



*Issues Brief*

**Key Bills**

*As debate continues on the topics driving the headlines, there are other subjects making an impact on the future viability of the architecture profession. This session can have a make or break impact on countless Illinois businesses and their employees.*

**State Budget**  
**Senate has moved bills**  
**House has begun hearings**

**State Budget Resolution**

The State of Illinois is headed into its third year without a state budget and it is now time to act. The Senate has presented a path towards that budget. While not perfect it may provide a framework for what should be addressed. Once a budget is in place the state may then take up issues such as capital procurements, sustainability and development.

*Status: The budget continues to be addressed in both the House and Senate.*

**Procurement Changes**

**Procurement Changes/ Maintain Qualification Based Selection**

Under the budget conversation there may be changes to traditional procurement methods. It is important to remember that an architect is a professional service and is selected by merit, not bid. Providing an owner with options rather than procuring strictly on cost has been proven to be the most successful way to ensure project quality.

*Status: The Senate has passed some changes to procurement. The House is addressing some items currently.*

**Senate Bill 1287**  
**Qualified Design**  
*Sponsors: Sen. John Mulroe*  
*Rep. Carol Sente*  
**AIA Illinois Supports**

**Qualified Design in Schools (SB 1287)**

Procurement selection for extensive construction under the guise of “Energy Saving” has been an issue in procurement for many years. Schools are now suffering from over extended contracts and a lack of competitiveness in the process. The bill ensures installation of modifications have a direct link to energy savings. The measure would also ensure inspection of plans and specifications and gives the schools the right to review the performance of vendors over the life of the contract.

*Status: SB 1287 is in Senate Licensed Activities Committee*

**Senate Bill 1783**  
**House Bill 2972**  
**River Edge Credit**  
*Sponsors: Sen. Steve Stadelman*  
*Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia*  
**AIA Illinois Supports**

**Senate Bill 606**  
**Statewide Tax Credit**  
*Sponsor: Sen. Pam Althoff*  
**AIA Illinois Supports**

**Development Incentives (HB 2972, SB 1783, SB 606)**

The River Edge Historic Tax Credit incentivizes the private sector to revitalize properties and repopulate historic areas in the five river towns of Aurora, East St. Louis, Elgin, Peoria and Rockford. The credit should be renewed and expanded statewide to fuel the economy for years to come.

*Status: The bills are in Revenue Committees in both chambers.*