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Patrick Henry Governed Illinois In Territorial Days

By Tom Emery

In 1775, with the American colonies careening toward revolution, Patrick Henry uttered the famous words “give me liberty or give me death.” He probably wasn’t thinking of Illinois at the time.

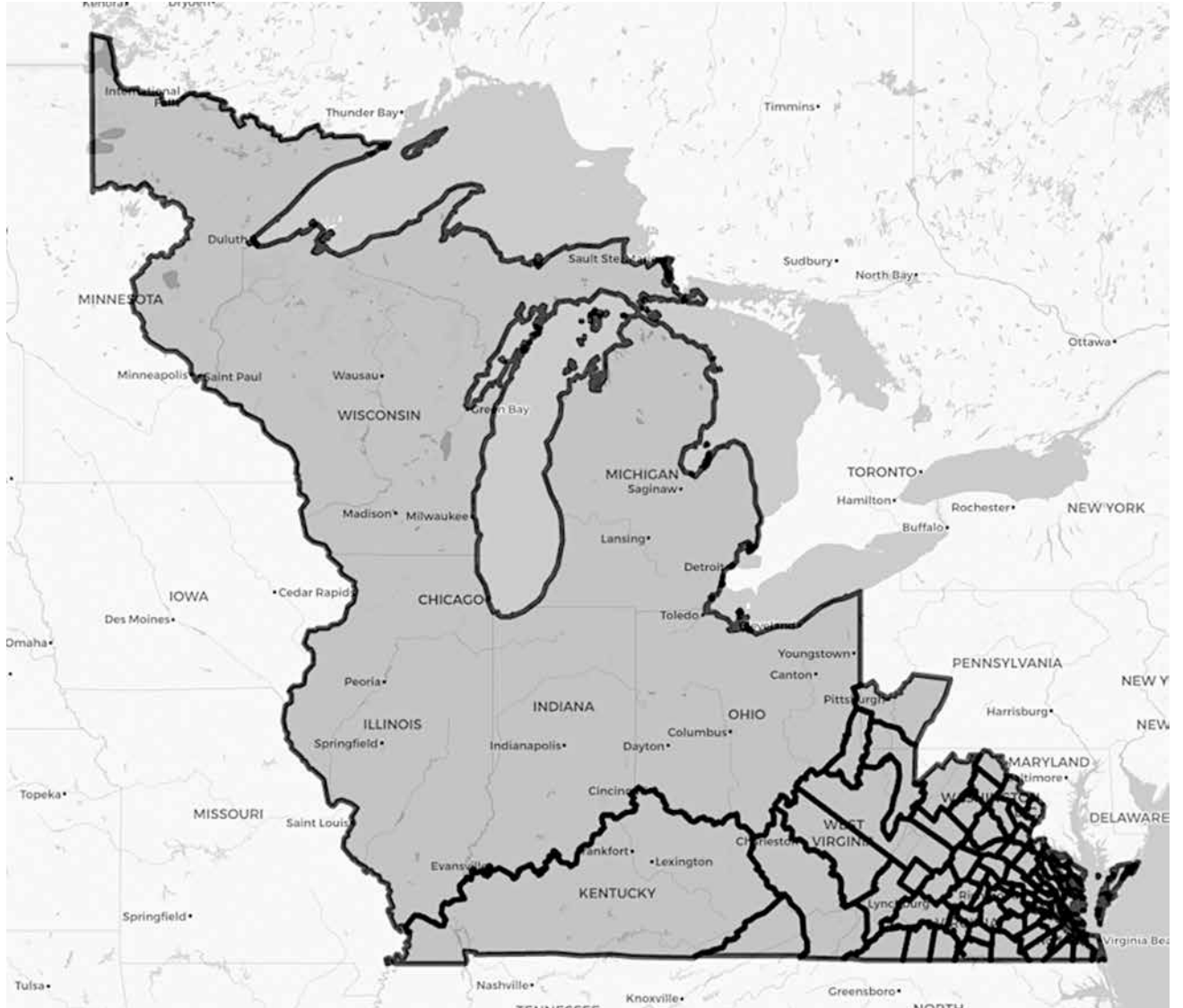
Three short years later, Henry governed the territory that became the Land of Lincoln, a fact known to few in the state today. But Henry actually did little to further the cause of the distant, sparsely populated area known as “Illinois.”

Henry, who served as Virginia governor from 1776-79 and again from 1784-86, was convinced by George Rogers Clark that American capture of the British stronghold of Detroit would lead to the colonial control west of the Appalachians.

The daring Clark proceeded to capture the British outposts at Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes, thereby securing the Illinois country for Virginia and Gov. Henry. Clark’s smashing success should have set Illinois on a path forward, but Henry’s missteps screwed everything up.

On Dec. 9, 1778, Illinois became a county of the colony of Virginia. In its governance, Virginia

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Virginia's Illinois County in 1780 included Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, part of Minnesota, and a small part of Canada. Map from the Newberry Library

State Celebrated Fourth of July With Big Events 180 Years Ago

By Tom Emery

Today in Illinois and elsewhere, the Fourth of July is a holiday for boating, barbecues, and fireworks. Over 180 years ago, the celebrations were more scripted and formal, though fireworks were always a constant.

Back then, revelry on July 4 was an all-day affair, complete with processions, bands, and a multitude of speakers. The events were large and sweeping, and most of the town took part.

In many events, the men of the town gathered at a local tavern or hotel for dinner, complete with thirteen formal toasts – one for each of the original colonies. Though thirteen is an unlucky number today, it was a recurring theme in many July 4 celebrations of the era, and sometimes featured the firing of thirteen guns or cannons in commemoration.

