



June 17, 2025

The Honorable JB Pritzker
Governor, State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield IL 62706

Re: Veto Request for Senate Bill 328 – Expansion of General Jurisdiction in Illinois Courts

Dear Governor Pritzker,

On behalf of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and our more than 3,000 member businesses across the state, I write to respectfully urge you to veto Senate Bill 328 in its entirety. This legislation would significantly expand general jurisdiction in Illinois courts to include civil cases involving non-resident parties, even when no injury or connection to Illinois has occurred, solely on the grounds that a company holds a license to do business in the state.

SB 328 would set a concerning precedent by exposing out-of-state businesses to litigation in Illinois courts without any meaningful connection to the state. The only other state with a similar provision, Pennsylvania, has faced considerable judicial scrutiny. In *Mallory v. Norfolk Southern Railway Co.*, a majority of justices raised serious concerns about its implications for interstate commerce and potential violations of the Dormant Commerce Clause. That case is now back before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court with these constitutional issues unresolved.

Moreover, New York Governor Kathy Hochul has twice vetoed similar legislation, citing the chilling effect such a law could have on economic development and out-of-state investment.

If signed into law, SB 328 would encourage "forum shopping", inviting lawsuits that have no real connection to Illinois or its residents. This would further burden an already strained judicial system, leading to delays and diminished access to justice for Illinois residents seeking resolution for legitimate claims.

The business community is particularly concerned that this bill would deter companies from maintaining a business presence in Illinois, or worse, discourage them from entering the state altogether. At a time when Illinois is striving to enhance its



competitiveness and attract private-sector investment, SB 328 sends the wrong message.

Governor, you have demonstrated a strong commitment to economic development and making Illinois a place where businesses can thrive. SB 328 is fundamentally at odds with that vision. We respectfully urge you to veto this bill to protect Illinois' standing as a fair, competitive, and business-friendly state.

Thank you for your continued leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lou Sandoval", written in a cursive style.

Lou Sandoval
President & CEO
Illinois Chamber of Commerce

CC: Anne Caprara, Chief of Staff

Andy Manar, Deputy Governor for Budget and Economic Development

Claire Lindberg, First Deputy Governor for Economic Development

Emily Miller, Senior Advisor for Policy and Legislative Affairs

