

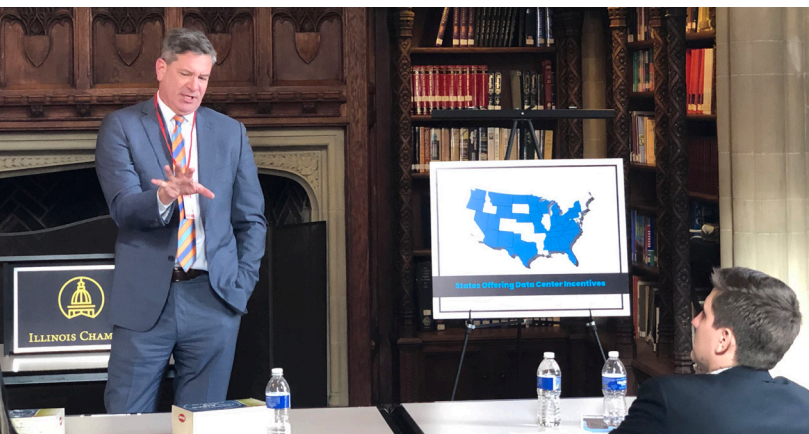
ADVOCACY REPORT

100
1919-2019

ILLINOIS
CHAMBER

STRONGER BUSINESS
STRONGER ILLINOIS

CHAMBER RELEASES STUDY ON IMPORTANCE OF DATA CENTERS TO FUTURE OF ILLINOIS ECONOMY



Todd Maisch speaks at Digital Realty in Chicago.

and CEO A. Fletcher Mangum and representatives from EQUINIX, Digital Realty QTS Data Centers and the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce spoke on the need for a data center incentive in Illinois to packed venues in Aurora and Chicago.

The study has been featured in broadcast, online and print news reports throughout the state including the [Chicago Tribune](#), [Beacon News](#), [WTTW](#), and the [Daily Herald](#).

The Chamber Foundation joined our partners in releasing a [report](#) that showed Illinois has had significantly weaker growth in data center markets than surrounding states that have data center incentives.

The report, published by Mangum Economics, compares the disparity of data center capital investment growth and jobs created between Illinois and neighboring and competitive states and examines the state tax policies used to attract and grow the industry.

Todd Maisch, joined by Aurora Mayor Richard C. Irvin (pictured right), State Representative Keith Wheeler (R - Oswego), Mangum Economics Founder



Chicago Tribune

THE
Beacon-News

wttw11

Daily Herald

ILCHAMBER.ORG

CAPITAL CITY OFFICE
215 E. Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701
217-522-5512

CHICAGO OFFICE
300 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60606
312-983-7100

If you are interested in learning more about the Illinois Chamber you may [click here](#) to contact Jeanette Anderson

FEBRUARY 2019 | ADVOCACY REPORT



In Springfield, Rebecca met with IDNR staff to explore their priorities for Asian Carp mitigation and understand where things stand during the transition to a new governor and met with key state legislators as part of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition to discuss infrastructure investment.



INFRASTRUCTURE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

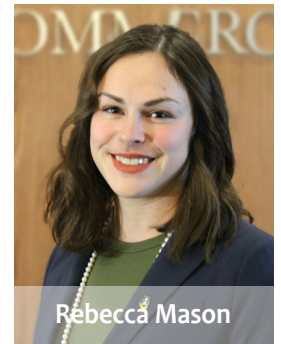
Congratulations to U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis (R-Ill) on being named Ranking Member for the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee! Infrastructure is vital to our economy, population and quality of life, and this leadership role in crafting a national infrastructure package is exciting news for Illinois business.



Rep. Davis (R- Ill) meeting with leaders of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition in Washington, including our own Rebecca Mason, Executive Director of the Illinois Chamber Infrastructure Council

TRANSPORTATION, ASIAN CARP AND FREIGHT

Infrastructure Council Executive Director Rebecca Mason met with several members of the Illinois Congressional delegation and their staff to discuss the need to invest in our transportation infrastructure and ensure efforts to prevent the spread of Asian Carp do not place an undue burden on waterways commerce. Rebecca met with Congressmen Lipinski, Bustos, Rodney Davis, Quigley, and Garcia and staff for Congressman Casten and Congresswoman Underwood as part of a small group of Transportation for Illinois Coalition leaders.



In addition, she had in depth conversations with staff for Senator Duckworth, Congressman LaHood, an Congressman Kinzinger. In Springfield, Rebecca met with IDNR staff to explore their priorities for Asian Carp mitigation and understand where things stand during the transition to a new governor and met with key state legislators as part of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition to discuss infrastructure investment.

IDOT's Freight Advisory Committee met in January to continue discussions on improving freight infrastructure in the state and highlighted Chamber member Hanson's work relocating the 3rd street train tracks in Springfield to 10th street. IDOT reported they are beginning to work on plans for aviation and marine transportation infrastructure. If your company has an interest in weighing-in on state plans for aviation or marine transportation, please reach out to Rebecca (rmason@ilchamber.org).



“

Employers who utilize biometrics in the workplace for either time keeping or security should immediately take steps to comply with the statute.