In a gala in the former state capital of Vandalia in 1839, the locals added plenty of extra toasts. The Illinois State Register reported that the “dinner was prepared at great expense...and we venture to say, in a style unsurpassed in this country.”

The toasts included “the day we celebrate” and drinks to the memories of George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson, as well as “the officers and soldiers of the American Revolution, Freedom’s chosen band.”

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After 9 Months, State Data Begins to Detail New Pretrial Detention

But researchers say despite new 75-county data trove, it's still too early to judge bail reform law

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Nine months after cash bail ended in Illinois, the state is taking its first steps in publishing the data that crafters of the bail reform law saw as essential to judging its effectiveness.

The data shows that judges in the 75 counties served by the Illinois Supreme Court’s Office of Statewide Pretrial Services had collectively issued failure-to-appear warrants in just 5 percent of more than 28,000 court dates as of Friday. Judges had approved about 63 percent of petitions to detain a defendant pretrial that were sent to them by prosecutors.

The OSPTS, launched in 2021 to provide things like pretrial safety assessments and electronic monitoring for 75 of Illinois’ 102 counties, published the data in a new dashboard this week. It represents a key – but still early and incomplete – step in tracking Illinois’ progress as the first state to fully end cash bail through a wide-ranging criminal justice reform known as the SAFE-T Act.

Some state’s attorneys, sheriffs and other law enforcement organizations were staunchly and publicly opposed to the law when it passed – launching several lawsuits that ultimately delayed

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Quantum Technology Companies Set For Tax Incentives Under New Law

Economic development package also expands film, EV industry tax breaks

By Andrew Adams Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker on Wednesday gave final approval to a plan to bolster the state’s tech industry, including an incentives package – backed by \$500 million in the state budget – aimed at making Illinois the nation’s leader in quantum computing.

The package also expands tax credits for the film industry, extends a tax credit program for research and development by five years, and broadens the eligibility for companies seeking tax credits under programs initially launched to help the electric vehicle and microchip industries.

Proponents of the legislation, which include a who’s who of business leaders and representatives of organized labor, say it will help attract businesses to the state, encourage growth and generate jobs. The programs will generate an estimated \$21 billion in new state revenue over the next 30 years, according to the governor’s office.

The largest new program set up in the legislation would designate a “quantum campus” somewhere in the state. Businesses in that area would receive tax breaks on construction, materials purchase and use taxes, similar to an existing enterprise zone program.

This is tied to \$500 million in capital funding,

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cash bail's elimination by nine months. But retired Cook County Judge Cara Smith, who now leads the OSPS, said she believes the data shows everyone is taking their responsibilities under the SAFE-T Act "very seriously."

"I think judges and the other stakeholders – everyone, regardless of what their position might have been on the policy behind the SAFE-T Act – that everyone's doing their job," she told Capitol News Illinois.

For David Olson, co-director of the Loyola University of Chicago's Center for Criminal Justice, or CCJ, the data demonstrates the complexities of tracking a reform as large as the SAFE-T Act in a state as geographically diverse as Illinois.

"Everyone wants to know: 'How's it going in Illinois?'" Olson said in an interview. "Well, which of the 102 Illinois(es) do you want to hear about? There's 102 counties, and every one's a little bit different."

New pretrial detention system

The SAFE-T Act included a provision known as the Pretrial Fairness Act that ended the use of cash bail in Illinois, meaning a person cannot be jailed while awaiting trial simply because they can't afford a dollar amount assigned by a judge. After litigation forced a delay in implementing the PFA, cash bail was officially eliminated on Sept. 18, 2023.

It created a replacement system in which prosecutors can petition judges to detain an individual based on the seriousness of the alleged crime and the defendant's dangerousness or risk of fleeing

prosecution. Before a judge can order detention, the state must prove "by clear and convincing evidence" that the defendant committed the crime, poses a specific threat to a person or the community and that no other pretrial conditions can mitigate the defendant's risk.

The law also gives defendants a right to legal representation at their first court hearing, with the intention of making hearings more deliberative when an individual's freedom is at stake as they await a full trial.

OSPS had completed more than 16,600 pretrial investigations since cash bail ended as of Friday, with just over 10,200 of them for defendants accused of a felony. As part of those investigations, the OSPS provides individual reports about a defendant to judges, public defenders and prosecutors prior to a first appearance in court. The investigations usually include an interview with the defendant, a detailed criminal history, employment information and more.

The data showed that about 52 percent of cases that were subject to an OSPS pretrial investigation contained at least one offense considered "detainable" under the SAFE-T Act. As of Friday, prosecutors had petitioned the court to detain the defendant in 62 percent of those cases.

The fact that judges approved 63 percent of those petitions, Smith said, was evidence the system was working.

"If we would have seen 99 percent of detention petitions are granted, that would have been a red flag," Smith said.

Smith also stressed that the statewide data only tells part of the story – county- and circuit-level data is just as important. The various circuit courts within OSPS' jurisdiction had detention petition approval rates ranging from 48 percent to 84 percent as of Friday, though Smith pointed out percentages can be misleading, especially in smaller counties with low case volumes.

Four large counties that are not part of the OSPS – Cook, DuPage, Kane and McHenry – report some level of pretrial detention data individually. Detention petitions as of Friday were granted at a 38 percent rate in Kane County, 41 percent in DuPage and 40 percent in McHenry.

