Barickman cosponsors bills to aid investigation, fight corruption

**Aim is to reduce political corruption**

BLOOMINGTON—With a seemingly never-ending stream of news involving investigations and charges against Illinois lawmakers, State Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) is co-sponsoring a package of bills aimed at stopping corruption and making it easier to investigate wrongdoing.

“Illinois has a long and dark history of government corruption that shows no signs of stopping,” said Barickman. “These bills have two simple goals, to make it harder for elected officials to commit crimes, and to empower inspectors and investigators to root out those who continue to break the law.”

The legislative package focuses on two main objectives: enhancing investigative authority within existing laws and ensuring legislators are serving the public’s interest.

While Illinois already has some strong anti-corruption laws in place, many of them are rendered toothless because the appropriate authorities aren’t given adequate ability to investigate wrongdoing.

To address these shortcomings, the legislative package proposes the following enhancements:

- **Senate Bill 4012**: Allows the Attorney General to impanel a statewide grand jury to investigate, indict and prosecute bribery and misconduct by members of the General Assembly.
- **Senate Bill 4013**: Provides states attorneys with wiretap authority.
- **Senate Bill 4014**: Grants the Legislative Inspector General the ability to investigate members of the General Assembly without first receiving approval from the Legislative Ethics Commission, and changes the composition of the Legislative Ethics Commission to make them all members of the general public rather than legislators.

The anti-corruption legislative package also includes measures to ensure that legislators serve the public’s interest and not their own pocketbooks. Proposals include:

- **Senate Bill 4015**: Bans legislators from lobbying other branches of state government or units of local government for compensation.
- **Senate Bill 4016**: Creates a revolving door lobbyist-to-legislator prohibition for one year after leaving office, or until the end of the current term, whichever is longer.
- **Senate Bill 4017**: Prohibits a legislator from leaving office and continuing to use their campaign fund to support lobbying activities. Also prevents an appointee to a board or commission that is confirmed by the Senate from fundraising for or donating from their campaign committee while serving as an appointed public official.
- **Senate Bill 4018**: Updates the Statement of Economic Interests to enhance the disclosure of potential conflicts of interest.

Barickman noted that he is optimistic that the General Assembly will take action on the legislation during the upcoming fall veto session.

“With recent news of the lobbying scandal involving ComEd and charges filed against lawmakers over other issues in recent months and years, it’s clear we need to take action now,” said Barickman. “We have time to take action right now to return accountability to state government and to help restore the people’s confidence in their elected officials.”
Weather


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

Briefly

COVID-19 tests
A state mobile testing team is scheduled to be at Hoopeston Area High School parking lot from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Testing is open to adults and children, Illinois or Indiana residents, with or without symptoms. Insurance information will be collected for billing, but there is no cost for testing. Insurance is not required for testing. Results will be available in 4-7 days.

Magical Express canceled
Due to COVID-19, Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce has canceled its annual Magical Express Christmas event for this year. Organizers are planning to hold the seasonal favorite in 2021.

Blood drive
American Red Cross will hold a blood drive Friday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 915 E. Orange, Hoopeston. American Red Cross’ COVID-19 antibody testing is still underway, so all donations made that day will be tested. Donors can schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Trick or treat hours
Hoopeston Police Department announced that trick or treat hours will be 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Youngsters are encouraged to be cautious and courteous and to treat hours will be 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Youngsters are encouraged to be cautious and courteous and to follow COVID-19 standards.

Food cupboard needs
Grant Township Food Cupboard is in need of bath supplies, soap, tuna, crackers, tomato sauce, canned vegetables and sters are encouraged to be cautious and courteous and to treat hours will be 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Youngsters are encouraged to be cautious and courteous and to follow COVID-19 standards.

From the Blotter
A 17-year-old Hoopeston boy was arrested Wednesday for a theft reported Tuesday, when a 47-year-old Hoopeston woman reported a sign was stolen from her yard in the 600 block of East Lincoln. They boy was cited for theft and was issued a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

HELP WANTED
Greene Galvanized Stairs is looking for personnel to work in our sheet metal manufacturing facility. Applicants should have their high school diploma or equivalent, be able to comply with appropriate dress and safety protocols for a manufacturing environment and pass an arithmetic screening and pre-employment drug screening. Apply in person at Greene Galvanized Stairs, 4177 Mundell, East Lynn, Illinois, Monday thru Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

KSI in Cissna Park is seeking a qualified Controls Technician for project site start-ups and in-field customer training for controls systems. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication, electrical, technical, and troubleshooting skills. An understanding of PLCs and HMI applications is preferred. Travel is required. Apply online at www.ksiedge.com or send resume to hr@ksiedge.com.

 Vermilion County Animal Shelter is hiring kennel workers, full and part time available! Email ksnider@vercountygov.org or visit www.vercountygov.org/jobs_general.htm for an application.

Dogtown Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email brad.dogtown@gmail.com

United Prairie-Hoopeston has openings for Fall help for the following: CDL Drivers, CDL Cleaners. Please pick up applications at 18978 E 3850 North Rd, Hoopeston, IL 60942. For more information, please call the office, 217-888-0164 or Jordan Reese, manager, 217-915-2576.


Cade’s Heating and Air HVAC installer/ service tech. must have valid IL drivers license and EPA from license. Please send resume to cromacade@frontier.com or 101 E Penn St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

Private in home caregiver 5 days/week from 7 to 11 for female patient with dementia. Hoopeston area. Must be able to use lift equipment and pass background checks. Call Tracey at 765 490 9642. May test for contact.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking full time and seasonal help. Requirements include at least a Class B CDL and ability to pass a drug test. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Weather

Greatly appreciated.

Alley cleanup scheduled
Alley cleanup will begin Monday, Oct. 19, weather permitting, for yard waste ONLY. This includes bush, leaves, and grass. NO concrete, brick, lumber, or landscape materials.

If any of those items are in the pile, the pile will not be picked up.

Classifieds

Teasdale Latin Foods has immediate openings on 2nd shift in both Distribution and Manufacturing. Pay to be determined based on experience level. Stop by the Human Resources office at 215 W. Washington Street, Hoopeston, for more detail. Please no phone calls.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bottled salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 152 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL is offering many job opportuni- ties for full-time and part-time positions. We offer full-time posi- tions with a full benefit package. 1st and 2nd shifts are available. We also offer a unique opportunity to choose the schedule that fits your lifestyle - choose to work 1, 2, or 3 days a week. Candidates must be 18 years old, and you can pick your shift. Machine Operators are needed for 1st & 2nd shift.

We offer a part-time flexible work schedule for Moms & Dads who want to earn extra cash during school hours, with an 8 am - 4:30 pm schedule to fit the needs of your family. If you are interested in applying for a growing company, please apply on-line at www.full-fill.com go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

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HOOPLESTON: 822 E. Main, Fri., & Sat. 9-2. Huge multi family sale. Holiday, women’s clothes, crafts.

HOOPLESTON: 329 W. Main. Fri. & Sat. 8-3. Model trains all scales, farm toys, farm-related tools & parts, misc. tools, farm equipment, few Harley parts, misc. lawn care & household items, lots of misc. Items too numerous to mention. Come rain or shine.

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