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Just the Facts

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

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www.justthefacts.net

SAF-T-Act provisions on hold statewide, more than 180 new Illinois laws go into effect

More than 180 laws and regulations became effective January 2023 and two former taxes will again be paid by residents, but parts of the law that received the most press last year are on hold.

The cashless bail portion of the SAFE-T (Safety Accountability, Fairness, and Equity-Today) Act was put on hold by the Illinois Supreme Court Saturday afternoon - just hours before it was to take effect Sunday.

The action came after 21st Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Thomas W. Cunnington on Wednesday ruled that the bail reform and pretrial release provisions violated the Illinois Constitution. Cunnington ruled that the 65 of Illinois' 102 counties which filed suit against the act would not have to enforce those provisions.

On Saturday, states attorneys from DuPage and Kane counties filed an emergency motion to suspend the law until the high court can decide the matter. The state's high court ruled that removing the cash bail component would take power from state judges and allowed the motion, writing, "In order to maintain consistent pretrial proce-

Illinois gas, grocery taxes back

Gas prices have been going down but Illinois drivers can expect to see two increases in the state's gas tax this year.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker, as part of the state's 2023 fiscal year budget, put on hold for six months the mandatory gas tax that is tied to inflation. The increase, which should have become effective last July, was waived for six months.

Slated to cost drivers 2.2 center per gallon, the new amount was calculated using the Department of Labor Consumer Price Index for All urban Consumers increased over a 12-month period, which ended September 1, 2022. That number was 8.2 percent, bring the tax to about 3.2 cents per gallon, resulting in a total state fuel tax of 42.4 cents per gallon for unleaded gas.

On July 1, the annual tax increase for the 2024 fiscal year, will go into effect. Part of the Rebuild Illinois infrastructure program, will go into effect. Part of the Rebuild Illinois infrastructure program, will go into effect. Part of the Rebuild Illinois infrastructure program, will go into effect.
See TAXES on other side

dures throughout Illinois, the effective date of the Pretrial Fairness Act is stayed during the pendency of the appeal ... and until further order of this Court."

As the sides wrangle with the SAF-T-Act, other laws took effect with little fanfare, including:

HB 00209: Bans latex gloves for the use of handling and preparing food.

HB 00568: Allows the Comptroller's Office to establish an interactive map on the Comptroller's website that provides the location and annual financial information of taxing bodies.

HB 00601: Expands the definition of the crime of possessing burglary tools to include devices to unlock or start a vehicle without a key and duplicating a signal from a key fob of a vehicle.

HB 02775: Aims to make it easier for low-income families to find housing by declaring that it is a civil rights violation for any person engaging in real estate transactions to discriminate based on source of income.

HB 03118: Prohibits commercial applicators from applying a barrier mosquitocide between Oct. 16 and April 14 unless it's for public health purposes or the Department of Agriculture determines there is a significant unmet need.

HB 03296: Requires school boards to establish a career and technical education pathway program for grades 6 through 12.

HB 03465: Requires the Department of Corrections to hire reentry specialists for every jail and correctional institution or facility, regardless of whether these institutions or facilities have access to a reentry program.

HB 03772: Provides people whose cars were stolen are not be liable for violations, fees, fines or penalties when caught on red light cameras or speed cameras.

HB 04386: Allows single fire rifles to be used for deer hunting in Illinois. Brings Illinois into parity with other Midwest states.

HB 04729: Tasks the Illinois Department of Public Health with developing and implementing a statewide

firearm storage and safety campaign that will include public messaging, distribution of gun locks and safes and buyback programs in partnership with law enforcement.

HB 04766: Designates Aug. 1 as Sweet Corn Appreciation Day.

HB 04798: Allows currently enrolled educator students in Illinois with 90 credit hours to qualify for a substitute teaching license.

HB 05026: Removes "Susan G. Komen Foundation" from mammogram license plates and the money collected will be paid to the Illinois Department of Public Health for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program to provide patient
See LAWS on other side

SNOW REMOVAL



217-304-7751

Smoked BBQ
 at
Rossville Family Restaurant
 Saturday, Jan. 7th & Sunday, Jan. 8th
 Smoked Pulled Pork, Ribs,
 Brisket & Burnt Ends
 715 S. Chicago (217) 748-6201

Briefly

Koffee & Konversation

Hoopston Methodist Church will hold Koffee & Konversation at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Free coffee, sweets and conversation. All are welcome!

Obituaries

KNIGHT - Edward James "Ed" Knight, 76, of Catlin, died at 8:13 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022, at home. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. celebration of his life Saturday at Blurton Funeral Home, Potomac. Military honors will be conducted by Potomac American Legion. He was cremated. Burial will be at a later date in Gundy Cemetery, Bismarck. Memorials are suggested to donor's choice. Condolences may be shared at www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com.

THOMAS - Dennis Thomas, 71, of Hoopston, died at 5:34 p.m. Friday, December 23, 2022, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. He was cremated. Private burial will be at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society, the Alzheimer's Association or donor's choice. Anderson Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.anderson-funeral-home.com.

Taxes continued from other side

structure legislation, the law increased the tax from 19 cents - where it had been for two decades - to 38 cents per gallon, with annual increases tied to the CPI annual increase.

Also in July, residents can wave goodbye to the one-year moratorium on the one percent grocery tax. Pritzker suspended the tax on "food for human consumption that is to be consumed off the premises where it is sold," and did not apply to alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, candy and food prepared for immediate consumption.