Cook County, which has the highest volume of cases of any jurisdiction by far, broke down its data further, reporting that detention was granted for 61 percent of 93 petitions filed for misdemeanor cases as of June 8, 41 percent of 1,485 domestic violence cases, and 70 percent of 2,641 felony cases.

'We didn't see any sort of knee jerk'

Judges as of Friday had issued failure-to-appear warrants in only 5 percent of 28,416 court dates in the 75 OSPS counties since cash bail was eliminated. But Olson – whose CCJ has been studying pretrial detention since before the SAFE-T Act's passage – cautioned that those numbers could increase, as failure-to-appear warrants are most accurately accounted for once a case has concluded.

"The (failure to appear) rates will likely increase as more of these cases have more time to have hearings missed," Olson said.

However, both Smith and Olson also noted the number is likely driven downward by the SAFE-T Act's instruction to judges not to rely on such warrants as a first remedy for a non-appearance.

"And really, the reason for that is a lot of defendants previously who had warrants issued just, basically, they forgot about court," Olson said.

Other means of assuring a defendant's

appearance in court, Smith said, include simply sending text message reminders.

"We send about 200 court date text message reminders a day," she said. "So that has been shown – just like it is when we get a haircut or have a doctor's appointment – to be an effective way of keeping important appointments at the forefront of people's minds."

Another major function of the OSPS is to oversee electronic monitoring of individuals subject to home confinement in its 75 counties from a centralized location in Springfield. The OSPS now absorbs the cost of electronic monitoring – which, in many counties, was previously passed on to defendants.

Smith said OSPS has plans to add electronic monitoring data to a future version of its dashboard, and she added the agency has enrolled about 1,100 people in electronic monitoring.

"I was very afraid of an explosion in the use of electronic monitoring after Sept. 18," Smith said. "We have not seen that. The program has steadily grown, but it's grown sort of organically ... we didn't see any sort of knee jerk."

Olson echoed that point, noting that the OSPS made electronic monitoring – and pretrial services in general – available in counties where it was never previously an option. But some counties may be reluctant to order electronic monitoring even though it is free to them, he said, because they'd have to expend potentially sparse personnel resources to enforce it.

'A lot of variation'

While the OSPS data is useful in understanding how certain counties are handling pretrial detention in addition to examining broader trends, Olson said, it further demonstrates the disparities across jurisdictions.

The detainability data specifically applies to individuals who have been subject to an OSPS investigation – and not those whom an officer has simply cited and released.


Olson pointed to one example of how the numbers can be skewed in any individual county based on its practices. He said Loyola CCJ researchers were told by officials in southern Illinois' Williamson County that all arrestees are held in jail at least overnight prior to appearing before a judge. As a result, the OSPS conducted investigations on all of those individuals, even if their offense was low-level. Thus, only 36 percent of individuals subject to an investigation in that county were detainable, per the dashboard.

In neighboring Franklin County, meanwhile, Olson said officials reported they jail only those individuals they believe are detainable, resulting in 59 percent of investigated cases containing a

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- Harry Bauman, 98, Harvard, June 26
- Robert Enlow, 80, Belvidere, June 29
- Deborah Gangel, 73, Belvidere, June 27
- Larry Peters, 69, Belvidere, June 24
- Harold Walker, 78, Belvidere, June 29



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There’s also a lot of county-to-county variance on the percentage of detention petitions granted, Olson added.

“And it really illustrates what we suspect is going to happen, and that’s there’s going to be a lot of variation from circuit to circuit and county to county, just based on local practices, priorities, discretion that’s given to prosecutors and who they seek to detain,” he said.

‘So has it increased crime?’

While both Smith and Olson said the dashboard is just an early step in the data-gathering process, Olson added there’s a lot more information to be gathered in the coming years before the end of cash bail can be fully evaluated.

“I think that the biggest question people are going to want to know is, ‘So has this increased crime?’” he said. “That’s still too early to know.”

Olson added that it’s important to differentiate between longstanding cyclical crime increases – such as more crime occurring in warmer weather – and actual effects of the policy. He also advised against extrapolating judgments about the system from any single instance of an individual being released from custody and going on to reoffend – because that also happened under cash bail.

“It’s still too early to say empirically, but there will likely be plenty of folks that talk about it anecdotally,” he said of cash bail’s effectiveness.

Olson’s CCJ also noted the law has had its intended effect of adding scrutiny to decisions affecting an individual’s liberty.

Bail hearings generally lasted about 4-6 minutes in four counties observed by the CCJ prior to Pretrial Fairness Act, according to a March CCJ report. After it passed, observed pretrial hearings averaged about 4-7 minutes – except in cases when detention was requested. Those hearings had median lengths of 10-30 minutes, with some lasting nearly an hour.

“That’s actually one of the positive things that we’ve we found is everybody in the courtroom, including the defendant, knows exactly why the judge is reaching the decision,” he said.

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which was approved earlier this month as part of the state’s budget for the upcoming fiscal year. That includes \$100 million in funding for construction at the site, \$200 million for a cryogenic facility and \$200 million in matching funds for federal grant programs. That’s on top of \$200 million the state spent on quantum computing four years ago.

The legislation signed Wednesday also opens up some existing programs to quantum computing companies, notably the Manufacturing Illinois Chips for Real Opportunity, or MICRO, program, created in 2022 to boost the semiconductor industry.

While site selection for the quantum campus is underway, it will likely be in or near Chicago, which is already home to the Chicago Quantum Exchange, a partnership between major universities in the region and Chicagoland’s two national labs, as well as the Bloch Quantum Tech Hub, a federally supported research hub. The city is also home to several quantum startups such as EeroQ, qBraid and memQ.

