

ADVOCACY REPORT



ILLINOIS CHAMBER

**STRONGER BUSINESS
STRONGER ILLINOIS**

ILLINOIS CHAMBER ENDORSES ERIKA HAROLD AND PRO-BUSINESS CANDIDATES



Erika Harold
Candidate for Illinois Attorney General

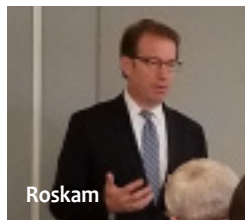
The Illinois Chamber is pleased to announce our endorsement of **Erika Harold** for the next Illinois Attorney General. Given her commitment to reforming Illinois' Workers' Compensation system, ability to provide certainty to the business community, and capability to strike a balance between consumer protection and job creation, we believe she is the strongest candidate to be Illinois' next Attorney General. [See endorsement here.](#)

In addition, the Chamber alongside the U.S. Chamber of Commerce was proud to once again endorse **Congressman Peter Roskam** and **Congressman Adam Kinzinger**. A strong advocate for pro-growth policies, Congressman Roskam was a champion for Illinois businesses during the 2017 tax reform discussion and eventual legislation. Congressman Kinzinger earned our support through his ability to engage and represent a broad range of business constituents. His district is heavily agricultural but also has a strong manufacturing sector as well.

The Chamber also endorsed **Rodney Davis** for another term in Congress. He will continue to fight for more jobs, higher wages, and greater opportunities for the citizens of Illinois. **Randy Hultgren** was also endorsed by the Chamber for another term as a member of Congress. We look forward to building on an already strong record with pro-growth policies that benefit all Illinoisans.



Kinzinger



Roskam



Hultgren



Davis

Rep. Rodney Davis
R-Illinois, 12th Congressional District

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

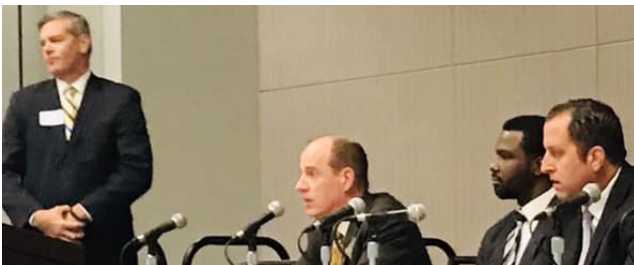


Chamber (Stonewater's) testimony focused on the stakeholder engagement process, the need for flexibility in the plan, recognizing the trend in greenhouse gas emission reductions based on market forces, and encouraging the state to work together.



MAISCH MODERATES SOUTHLAND LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Illinois Chamber's President and CEO Todd Maisch moderated the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Breakfast on October 11. The discussion was held at the Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills. Todd was joined on stage by Bill Cunningham, Will Davis, Marcus C. Evans, Napoleon Harris, Michael Hastings and Margo McDermed to discuss important issues to Illinois. The legislators discussed property taxes, transportation investment, and taxation.



THE JAPAN-U.S. ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

On October 3, the International Business Council in partnership with the Consulate General of Japan and our member the Palomar Hotel, organized an exclusive briefing and networking luncheon with Ambassador Shotaro Oshima, Chairman of the Institute for International Economic Studies.



Laura Ortega
Executive Director
International Business Council

Ambassador Oshima was visiting Chicago as part of Prime Minister Abe's initiative to enhance dialogue between American and Japanese people at a time when both countries are set to re-negotiate their Bilateral Free Trade Agreement.



STONEWATER TESTIFIES ON AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY

Energy Council Executive Director Katie Stonewater testified at the House Public Utilities Committee hearing on Illinois' response to the U.S. EPA's proposed Affordable Clean Energy rule. The ACE proposed rule is the Trump Administration's replacement for the Clean Power Plan and attempts to establish a set of guidelines to allow states to develop, submit, and achieve compliance with carbon dioxide emission standards. Chamber testimony focused on the stakeholder engagement process, the need for flexibility in the plan, recognizing the trend in greenhouse gas emission reductions based on market forces, and encouraging the state to work together. The final rule is expected from the U.S. EPA next year.



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Todd Maisch, President and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and Dan Mehan, President and CEO of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry opened the Critical Infrastructure Conference with welcome remarks.