Money from the grocery tax returns to the municipality where it was generated. Last June, Ald. Bob Porth, city finance committee chairman, said the tax moratorium would cost Hoopston about \$93,000.

Before the waiver was approved by the General Assembly, Pritzker said he would look for other funding sources for municipalities losing the sales tax. Porth said a letter from Pritzker detailing the plan did not include a way of paying municipalities for the lost income.

Illinois is one of 13 states that imposes a grocery tax. At one percent, it is at the lower end of the scale with only Arkansas lower, at .125 percent. Mississippi is highest at seven percent.

At the library

Littles @ The Library 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Pre-school story, craft and play time for children from birth to age 5 and their caregivers.

Coffee, Craft & Conversation 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays. Crochet, knit, sew and other needlecraft, along with those who do other portable handcrafts are invited. !

HMA activities

Women's Morning Donut Group meets at 8:15 a.m. Wednesdays in the large room at Multi Agency.

Card group meets Wednesday for euchre starting 12:30.

For more information on Multi Agency programs, call (217) 283-5544 or stop by 206 S. First Ave.

Birthday open house

An open House to celebrate Irene Mau's 90th birthday will be held from 2-5 p.m. January 14 at Chestnut Street Church of Christ, 709 E. Chestnut, Hoopston. Please come and help Irene celebrate her 90th birthday.

Lunch Menus

Maple/John Greer

TUESDAY: Mini corn dogs, tator tots, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk

WEDNESDAY: Cheese quesadilla, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Ravioli, Max Stick, baby carrots, salad, peaches, milk

FRIDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, Veggy Juice, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopston Area Middle School

TUESDAY: Chicken strips, veggies, broccoli, applesauce, milk

WEDNESDAY: Ravioli, Max Stick, salad, veggies, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Mini corn dog, baked beans, veggies, peaches, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopston Area High School

TUESDAY: Chicken strips or hot ham & cheese, broccoli, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

WEDNESDAY: Ravioli or BBQ rib/un, Max Stick, salad bar, pears, milk, juice

THURSDAY: Mini corn dog or cheeseburger, baked beans, salad bar, peaches, milk, juice

FRIDAY: Pizza or fish sandwich, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk, juice

Laws continued from other side

navigation services.

HB 05078: Expands the list of people eligible to receive a Gold Star Family License Plate to include stepchildren, adopted children, and half-siblings of veterans who died serving in a branch of the United States Armed Forces.

HB 05193: Adds safe gun storage to the required topics for safety education instruction that may be conducted by public school boards and all boards in charge of educational institutions.

HB 05265: Requires school districts to waive all school fees for students experiencing homelessness.

HB 05304: Reduces the vehicle registration fee for senior citizens from \$24 to \$10.

HB 05400: Allows the Illinois Department of Agriculture to issue Future Farmers of America decals for Universal special license plates.

SB 00692: Creates the Coal Tar Sealant Act, which requires public schools and districts, day cares, and state agencies to disclose prior to any application of a coal tar-based or high PAH sealant. It also requires anyone planning to use coal tar-based sealant to look into cleaner alternatives.

From the Blotter

Both people involved in a domestic situation were arrested after police were called at 3:35 a.m. Friday to the 800 block of East Wyman.

After investigating, Amanda Merhley, 40, and Brian Literski, 48, both of Hoopston, were each charged with domestic battery and taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

James F. Shoulders III, 48, of Hoopston, was arrested after police were called at 6:07 p.m. Saturday to Tedd's Beverage, 101 W. Main, for a reported theft.

Shoulders was located, charged with retail theft, and released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County Court.

Fire Calls

Hoopston Fire Department was called at 8:45 p.m. Saturday for the smell of smoke in the 600 block of East Penn. Nothing was found.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms, then showers today. High 64. Tonight, cloudy. Low 37. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 42, low 30.

For real time Hoopston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

alternatives.

SB 01571: Changes the Illinois Municipal Code so that the fee paid to foreign fire insurance board by institutions not incorporated under the laws of the state shall be exactly 2% of gross receipts with allowance for legal action if this does not occur.

SB 01698: Increases the taxable wage base by 2.4% annually beginning in 2023 until 2027 and targeted Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund solvency balance from \$1 billion to \$1.75 billion. Establishes terms for a \$450 million interest-free loan to the UI Trust Fund from the State Treasury.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

MILFORD CROSSROADS YOUTH CENTER is seeking a DIRECTOR., Flexible Hours. Working with youth in grades 2-10. Applications available at Milford Building & Loan, Milford Village Hall or on Facebook at Milford Crossroads Youth Center . Contact Rod at (815) 471-4634. Immediate start date.

Fast Lanes looking for weekend Breakfast waitress and cooks. May lead into other days or nights! We also need night waitresses. MUST be available for weekend shifts. Experience helpful! Stop in and get an application! No phone calls/FB messages.

First Christian Church has immediate opening for a secretary, Tuesday-Thursday 8 am-noon. Send a Resume to FCC, PO Box 115, Hoopston, IL. 60942

City of Hoopston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications will be ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers.

Cade's Heating and Air seeks a HVAC service/ installer tech. IL DR license required and Freon license preferred. Must have mechanical ability. HVAC experience preferred. send resume to: ramcade@frontier.com:101 E Penn St. Hoopston, Starting pay based on experience.

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Operators. Please apply online at: <https://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12655>

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12464/0

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is HIRING, starting pay \$18/hour. Apply at www.full-fill.com or applications available onsite. EOE

Silgan Containers is hiring for an Electrician-Industrial/Maintenance position. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12406/0