



ILLINOIS CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

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NEWS RELEASE

Illinois Chamber Supports Governor's Veto of Geolocation Bill

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Chamber of Commerce supports Gov. Bruce Rauner's veto of HB 3449, the Geolocation Privacy Protection Act, which would have placed significant burden on businesses and consumers throughout Illinois.

HB 3449 would have stifled innovation in Illinois' tech industry, burdened app users, and given Illinois a bad reputation in comparison to other states for enacting more regulations on job creators.

"It comes down to what message we want to send our innovators looking to invest in Illinois. With the governor's veto, the message is clear Illinois is pro-business and welcomes companies of all sizes to invest here. The governor vetoing this bill is positive news for Illinois' emerging tech industry and developing economy," Illinois Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd Maisch said.

Illinois tech startups and businesses would have been substantially burdened by the bill's complicated requirements. HB 3449 would have duplicated existing requirements already in place by the Federal Trade Commission, put businesses of all sizes at risk of frivolous lawsuits, and made the app experience for consumers less user friendly.

"There's a misconception that this bill came from consumers looking for more privacy protection. In reality, special interest groups who would directly benefit from the bill's increased compliance burden were the ones pushing for its enactment. Engineering liability that targets job creators does not put Illinois on a path to prosperity," Illinois Chamber of Commerce Director of Legislative Relations Tyler Diers said.

Startups and small businesses play a huge part in Illinois' economy and would have been directly affected by this legislation.

"This bill places an undue burden on many startups and small businesses, which will greatly affect their ability to operate in the state of Illinois," Maisch said. "Killing this legislation is one step in the fight to protect our job creators from bad policies."

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