”

CAPITOL CONNECTION

Todd Maisch sat down with Mark Maxwell of WCIA in Springfield to discuss the minimum wage increase and the need for a capital bill for WCIA’s weekend political show Capitol Connection. [See the full broadcast here.](#)



ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT RULES ON BIOMETRIC CASE

The Illinois Chamber [submitted an amicus brief](#) to the Illinois Supreme Court encouraging them to uphold a circuit ruling on the state’s biometric law.

However, the court dealt a blow to the business community by reversing an appellate court decision in [Rosenbach v. Six Flags](#). The Illinois Supreme Court ruled that plaintiffs don’t need to allege actual harm in order to qualify as an “aggrieved” person under the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA).

The Chamber’s statement on the ruling was included in local, national and international tech news about the case including WGN, Daily Herald, Chicago Tribune, Claims Journal, TechSpot, The Register, WSIU, and Planet Biometrics. Employers who utilize biometrics in the workplace for either time keeping or security should immediately take steps to comply with the [statute](#).

TAX INSTITUTE TAKES ON UNCLAIMED PROPERTY ACT

Keith Staats, Executive Director of the Tax Institute and Alan Mayer, Chief of Staff for State Treasurer Mike Frerichs presented latest developments on the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act at the annual State and Local Tax Conference of the Illinois CPA Society on January 16, in Chicago.





Chamber's initiatives for this session include the fight against nearly doubling the minimum wage and the need for a capital bill for Illinois' vital transportation system.

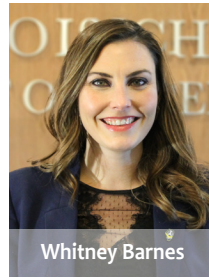


CHAMBER INITIATIVES FOR THIS SESSION

Todd Maisch sat down with Raquel Martin of News Channel 20 in Springfield to discuss the Chamber's initiatives for this session, including the fight against nearly doubling the minimum wage and the need for a capital bill for the evening broadcast.

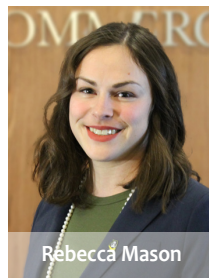


INTRODUCING NEW TEAM MEMBERS AT THE CHAMBER



Whitney Barnes

We welcome Whitney Barnes as the Director of Communication and Advocacy where she will advance the Chamber's initiatives and promote its members through media outreach and grassroots advocacy. Prior to the Chamber, Whitney worked in strategic communications as a senior communications specialist in the Office of the Illinois Governor and as the public information officer for the Illinois Department of Insurance. She has promoted Illinois entrepreneurs as a freelance writer for local and trade publications and helped small businesses grow through multimedia consulting. She earned her bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism from Columbia College Chicago.



Rebecca Mason

We also welcome Rebecca Mason as the Executive Director of the Illinois Chamber's Infrastructure Council, which focuses on transportation systems and public works that are essential to sustaining the Illinois economy: roads, bridges, digital infrastructure, rail service, airports and water resources. She also serves as the Director of Policy for the Chamber. Prior to the Chamber, Rebecca handled public and legislative communications, research, and government affairs for the Transportation for Illinois Coalition, a coalition of business, industry, local Chambers of Commerce, organized labor, and local government interests advocating for transportation infrastructure system. Rebecca is a summa cum laude graduate of Bradley University with a degree in History.

CHAMBER ADVOCACY



IN THE NEWS

Fighting for Business Every Month

In the month of January, we spoke to radio, television, and print media outlets, delivering pro-business values to audiences across Illinois. Below is a selection of stories where the Chamber has advocated its position on a variety of topics.

ILLINOIS TECHNOLOGY

- [Aurora joins Illinois Chamber in calling for incentives to bring data centers to state](#)
- [Report: In Building Data Centers, Chicago Outpaced by Other Markets](#)
- [Chicago area ranks 3rd in U.S. for data centers, but ‘we’re increasingly losing our desirability and our competitiveness’](#)
- [State supreme court: Mom can sue Six Flags in Gurnee over fingerprinting and privacy](#)
- [Illinois Supreme Court rules Six Flags can’t collect thumbprint data without consent](#)
- [Six Flags fingerprinted my son without consent, says mom. Y’know, this biometric case has teeth, say state supremes...Theme park’s attempt to shoot down lawsuit snubbed by top judges](#)
- [Illinois upholds biometric privacy law](#)
- [Illinois High Court Says Mom Can Sue Six Flags for Fingerprinting Son](#)
- [Illinois Supreme Court rules biometric privacy a civil right](#)
- [Crucial biometric privacy law survives Illinois court fight](#)
- [Supreme Court Upholds Biometric Privacy Law](#)
- [Theme park’s attempt to shoot down lawsuit snubbed by top judges](#)

ILLINOIS EMPLOYMENT

- [Small businesses to Pritzker: we can’t afford a \\$15 minimum wage](#)
- [Illinois Democrats seek to raise minimum wage to \\$15 an hour by 2025](#)
- [Chamber president: State should work to minimize minimum wage increase damage](#)

ILLINOIS ECONOMY

- [Gibson City’s Bennett honored for business-friendly votes](#)
- [Moving target: Alabama auto plants brace for tariffs](#)