The technology has attracted significant attention – with governments around the world putting billions into researching it – for its potential to upend computing, communications and several fields of research.

Quantum technologies rely on the often counterintuitive behavior of subatomic particles, which exist in multiple positions at once until they are observed and can be “entangled” so that when an action is taken on one particle, the same effect is felt by another particle. These properties, if properly engineered, result in machines that can be orders of magnitude more powerful than building-sized supercomputers.

“Even modestly sized quantum computers can store more information than atoms in the observable universe,” David Awschalom, professor of quantum science and engineering at the University of Chicago, told Capitol News Illinois.

Other benefits of the technology when compared to traditional computing come from the speed at which it operates. In 2019, a research team at Google published a paper claiming that their computer conducted a task in 200 seconds that would have taken a modern supercomputer roughly 10,000 years to complete.

That machine utilized 53 qubits – short for quantum bit, the basic unit of information in computing. With each additional qubit, according to Awschalom, machines double in performance, leading to exponentially more powerful computers.

Last year, researchers at IBM unveiled what they say is a quantum computer chip with 1,121 qubits.

Still, the field is young enough that its future remains uncertain.

Quantum machines can be “noisy,” since simply observing their components causes them to change their behavior. This requires that the core pieces of

the machine be sealed off from the outside world, making a subfield of research into quantum error correction an unsolved technical issue.

At this early stage, it’s also hard to nail down exactly how quantum technology will be used. Awschalom said the development of quantum technology could be as impactful as early research into the transistor in the 1940s and 50s – a component that makes modern computers possible.

“No one at the time thought about integrated circuits, no one could see putting billions of them on a chip. That wasn’t even on people’s radar” he said. “Now what about GPS? Now what about my cell phone? So today with the birth of this new technology, one of the most exciting things is it’s likely the very highest impact things are still in front of us. We may not even see them yet.”

Pritzker said the state needs to capture the industry at this early stage – when few people can explain what a quantum computer is and practical use cases

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OP-ED

Independence Day

By Bob Evans Rockord University

Thursday is the day we celebrate our independence. We celebrate not only our birth as an independent nation, we renew our commitment to the great social contract proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence. We define ourselves by our belief in equality and our mutual pledge to each other to respect the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Most nations are defined by ethnicity, religion, or an ancient, common place or culture. Not us. Not Americans. Americans define themselves by the belief in an idea-the idea that the Declaration expresses fully and accurately the proper relationship between government and its citizens. Government is limited government, limited to the protection of our rights. In order to be an American all one has to do is to commit fully to the principles of the Declaration. America is the “creedal” nation.

Now have we always honored our commitment to the principles of the Declaration? Of course not. If only we had done so. The author of our sacred contract, as well as several other signers, enslaved fellow Americans, who in fact possessed these same natural rights. The trail of our history is littered with violations of our deepest principles.

But still the commitment persists, and must persist. We must strive always to honor our original commitment to the principles of the Declaration. We must strive finally to become what Lincoln termed “the last, best hope of mankind”.


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Henry

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continued many of the customs of the French, who had previously ruled the region, and guaranteed religious freedom and the right to own slaves.

But like the British and French before, Virginia found itself overwhelmed by the responsibility of the Illinois lands, now known as the American Bottom. The state was also preoccupied with the ongoing Revolution, which was closer to home.

In Illinois, Henry appointed John Todd, an ex-Indian fighter, as militia commander, to “befriend the French and Indians and to teach them the value of democracy.”

Henry, however, soon left Todd with no support, no money, and pile of unpaid bills, problems also encountered by Clark. In addition, Todd battled the increasing tensions between the headstrong Americans and the laid-back French, and resigned after only five months.

Power in Illinois eventually fell into the hands of John Dodge, a shady land speculator from Connecticut. With the backing of American authorities, Dodge declared himself the captain commandant and controlled Illinois with a heavy hand for most of the next six years, to the outrage of the French inhabitants.

The Virginia law creating the county of Illinois expired on Jan. 5, 1782, and chaos followed. In these years before ratification of the Constitution, the nation was tenuously bound by the Articles of Confederation, and western lands such as Illinois were left with no governing body and little means to enforce law. As a result, anarchy reigned in Illinois until 1790.

In addition, Virginia encouraged other colonies to give up their western extensions to create a so-called Northwest Territory, which could be nationalized and drawn into new states.

On March 1, 1784, Virginia ceded its possession to Illinois, which became part of the Northwest Territory in 1787 and achieved finally statehood in 1818.

Patrick Henry, meanwhile, was an opponent of the proposed U.S. Constitution, which he viewed as hostile to states’ rights. He turned down offers from President George Washington to become secretary of state and chief justice, and died in 1799.

Henry had another connection to Illinois that turned out better than his mediocre administration. He was also a cousin to the state’s second governor, Edward Coles, who is credited with the prevention of legalized slavery in Illinois.

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville, Ill. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.

4th of July

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Next came toasts to the nation itself, the current President, and the “memory of the brave who have fallen in the service to their country.” The eighth toast was to “the Army and Navy of the United States,” followed by “the militia of the United States” and “the state of Illinois – the garden of the Union.”

“Agriculture, commerce, and the arts” were the eleventh toast, with “internal improvement” as number twelve. The thirteenth and final toast was to “our fair countrywomen – daughters of freemen – fair virtuous, and happy.”

