

UP-TO-DATE



TRAVIS WEAVER

State Representative ■ 93rd District



Creating a Pro-Growth Business Environment in Illinois

Illinois should be a hub of commerce, industry, and agriculture; however, under the current policies we have in place, innovation and growth are stifled by high taxes, high regulation, and a lack of an educated and skilled workforce.

Back in January, I, along with Leader McCombie, and Reps. Hammond, Elik, and McLaughlin held a press conference to outline the House GOP's priorities heading into budget season. These priorities included education funding, pro-growth policies, and spending cuts to reduce the tax burden on Illinois residents and families.

After the press conference, I explained that Illinois was one of three states in the nation to lose net population in the last decade and it was Illinois' first census showing a net population loss. We need a whole new approach to stop chronic overspending. We must grow jobs and businesses here in Illinois. If we unleash Illinois' immense potential by restraining state spending and taxes we can stop hemorrhaging population and be a powerful magnet to attract people and jobs.

Let's improve our business environment by passing and implementing pro-growth, low-tax policies, which will keep and grow jobs in Illinois, and attract new businesses to the Land of Lincoln.



**Rep. Weaver and Sen. Neil Anderson at their
Lemonade & Legislation Event in Pekin in June.**

Bringing State Government to You

Over the past several months, my office and I have been able to bring Illinois state government to you, the great people of Illinois' 93rd House District. Through meet & greets, and tours of facilities and businesses in the region, I've had the privilege of hearing directly from constituents on the issues they care about the most.

For example, at the Lemonade & Legislation event co-hosted by Sen. Neil Anderson and myself in Kewanee in early June, we were able to speak with people who brought up very pressing issues affecting their communities, such as infrastructure, wasteful spending and energy independence.

In April, during the spring recess, I visited Black Hawk College East Campus, and was able to see how they're educating our future leaders in a variety of disciplines, from English and literature to business and agriculture.

Looking ahead to the summer and fall months, we will be hosting more events, so if you're interested, be on the lookout on Facebook, Instagram, and my website for all event dates, times, and locations.

Scan Here to Go to Rep. Weaver's Official Facebook Page ➤



WORKING ACROSS THE AISLE TO PASS MEANINGFUL LEGISLATION

This past spring, I'm honored to say I was successfully able to pass several pieces of legislation through both chambers to get sent to the Governor for his signature.

One of these bills, HB2274, expands pathways for citizens to become a speech-language pathology assistant. Previously, only those with an associate's degree in the field could become speech pathology assistants. This legislation expands requirements to also allow those with a bachelor's degree in the field to receive their license. I owe all the credit to Peoria County residents Christian and Olivia Johnson. Olivia moved to Peoria from another state where the code is more inclusive. Once in Illinois, she found herself with more education and experience than what is required for her desired career, but she was unable to receive a license due to Illinois's broken code. I'm so honored they reached out to me for help, and I'm excited to pass this legislation so people like Olivia can follow their dreams and help kids get the care they need. HB2274 passed the House by a vote of 108-0.

Additionally, I passed HB3590, which advocates for hands-on apprenticeship and job training for high school and community college students. Currently, students are unable to receive this type of training, as the liabilities of allowing a student to operate machinery are too high. This bill creates the Student Career Development Liability Insurance Advisory Committee, which will make recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on providing liability insurance to students and teachers to ensure they are receiving the training they need to succeed. HB3590 passed the House by a vote of 107-0.

By working together and having honest conversations, House Republicans work across the aisle to pass meaningful legislation that improves our communities and our state. I'm very grateful that my colleagues and I were able to get these bills through the House.



Rep. Weaver at his desk on the House floor.

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS' "BALANCED" BUDGET

At the end of the legislative session in late May, after the Democrat majority missed their own self-imposed deadline, Illinois Democrats "debated" and passed a \$50 billion budget. Even with much lower-than-expected revenues collected between 2022 and 2023, government programs were still expanded, and current estimates project that \$550 million will be spent on healthcare for illegal immigrants, and I expect that estimate to grow substantially as their program is rolled out.

In addition to the incredible increase in spending, I was disappointed to see yet another pay raise for legislators included in the budget. For the second time in six months (the first being a 16% raise in January and 5% in May), Democrats have given themselves a pay raise to nearly \$90,000 per year. This gives Illinois lawmakers the fourth highest legislators' pay in the nation despite its near last place position in most key success metrics. This is especially egregious as Illinois families are working hard to make ends meet, considering inflation is at record levels over time.

Illinois' Culture of Corruption

Earlier this spring, four former Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) lobbyists were tried and convicted of bribing former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan. I issued the following statement after it was announced the jury found all four guilty:

"The recent "ComEd Four" trial and conviction has given us a tiny glimpse into former Speaker Michael Madigan's corrupt and relentless grip on power in this state. For too long, Illinois Democrats have failed to hold themselves accountable, and we owe it to the taxpayers to pass, implement, and enforce effective and comprehensive anti-corruption reform in Illinois."

This culture of corruption in Illinois needs to stop. For too long, mob-like tactics, and pay-to-play schemes have been used to line the pockets of politicians and special interests, all while the people of Illinois suffer the consequences.

Let's work together to rid Illinois of the corruption that is so deeply ingrained in our political arena.

Weaver Serving on Key Committees During the 103rd General Assembly

For the 103rd General Assembly, I was placed on several key committees that play a major role in solving problems Illinois faces.

Being assigned to these committees puts me in a strong position to advocate for conservative reform in Springfield. I'll be able to provide common-sense solutions for a variety of issues Illinois is facing, from the pension crisis to the crafting of the budget. I'm excited to get to work, and I thank Leader McCombie for putting her trust in me with these assignments. It is an honor to serve the great people of Central Illinois.

Committees Serving On

- Appropriations: Public Safety
- Energy and Environment
- Housing
- Immigration and Human Rights
- Personnel and Pensions
- Revenue and Finance
- Public Utilities

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Thank you for the opportunity to serve, and please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my office if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas!

Sincerely,

