about easing homelessness

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

Chicago's mayor not giving up on failed tax hike on real estate

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

Mayor Brandon Johnson losing seasoned chief of staff after less than a year in office

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

Chief of Staff Rich Guidice Exits Chicago Mayor's Office; Cristina Pacione-Zayas Poised to Take Over

<https://bit.ly/3Pym5oT>

Marlene Hopkins Appointed as New Commissioner of Chicago's Department of Buildings

<https://bit.ly/4alzA3i>

Mayor Johnson appoints official negligent in Little Village dust storm debacle to run Buildings Department

<https://bit.ly/3VsDq6o>

Chicago Officials Slowly Evicting Migrants From City Shelters as Johnson Resists Pressure to Reverse Course

<https://bit.ly/3TB1IJc>

Winner of Cook County state's attorney primary may not be decided until end of the week - or later

<https://bit.ly/43vHEw3>

New legislation could give county clerks a taxpayer-funded raise

<https://bit.ly/3Vn76C6>

Naperville mayor says city council has no intention of passing Gaza cease-fire solution

<https://bit.ly/494n5Z2>

Naperville mayor's announcement that council won't adopt a Gaza ceasefire resolution draws vocal outcry

<https://bit.ly/3IJp4at>

School District 131's Resilience Education Center offers counseling, classes and activities to mitigate trauma and encourage careers

<https://bit.ly/3vmbp5V>

Will County Board fails to override 143rd widening veto, opponents seek legal counsel

<https://bit.ly/495Aujm>

Lake County will receive more than \$1.9M in federal funding toward two water-related public works projects

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

Rock Falls council OKs Micro Industries building asbestos abatement bid

<https://bit.ly/3x6FfMo>

State Senators Paul Faraci (D-Champaign) and Doris Turner (D-Springfield) are joining several other officials in pushing against a proposal that would move mail services to larger cities and away from Central Illinois

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

Postal service restructuring could delay mail delivery in Central Illinois

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

The Effingham County Board is abandoning plans to install a rooftop solar system at the Effingham County Office Building as part of a proposed energy-saving project

<https://bit.ly/3xdIm4Z>

Elmhurst's purchase of two houses will address two pressing issues in the Spring Road area - flooding and parking for \$6.5M; Could install underground stormwater detention that would store 10 acre-feet of water, or 3.2M gallons

<https://bit.ly/43vP6aQ>

## SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

DOE unveils \$180M for energy efficiency, air quality upgrades in K-12 schools; The 2024 Renew America's Schools Prize will provide school districts funding for new HVAC systems, building envelope and lighting projects, electric vehicles and renewable energy technologies

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

Hardline conservatives are fuming out over a bipartisan government funding agreement that includes funds for construction of a new headquarters for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

<https://bit.ly/3x5EdQH>

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Obama Foundation reveals renderings of presidential center facility the Home Court

<https://bit.ly/3PwF5nK>

Three out of four voters in Avoca School District 37 said "no" to borrowing plan

<https://bit.ly/3x2mLfP>

Evanston's Parks Board Thursday is scheduled to review a consultant's report that says the Noyes Cultural Arts Center needs \$22M in upgrades



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

Waltham Elementary to buy 10 acres for \$250,000. No referendum: Pending purchase is for future expansion, board president says

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

Bloomington: Project Oz breaks ground on 2,400-square-foot expansion, Youth Education and Support Center

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

\$5.2M referendum for new Andalusia Fire Station approved by voters

<https://bit.ly/4995wXH>

Construction of Springfield's three new fire stations taking shape

<https://bit.ly/3vu78gL>

Walker Questions The Transparency Of Plans To Build \$7M Homeless Shelter In Alton

<https://bit.ly/3TvQw0p>

The full Madison County Board won't be voting on \$2.5M in grant money requested for a transitional housing plan in Alton until April at the earliest

<https://bit.ly/3TvKYD2>

## STATE & FEDERAL

For the most part, incumbents beat back challengers amid low primary turnout

<https://bit.ly/3INM6Nq>

At Least 2 State Legislators Lose Their Seats in Primary Election. A Look at the General Assembly Results

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

Illinois sees big uptick in nonpartisan ballots this primary

<https://bit.ly/3Vwh2Js>

The Pritzker administration is working to justify to Illinois legislators the proposed \$52.7B budget and Gov. J.B. Pritzker's ability to transfer funds unilaterally

<https://bit.ly/4aqxe3o>

Illinois' tax revenues from legalized gambling go to education, infrastructure projects

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

Illinois House committee approves Pritzker's monumental health insurance reform plan

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

Pritzker heads to California to promote Illinois film industry, fundraise for convention and abortion rights

<https://bit.ly/3Vur9yu>

Illinois lawmakers probe migrant spending during hearing with Governor's budget director

<https://bit.ly/3x5ELWZ>

Protest groups lose appeal to march near United Center during Democratic convention

<https://bit.ly/4a1Ch4W>

Didn't vote on Tuesday? You weren't alone. Here's how to start making the Illinois primary a bigger draw

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

Illinois may force social media companies to allow parents to monitor their kids activity