The thirteen standard toasts were followed by a string of “volunteer toasts,” ranging from “the sovereignty of the people” to Henry Clay to the Declaration of Independence. Other toasts were raised to the “youth of America,” the “Valley of the Mississippi,” Liberty, Democracy, “the free

sons of Columbia,” veterans of the Black Hawk war, “farmers and mechanics,” and the state printer.

Among the final toasts were to “modesty, beauty, virtue, and chastity, the characteristic graces of our fair,” as well as “the fair of Illinois” itself – “their smiles the only smiles we care for, their censure we all fear.” In all, at least thirty additional toasts were raised, though the Register offered no comments on the sobriety of the revelers.

At a celebration in Troy in 1844, the toasts came after a lengthy procession of around 1,800 people, “including a large number of ladies and several citizens from Edwardsville and Collinsville,” as if visitors from those communities were some sort of oddity.

Heading the procession were clergymen, orators on the schedule, and a citizen slated to read the Declaration of Independence. Next were musicians, followed by the “committee on arrangements,” “the ladies,” “the gentlemen,” and “the boys.” Where “the girls” were, however, was not clear.

Three years earlier in 1841, the Telegraph noted that an array of Fourth of July celebrations were coming up, particularly one in Upper Alton. There, wrote the paper, “the citizens... have made extensive arrangements for the celebration of the approaching anniversary of our independence. We hope our friends, without distinction of party, throughout the county, will have it in their power to attend.”

Others were heading to St. Louis to attend “the celebration of our National Birthday.” Transportation was provided by the steamer Eagle, which was scheduled to leave at 8 a.m. and “return the same evening should the passengers generally desire it.”

That year, July 4 fell on a Sunday, and since most holiday celebrations were not held on the Sabbath, the Upper Alton event was set for Saturday. The St. Louis affair was on Monday.

Celebrations often had a political tone, and sometimes turned raucous. In tiny Woodburn in Macoupin County in 1840, the Telegraph wrote of a national birthday celebration that was disrupted over politics, particularly a group that had staged their own festivities in nearby Bunker Hill “with considerable spirit, not the spirit of ’76, but that of a barrel of whiskey.”

Orations at Fourth of July celebrations in the era were heavily patriotic and reverent of the Revolution, which was around seventy years before. Revolutionary veterans were cherished in early nineteenth-century society in Illinois and elsewhere, especially on the Fourth of July.

On July 4, 1839, the Telegraph reprinted a lengthy address at the “Sabbath-school and temperance celebration in Upper Alton,” where the speaker noted that “the fourth of July, 1776, (was) a day ever memorable in the annals of nations and of mankind,” since on that day, “a free and independent nation” was born.

As he closed, the orator called for the United States to “be not only a great and powerful nation, but what is vastly better, a free and independent people.”

He added that we could “shine not like a deceptive glare that leads us astray, but as a steady beacon light to all the nations of the earth, and prove an incalculable blessing to individual man, throughout the human family.” Those words seem as important now as they were then, over 180 years ago.

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.

Illinois Made a Bold Promise to End Poverty in Alexander County, It’s Hard to Tell

State law dating back to 2020 sought to cut deep poverty in half by 2026, end it by 2036

*By Lylee Gibbs, Jamilah Lewis
Molly Parker & Julia Rendleman
Capitol News Illinois
& the Saluki Local Reporting Lab*

This story, produced in partnership with Southern Illinois University journalism students, was supported by grant funding from the Pulitzer Center.

Pink and purple toys line the living room of this tiny public housing apartment in Cairo at Illinois’ southern border. A doorway leads to the only other room: a small bedroom that Kaneesha Mallory shares with her 4-year-old daughter Bre’Chelle.

It’s not an ideal living situation. The public housing authority built the high-rise for seniors, not families.

But on an annual income of about \$15,000, it’s all the 34-year-old single mother can afford. She receives food stamps and disability benefits but those payments haven’t kept up with the rising cost of groceries and other essentials.

“It’s hard. I didn’t plan to live like this but such is life, you know?” Mallory said. “Because if I wanted to get another apartment somewhere out of housing, I would have a utility bill and the utility bill would be super freakin’ high.”

Her rural town of about 1,600 people has suffered one hit after another. It’s lost most of its public housing in recent years because of health and safety concerns. Cairo’s Head Start, where Mallory’s daughter attended, closed last year, leaving fewer options for child care and early education services. The town lost its sole nursing home during the pandemic. And while Cairo celebrated the opening of a co-op grocery store last year, there’s still no place to fill up a car with gas.

In 2020, Gov. JB Pritzker and lawmakers pledged to help people like Mallory and the communities they call home.

Through passage of a law known as the Intergenerational Poverty Act, they decreed an ambitious plan: to cut deep and persistent poverty by 50 percent by 2026, lift all children from poverty by 2031 and eliminate poverty entirely in Illinois by 2036.

This law created a 25-member commission made up of private and public sector officials to study the root causes of poverty and racial disparities that plague many of Illinois’ poorest communities, including their lack of safe, affordable housing, high unemployment rates and child care shortages.

But like most of the commissions and blue-ribbon panels that lawmakers create, it has no authority to fix the problems it finds. It can only make recommendations to lawmakers and the governor.

Pritzker’s agenda has aligned with much of what the group has proposed, such as increasing funding for early childhood education and creating for the first time in Illinois a \$50 million state-level child tax credit similar to what the federal government offers families, which was included in the state budget that

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Poverty

from page 4

passed last month. Collectively, those plans provide funding for 5,000 state-supported preschool seats next year and give qualifying families with children up to age 12 a tax credit that's equal to 20 percent of the state's Earned Income Tax Credit.

