

A Few Minutes with the Boss

By: Joe Andalina

Legislative issues of interest

Ah, the 98th General Assembly is back in business. To get away from pensions for a while, these are two recent bills that may be of interest to many of you.

1. IL BB4464, sponsored by Representative Robert Prichard, R-Sycamore

Summary

Amends the Unified Code of Corrections. Provides that a prisoner serving a sentence for aggravated battery by causing great bodily harm or permanent disability or disfigurement to an individual whom the person knows to be a peace officer, community policing volunteer, fireman, private security officer, correctional institution employee, or Department of Human Services employee supervising or controlling sexually dangerous persons or sexually violent persons: (1) performing his or her official duties; (2) battered to prevent performance of his or her official duties; or (3) battered in retaliation for performing his or her official duties shall receive no more than 4.5 days of sentence credit for each month of his or her sentence of imprisonment.

Obviously this is a good bill. One of MAP's Board of Director's, John Holiday, from DeKalb County drove to Springfield on February 26, 2014, to meet and testify with the Judicial Committee in order to get this legislation passed.

John will write a follow up in the near future that will appear on our website/Facebook page. MAP's Executive Secretary also penned letter of support to Representative Pritchard , which will also be posted.

If successful, this bill would ensure that qualified offenders of aggravated battery would have to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence.

2. SB3411, sponsored by Senator Andy Manar, D-48th District, and co-sponsored by Senators Linda Holmes, D-42nd District; Michael Connelly, R-21st District; Terry Link, D-30th District; Dan Duffy, R-26th District; and Kwame Raoul, D-13th District.

Synopsis as introduced

Amends the Counties Code and the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a county or municipality may not require a law enforcement officer to issue a specific number of citations or warnings within a designated period of time. Provides that a county or municipality may not, for purposes of evaluating a law enforcement officer's job performance, compare the numbers of citations or warnings issued by the law enforcement officer to the number of citations or warnings issued by any other law enforcement officer who has similar job duties. Limits home rule powers. Amends the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act. Provides that it shall be an unfair labor practice to require a peace officer to perform a duty that conflicts with the provisions of the amendatory Act.

In a nutshell, this could resolve a particular police administration from implementing any sort of “quota ticket” system by preventing comparisons of one officer to another. If this law is violated, it then becomes the basis for an unfair labor practice.

MAP will be following this bill also, as we obviously feel it can be beneficial to officers everywhere. We shall keep you posted.

Stay safe, and *vita é Bella*.