<https://bit.ly/4a3f47Y>

Some Illinois lawmakers say there needs to be change at the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

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

Publishers of The State Journal-Register to stop using AP news source moving forward, citing money

<https://bit.ly/3IM64lg>

Judge excoriates ex-Gov. Blagojevich's federal lawsuit as publicity stunt that 'ends with a whimper'

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

A federal judge shut down former Governor Rod Blagojevich's latest attempt to regain ballot eligibility by quoting Dr. Seuss

<https://bit.ly/493ZebW>

—

States look to AI for its potential to help with finances; Artificial intelligence holds promise for creating budget-saving efficiencies, aiding in audits and helping with compliance. But the emerging technology also poses challenges that could affect spending

<https://bit.ly/49Y8uPY>

California Governor Newsom and Democrats announce a plan to reduce the enormous budget deficit. How? TBD; The problem: Democrats at the state Capitol couldn't actually agree on an amount - offering only a range of \$12B to \$18B - or explain what, exactly, they plan to cut

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

More than 3.5M Americans at or above the age of 60 hold student loan debt, collectively amounting to over \$125B; Are at risk of losing some of their SS benefits after defaulting on student loans

<https://bit.ly/43ql2Nu>

Biden administration to cancel \$5.8B in student debt for public service workers; Under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, 77,700 people working in government and non-profit jobs will see relief

<https://tinyurl.com/45vsb94s>

Biden administration forgives \$6B in student debt. Here's who qualifies for forgiveness

<https://cbsn.ws/4anOExr>

Treasury Secretary Yellen made the case for President Biden's budget proposal, which includes tax hikes for the wealthiest Americans and an expanded child tax credit

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

Beware the Unintended Consequences of Wealth Taxes; New guess taxes on unrealized gains are unworkable bureaucratic nightmares that would have unintended consequences for our economy and do more harm than good

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

'Emergency' Spending Is Out of Control; Congress has authorized over \$12T in emergency spending over the past three decades

<https://bit.ly/3x7rBss>

Biden's emergency aid request crumbles in Hill pile-up; President Biden's Oct. 9 request to Congress last year was for \$106B in emergency supplemental appropriations for security assistance to Israel, Ukraine, Taiwan and our southern border

<https://bit.ly/3TJ9Ok6>

Congressional leaders sell \$1.2T spending package to members before shutdown deadline

<https://bit.ly/3Trd0j0>

Conservatives rail against funding package: 'An abomination'

<https://bit.ly/495L0He>

House Speaker Johnson spurs fresh conservative fury with new spending agreement; Some members of the House Freedom Caucus aren't ruling out a future vote to boot Johnson from the speakership

<https://politi.co/3llyz8Y>

House Democrats are lending the GOP speaker a hand - and they don't mind; They see Johnson's dependence on them to pass major legislation as a point of leverage that they can use to their advantage

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

House Republican budget calls for raising the retirement age for SS: A budget by the Republican Study Committee, a group of more than 170 GOP lawmakers, highlights how many in the party would seek to govern if Republicans win in November

<https://nbcnews.to/3TszAYr>

Could Republicans blow it with bad candidates - again?

<https://bit.ly/3Tueg4M>

Trump's chosen candidates are winning from top to bottom of the ballot

<https://bit.ly/4ajjU0q>

GOP primaries flash warning signs for Trump; In primary elections in Ohio and other states, a sizable number of GOP voters still cast ballots for former rivals to the ex-president

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

Republicans have taken sharp populist turn in the Trump era

<https://tinyurl.com/dyk6a8ab>

Democrats Are Starting to Take the RFK Jr. Threat Seriously; This election could hinge on the results in just a few cities

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

Presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. had a testy exchange with The New York Times during an interview, calling the newspaper "an instrument of the Democratic Party" and accusing its journalism of propping up President Biden

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

Two former Biden family business associates testified before a House committee conducting an impeachment inquiry into influence peddling by the president and close relatives; Six takeaways from the House hearing

<https://tinyurl.com/ma5x8vaw>

Two recent U.S. Supreme Court actions have opened the door to a new legal frontier in which local and state officials can be disqualified from office for life for engaging in "insurrection" or providing "aid and comfort" to enemies of the Constitution

<https://bit.ly/4908L3L>

Lawmakers pass milestone privacy bill overshadowed by TikTok fever; The US House passes a bill to prevent data brokers from selling personal data to China, Russia or other "foreign adversaries"; the bill now heads to the Senate

<https://politi.co/43wcG7k>

Tech official pushing TikTok ban could reap windfall from U.S.-China cold war; From his perch on a government commission, Jacob Helberg fearmongered about TikTok in Congress. He also works for a giant defense contractor

<https://bit.ly/3xd2C6N>

State legislator makes deepfake of colleague to prove deepfakes are bad

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

EU leaders urged to put economies 'on war footing' at Ukraine negotiations; Prime ministers to examine plans to confiscate billions of euros in interest from frozen Russian assets and send the funds to Kyiv