The state, under Pritzker's leadership, has also increased funding for low-income college students, increased the cash assistance paid to eligible families under what's known as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and expanded the number of working parents eligible for child care subsidies, among other initiatives, according to a spokesperson for the Illinois Department of Human Services.

But bolder and more controversial policy ideas supported by some on the commission, such as extending coverage to tipped workers under the state's minimum wage laws and establishing a statewide guaranteed income for families who live in poverty – state aid they could spend with no strings attached – have not gained significant traction. Communities like Cairo that have suffered decades of economic decline have seen little relief.

And the commission, which has seven vacancies, is a long way from meeting its goals.

In fact, financial problems are worsening for many families as pandemic-era enhanced benefits sunset in the face of rising inflation.

'What's your plan...?'

Few places are immune to poverty, but rural counties in southern and central Illinois struggle the most. And perhaps nowhere experiences these challenges as deeply as Cairo.

A majority Black town steeped in history at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, Cairo is the government seat of Alexander County. It's the poorest county in Illinois and the fastest depopulating in America. Today, the county is home to about 5,000 people, down from a high of over 25,000 in 1940.

Cairo Mayor Thomas Simpson said he'd never heard of the commission on poverty elimination, though it did hold a listening session in the town in March 2023.

"We need to know, okay, what's your plan to get us out of poverty," Simpson said. "What (are) you gonna do for us down here in Cairo? I'm working on rebuilding Cairo, so how can we work together to make things happen."

Simpson said his community suffers from a lack of industry and small businesses. The state, he said, should take advantage of the region's natural resources.

"I mean, you look at river, rail and of course we've got the waterways out here. ... A lot of things can happen here and we've got space for it," Simpson said.

There have been efforts to uplift Cairo, but they've fallen short.

One of the latest came in August 2020, when Pritzker joined local officials to announce \$40 million in state support to jump start construction of a port just west of Cairo on the Mississippi River, near the confluence. The governor billed the project as an economic lifeline for Cairo and the surrounding area.

"This is more than just a port," Pritzker said that day. "It's also fuel for new jobs and newfound economic prosperity all across this region, a region that's been left out and left behind for far too long."

But the project, which was supposed to be operational this year, has faced numerous delays. Local officials say planning work and environmental studies are underway, but no timeline has been given for construction to start.

'They can't find a place to stay'

Alongside an expansion of industry and jobs, Cairo officials say they need places for people to live at a variety of price points.

"We have a crisis in southern Illinois for affordable housing, especially in areas such as Alexander County," said state Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, who sits on the commission.

That crisis was apparent on a Tuesday night in early April, when dozens of Cairo citizens, including Mallory, filled the blue lunch tables in the high school gymnasium for a meeting about the town's housing needs.

The conversation sounded like one that might be heard after a hurricane or large-scale fire pushed people from their homes. "We've had a lot of folks displaced. And of course, a lot of folks want to come home," Simpson said at the top of the meeting. But the housing crisis here is human-made.

Citing safety issues and no money for repairs after local officials misspent it, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has closed five large housing complexes in the county since 2019. That eliminated most of the subsidized apartment units that had been available only five short years ago.

Residents forced to move from their apartments received vouchers to help subsidize their rents in privately owned homes and apartments. But due to the severe lack of housing in the county, most have moved 30 miles or more away to mid-size communities in Illinois and neighboring Kentucky and Missouri.

The town begged for help replacing some of its lost housing, but the government is no longer in the business of building public housing. Instead, state and federal programs now rely on private and nonprofit developers who use complex tax-credit deals to build housing.

And though Fowler said the commission supports an expansion of affordable housing in Illinois, including for southern Illinois, these tax-credit housing models are challenging to make work in disadvantaged rural communities, as they struggle to operate at the scale needed for financial sustainability.

The housing crisis in Cairo is widespread, affecting people across the income spectrum. Home prices are low compared to the statewide average, but they often need thousands of dollars in repairs.

"When I moved back home eight years ago, I had to stay with my sister in the projects until I found somewhere to live," said Lisa Thomas, a fifth-grade teacher at a nearby elementary school. "When I finally found somewhere to live, it took a lot of money to actually get my home into a livable condition. And so that's some of the things that you're finding, people stay with other people, because they can't find a place to stay."

Looking for solutions

Christopher Merrett, director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University, said that while communities must shoulder much of their own recovery work, it's unrealistic to think they can do it without help.

"It's really hard to think beyond that day-to-day and week-to-week basis," he said. "Hard to get that mindset that you should be thinking a year out, five

years out, because you're just so busy trying to keep a roof over your head and over your family's head."

Merrett is not on the poverty commission but his institute is helping Cairo officials with economic development planning. It starts, he said, with changing attitudes.

"There's kind of a negative narrative about rural communities," Merrett said. "We're trying to help change the way people think about the community, because many communities have been in population decline for decades."

Audra Wilson, the poverty commission's co-chair and the president and CEO of the Chicago-based Shriver Center on Poverty Law, said the group also hopes to reframe the discussion around poverty, emphasizing systemic failures and policy decisions that have let people and communities down rather than assigning blame for their circumstances.

Rural areas, in particular, lack the resources they need, Wilson said, and the commission acknowledges that. But often, she added, there are programs to help that people do not know about. Part of the commission's work is studying how to more effectively connect people to existing benefits.