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CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE

The Illinois Chamber teamed up with the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry again this year to host the Critical Infrastructure Conference in St. Louis on October 3. Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis hosted an infrastructure tour around St. Louis the night before the conference. Todd Maisch, President and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and Dan Mehan, President and CEO of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry opened the conference with welcome remarks. Alex Hergott, President Trump’s Infrastructure Advisor, briefed the attendees on the infrastructure plans for the United States over the next several years.

STAATS ON TAXES

On October 17, Keith was the featured speaker at the Chicago Bar Association State and Local Tax committee. [See presentation here.](#)

On October 18, Keith testified at a hearing on the Treasurer’s proposed Unclaimed Property Act rules. [See Keith’s comments here.](#)

On October 26, Keith was on a panel of midwestern states business associations and provided an Illinois update at the annual meeting of the Council on State Taxation.

On October 30, Keith taught a session on Illinois tax issues for construction contractors at a Construction Industry Conference sponsored by the Illinois CPA Society.





At a joint House Energy and House Environment Committee hearing this month, the Illinois Chamber weighed in on the Sterigenics sterilization facility in Willowbrook.



BROCKSCHMIDT ON “INSIDE THE CHAMBER”

Illinois Chamber of Commerce’s Vice President of Policy and Executive Director of the Infrastructure Council, Benjamin Brockschmidt, participated in a discussion on Inside the Chamber on the importance of pro-business and pro-immigrant policies with the Naperville Chamber of Commerce. [Watch the video here.](#)



CHAMBER URGES CAUTION ON SHUTTING DOWN LAWFUL BIZ

At a joint House Energy and House Environment Committee hearing this month, the Illinois Chamber weighed in on the Sterigenics sterilization facility in Willowbrook.

The Sterigenics facility is being investigated for potentially releasing unsafe levels of ethylene oxide (EtO) emissions used from sterilizing medical equipment. The investigation is ongoing and the IEPA has requested the company cease operations until the investigation is complete.

At the October hearing, the Chamber submitted written testimony urging lawmakers to not make any politically and emotionally charged policy decisions until further studies and reports are concluded. Some of the proposals that have been discussed include closing down the lawfully operating facility; revoking their state issued environmental permits; or banning the use of EtO altogether.

The Chamber is concerned for the potential for the questions and concerns to result in bad precedent, bad policy, and further weaken Illinois’ reputation and business climate. We will continue to keep members updated as this issue may have greater implications for the broader business community.

CHAMBER ADVOCACY



IN THE NEWS

Fighting for Business Every Month

In the month of October, 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.

CHAMPION OF FREE ENTERPRISE

- [Unes receives Champion of Free Enterprise Award](#)
- [Hammond presented award](#)

EMPLOYMENT

- [Study: Minimum wage increase would benefit Illinois; Chamber of Commerce disagrees](#)
 - [Study: Increase in minimum wage would benefit Illinois](#)
 - [Study: Minimum wage increase would benefit Illinois](#)
- [Correction: Illinois Minimum Wage story](#)
- [Middle Class Renewal Project examines state minimum wage](#)

ENERGY

- [Legislature begins plotting response to Trump climate rule](#)

ILLINOIS ELECTION

- [Illinois voters, business groups see high stakes in the midterm election](#)
- [Candidates for Illinois governor offer different economic visions](#)

IMMIGRATION

- [Inside the Chamber: Immigration](#)

TAX

- [In high-tax Illinois, stark differences on state, local tax deduction caps](#)
- [Illinois voters, business groups see high stakes in midterm election](#)

TECHNOLOGY

- [Six Flags' Scan of Boy's Thumbprint Tests Biometric Privacy Law](#)
- [State senator sought to weaken biometric privacy protections he had championed](#)

OTHER CHAMBER NEWS

- [Slowik: Small-business owners grill lawmakers about taxes, regulations at forum](#)
- [Illinois Chamber of Commerce endorses Erika Harold for attorney general](#)
- [Davis picks up trio of endorsements from business groups](#)
- [Jason Plummer endorsed by key business groups](#)
- [This is the other statewide race that really matters](#)
- [Rep. Roskam earns business group endorsements](#)
- [Sen. Nybo recognized as leader by state business groups](#)