



Capital City Office

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Friday, March 26, 2021

Honorable J.B. Pritzker
Governor of Illinois
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor J.B. Pritzker:

The Illinois Chamber opposes Senate Bill 72 and would respectfully request a veto. We appreciate your leadership on this issue, particularly, your veto of House Bill 3360. While House Bill 3360 was exceptionally egregious, the improvements of Senate Bill 72 from the original still represent a black eye on our state's judicial system. Illinois already suffers from a reputation of a judicial system which is rigged against defendants and the unfair provisions of this legislation will greatly increase the perception.

The bill's interest rate of 6% does not reflect the current economic climate and would act as an unfair penalty to defendants. This rate more than triples the inflation rate average in the United States for the last decade. It is higher than a vast majority of our competing states. States that have higher rates of prejudgment interest have caps on the amounts awarded to plaintiffs. Illinois, of course, has no such damage caps and a comparison that does not take this into account is not serious on its face.

This bill harms businesses in all sectors of the economy while we are still struggling under the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is an especially unfair "thank you" to the doctors and hospitals that have been on the front lines fighting this deadly disease. For all these reasons and more, we ask you to veto this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd C. Maisch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Todd Maisch
President and CEO
Illinois Chamber of Commerce