Indeed, there are community-based programs in Alexander County. For instance, every Wednesday, several dozen people line up single-file in a Cairo parking lot and await the arrival of a bus filled with groceries. This "mobile food pantry" service is provided by Arrowleaf, a local nonprofit.

But getting the word out is hard, said Sherrie Crabb, Arrowleaf's chief executive. "We do have some resources, but it's just trying to find ways to educate individuals that may not use regular means of communication that you see in other areas," Crabb said.

'They don't care'

As for the commission's future, with an impending goal of cutting deep poverty in half in less than two years, it continues to meet and develop policy solutions that it plans to present to the governor and lawmakers.

Wilson acknowledged that broader anti-poverty work is still needed. However, there have been some attempts at larger undertakings.

For instance, the state has earmarked \$13 million over three years for a guaranteed income pilot program known as the Illinois Stability Investment in Family Housing program. It's a joint effort between the poverty commission and two additional state committees tackling homelessness and hunger.

Under the pilot program, 1,125 families, selected by lottery, have received \$9,500 each – one-time payments they can spend as they see fit. To qualify, individuals had to be experiencing homelessness, receiving services for housing stability and be pregnant or have at least one child living with them. It is operating in eight regions of the state – in Chicago and the surrounding areas, central Illinois and the Metro East – though families south of the St. Louis metropolitan area are not eligible.

The state has partnered with the Inclusive Economy Lab at the University of Chicago to design and evaluate the program. Preliminary findings are expected late next year, IDHS said.

Wilson said the no-strings-attached cash assistance "has been a huge game changer." But these programs have strong detractors and statewide implementation would face significant hurdles. Asked if the Pritzker administration supports some form of a guaranteed income program, the IDHS spokesperson said that it is committed to working with lawmakers and other policy experts to "explore all options to help lift people out of poverty."

Other big questions also remain unresolved, like

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SERVBANK, SB, PLAINTIFF,
VS. NO. 2024 FC 31

LEAH MILLS; XAVIER MILLS; MARINER FINANCE, LLC;
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UN-
KNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
DEFENDANTS.

4116 CORNFLOWER ROAD
POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065

JUDGE PRESIDING JUDGE

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,

Xavier Mills Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

LOT ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SIX (146) AS DESIGNATED UPON WEST GROVE SUBDIVISION PLAT NO. 2, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTH HALF (1/2) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (1/4), PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) AND PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (1/4), ALL IN SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AUGUST 25, 2005, AS DOCUMENT NO. 2005R09773 IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 4116 Cornflower Road
Poplar Grove, IL 61065

and which said Mortgage was made by,
Leah Mills and Xavier Mills

Mortgagor(s), to

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First Centennial Mortgage Corp.

Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2017R06339; and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before July 22, 2024, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

You have been sued. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Notice called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Notice can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC

Attorney for Plaintiff

1 N. Dearborn St. Suite 1200

Chicago, IL 60602

Ph. (312) 346-9088

File No. 24-18154IL-1057857

13246209

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/20, 27, July 4, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOONE COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, 1212 Logan Ave, Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following petitions:

The applicant, Wayde Priest (property owner), is seeking a variance to construct an accessory building within the front yard setback. A setback of seventy-five (75) feet down to zero (0) feet. A variation of seventy-five feet in the A-1 Agriculture Conservation District, pursuant to 2.8 (Variations) and Section 3.2.4 (Lot Development Standards) of Section 3.2 (A-1, Agriculture Preservation District) and 5.2 (Accessory Structures or Use) of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance, at 8311 Centerville Road, PIN 04-09-300-006, in unincorporated Boone Township, Boone County, Illinois.

The applicant, Jeff Leeson, is seeking a variance to construct an accessory building in excess size and height of what is permitted in the RE, Exurban Residential District, 4,950 square feet up to 9,584 square feet in size and height from 20' feet up to 40' feet, pursuant to 2.8 (Variations) and Section 3.4.4 (Lot Development Standards) of Section 3.4 (RE, Exurban Residential District) and 5.2 (Accessory Structures or Use) of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance, at 39 Lovesee Road, PIN's 03-06-100-013 and 03-06-100-016, in unincorporated Caledonia Township, Boone County, Illinois.

All persons interested may appear at the hearing and be heard at the stated time and place.

Craig Hale, Chair, Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals

Published in the Boone County Journal on Thursday July 4, 2024.

Pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, notice is hereby given that the storage facility listed below will sell at public auction the personal property in the below listed occupants' leased spaces to satisfy the owner's lien. The personal property stored therein by the following occupants may include but is not limited to general household, office and personal items, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances. The unit will be sold at public auction through online auction services of <https://www.storageauctions.com> with bids opening at 10:00 AM on 07/10/2024 and closing at 10:00 AM on 07/19/2024. Strovo Management LLC d/b/a Belvidere Storage, 810 W. Locust Street, Belvidere, IL. 61008 Phone (815) 337-7398

Unit # 80 Favian Bennett,

Unit # 101 Megan Smith,

Published in The Boone County Journal July 4 and July 11, 2024

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
BOONE COUNTY

Date For Request Of Name Change (Adult): Gina Lee Bye

Case No. 2024-MR-11

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from: GINA LEE BYE to the new name of GINA LEE GLASER. The court date will be held on 08/13/2024 at 9:15 a.m. at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 in Courtroom #3 Published in the Boone County Journal – 06/27, 07/04, 07/11 (P)

VILLAGE OF CAPRON, ILLINOIS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Village of Capron, Illinois Committee of the Whole/Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on July 23, 2024, at 6:45 p.m., at Capron Village Hall, 250 W. Main Street, Capron, IL 61012 to consider the following agenda item:

1.) A request for a variance for the property commonly known as 314 N. Wooster Street, Capron, Illinois, and with PIN No. 04-03-400-021, proposing a variance under Section 10-3-4 of the Village of Capron's Code of Ordinances, to allow for construction of an accessory structure at 314 N. Wooster Street, Capron, Illinois, when the property will have no primary structure.