<https://tinyurl.com/bdhkdn9t>

Putin is now openly planning for war against NATO

<https://bit.ly/3wZKAF4>

Putin's going nowhere. The West needs to get a grip; Don't think that social media memes and clever stunts will topple Putin. Only a defeat in Ukraine can do that

<https://tinyurl.com/f5dnb8zu>

'Waivable Loans' for Ukraine Are Just Grants; If the GOP does an end-run around its own members, there

should be consequences

<https://bit.ly/3x9y1HC>

US calls for immediate Gaza ceasefire and hostage agreement in draft UN resolution; Source says wording suggests significant movement in US position as pressure mounts on Israel to halt campaign

<https://tinyurl.com/7ttsbat9>

Israel's Critics Want an Israeli Victory without the War Part; There are irresolvable obstacles before a Palestinian state that are never addressed by its advocates

<https://bit.ly/4cCm3Xc>

Why Israel is so determined to launch an offensive in Rafah; Israel says Hamas has four battalions in Rafah and that it must send ground forces to topple them. Some senior militants could also be hiding in the city

<https://bit.ly/3TO20xD>

Gaza reaches 'tipping point,' doctors tell UN in plea for help; Doctors told the United Nations that a Rafah invasion may be "apocalyptic"

<https://abcn.ws/3IOVy2S>

We are about to witness in Gaza the most intense famine since the second world war

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

Yemen's Houthis Tell China, Russia Their Ships Won't Be Targeted

<https://tinyurl.com/yuuf5v6u>

Somali pirates return, adding to global shipping crisis; The raids are piling risks and costs onto shipping companies also contending with repeated drone and missile strikes by Yemen's Houthi militia in the Red Sea and other nearby waters

<https://tinyurl.com/mr3px7yj>

The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act Needs To Be Enforced; It's been known for decades that the Chinese government, the Chinese Communist Party, has rounded up as many as 3M Uyghur people into industrial-scale concentration camps in China

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

China is building its military and nuclear arsenal on a scale not seen since World War II and all signs suggest it's sticking to ambitions to be ready to invade Taiwan by 2027, a top US admiral testified

<https://bit.ly/3TMLzS0>

Senators unveil bipartisan measure banning Strategic Petroleum Reserve sales to China, Russia, Iran

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

'Global implications': Military leaders warn of growing China-Russia-Iran alliance

<https://bit.ly/3PygK0m>

U.S. Indo-Pacific commander warns of growing danger of war over Taiwan; Admiral Aquilino tells lawmakers \$11B in added funds needed to deter China

<https://bit.ly/3TqJeL7>

Fearing Trump, South Korea Prepares to Pay Its Fair Share; Why do Americans still pay to defend South Koreans?

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

Turkey central bank stuns market with 500-point rate hike to 50%; The hawkish surprise came 10 days before nationwide local elections and was seen by analysts as a signal that the central bank was independent from any political constraints, and determined to tackle inflation that is soaring toward 70%

<https://tinyurl.com/52zzt8wx>

The many ways in which life is getting better; The short history of global living conditions and why it matters that we know it

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

Global fertility rate to keep plummeting, major study warns; By 2050, the population of three quarters of all countries will be shrinking

<https://tinyurl.com/2y7rzhyx>

Climate Policy Is a Federal Issue; And the ongoing state/local litigation against fossil fuel producers is meritless

<https://bit.ly/3TNNki1>

Climate models can't explain 2023's huge heat anomaly - we could be in uncharted territory; Taking into account all known factors, the planet warmed 0.2 °C more last year than climate scientists expected. More and better data are urgently needed

<https://go.nature.com/3VnODW0>

Moving trees north to save the forests; As the world warms, trees in forests such as those in Minnesota will no longer be adapted to their local climates. That's where assisted migration comes in

<https://bit.ly/43v7W1t>

How Climeworks is using direct air capture to remove carbon from the atmosphere

<https://bit.ly/3vkC1V2>

Leaders of over 30 countries meet in a Brussels summit to promote nuclear energy; Over 30 nations from around the world have pledged to boost nuclear energy to help achieve a climate-neutral globe while providing countries an added sense of security independence

<https://abcn.ws/4askuct>

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

What makes a decision great is not that it has a great outcome. A great decision is the result of a good process, and that process must include an attempt to accurately represent our own state of knowledge. That state of knowledge, in turn, is some variation of "I'm not sure".

--Annie Duke

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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: What is the test for whether a public official's social media account represents the exercise of state action for the purpose of a First Amendment analysis?

A: The United States Supreme Court just released a unanimous opinion in the case *Lindke v. Freed* which answers this question. As with most of these cases, a public employee who operated a social media account was sued for a violation of the First Amendment after blocking a local resident from posting comments to the account. Since courts across the country had fashioned different rules for determining whether the action of blocking a post violated the First Amendment, the U.S. Supreme Court decided to establish a uniform test and concluded that a government official's social media posts are "attributable to the State only if the official (1) possessed actual authority to speak on the State's behalf, and (2) purported to exercise that authority when he spoke on social media." The opinion contains a number of hypotheticals to help understand the Court's intent, so one should read the entire opinion.

(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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