Filed by Lucas Miller 314 N. Wooster Street, Capron, IL 61012.

Members of the public are invited to attend this public hearing, at which time an opportunity will be given to address the members of the Committee of the Whole.

Dated: July 1, 2024

/s/ Thomas A. Green, Village Attorney

Published in the Boone County Journal July 4, 2024.

ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. DBA4199 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a GRAPHIC DESIGN business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of IN THEORY CREATIVE that its location is or will be 427 STONE HOLLOW DRIVE, in Poplar Grove, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

Phone Number: 970-581-5324

Elizabeth Anne Lewis, 427 Stone Hollow Drive, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065

I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: June 25, 2024

Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder

Published in Boone County Journal 6/27, 7/4, 7/11/24 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. DBA4200 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a FARM STAND business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of THE FARM STAND that its location is or will be 9845 U.S. Highway 20, in Garden Prairie, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

Phone Number: 815-378-9183

Thomas J Berry, 9845 U.S. Highway 20, Garden Prairie, Illinois 61038

Randall J. Anderson, 5028 Walnut Grove Dr., Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065

I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: June 26, 2024

Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder

Published in Boone County Journal 6/27, 07/04, 11 P.

CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF
BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on JUNE 28th A.D. 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as BLISS HAIR 1 STUDIO, located at 207 NORTH STATE ST., BELVIDERE, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: Business has been dissolved in Boone County, IL as of the above date,

Dated this 28th day of June, A.D. 2024

Julie A. Bliss

Boone County Clerk

Published in the Boone County Journal 7/4, 7/11, 7/18/2024 (P)

Poverty

from page 5

how to help places like Cairo reverse decades of economic decline.

If the major industries that supported the town are gone, "Where do people go? And where do they work?" Wilson said. "These are things that you have to think about in its entirety if you're going to really be lifting families out of poverty."

Despite the challenges that Cairo faces, it's still home for Mallory and others like her working to rebound their town. Even as others have left, Cairo is the place she wants to live – a powerful draw, rooted in deep connections.

"I want her to be raised in Cairo because this is where our family (is)," Mallory said of her daughter. "My granny, my younger sister, those are my rocks, those are my heartbeats, those are my like, to get me through each and every single day."

But, she said, it feels like policymakers could do more to help her community.

"Well past Springfield," she said, echoing a common refrain around town, "they don't care about us."

Incentives

from page 3

are still theoretical – to avoid repeating mistakes made 30 years ago with the internet. He pointed out that the first web browser and early internet startups like PayPal and YouTube were created in Illinois.

"We were poised in the early 90s and late 80s to be the leading state for development of the internet and most people had no idea what the internet was in 1990..." Pritzker said. "Nobody in the state had a strategy for 'how do we keep those companies or the development of that industry in Illinois?' There was no strategy and it got up and left."

In an application for a funding designation from the federal government, the Bloch Quantum Tech Hub – Chicago's federally supported research hub – claimed that by 2035, it would generate "\$8.7B in annual economic output and create 5,300-8,000 high-paying jobs."

Incentives for green tech, film, R&D

The Pritzker administration and Illinois lawmakers' attention to quantum computing mirrors state involvement in other industries, such as electric vehicles, semiconductors and the film industry.

Under one of the newest of these, the Reimagining Energy and Vehicles Program, the state has given \$1 billion in credits to 10 manufacturing companies in Illinois that have some connection to the electric vehicle industry or renewable energy. These deals are expected to create 4,600 new jobs and require companies to retain 7,200 existing jobs, according to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

The law signed Wednesday expands the program to now include companies in their research and development phases, steel manufacturers with net zero carbon emissions and companies that build electric aircraft.

Intersect Illinois, an economic development agency created by then-Gov. Bruce Rauner, has brokered many of the largest business deals in the state since its creation 8 years ago. Its chairman told Capitol News Illinois that tax credit programs are a "key part" of the state's toolkit, but not the only reason companies set up shop in the state.

"State incentives such as the REV (Reimagining Energy and Vehicles) Act have helped to attract significant investment and thousands of good paying jobs from EV companies including Rivian, Gotion and TCCI," Intersect Illinois chair John Atkinson said in a statement. "At the same time, those companies noted the state's infrastructure and workforce as reasons for growing here, along with state support – it's the complete package."

Pritzker defended this industry-specific model of economic development as a way to give Illinois the edge in industries where the state has a "right to win" and expand the number of industries Illinois can rely on during economic downturns.

"When we go through difficult economic times as a nation or across the world, Illinois tends not to get, you know, drawn down as much as some other places that have one or two industries that they rely upon," Pritzker said Wednesday.

In addition to programs boosting Illinois' industrial strategy, the new law also expands one of Illinois' most popular and longest-running tax credit programs.

The Economic Development for a Growing Economy program, or EDGE, created 25 years ago to incentivize business relocation and expansion, will now offer 15-year benefits packages for companies set to create over 100 jobs, five years longer than what is currently offered.

In 2022, the most recent year for which data is available, the program handed out \$38.2 million in credits to 38 companies around the state, according to reports filed with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

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