

Preface to Legislative Note Section of Annual Survey of Illinois Law

DePaul College of Law

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PREFACE TO LEGISLATIVE NOTE SECTION OF ANNUAL SURVEY EDITION

With this issue, the *DePaul Law Review* embarks upon an innovative course. In the following pages are several notes which deal with legislation considered by the 78th Illinois General Assembly in Springfield. Discussion here is designed to aid the practitioner in applying newly enacted law and in understanding potential ramifications of bills pending in the legislature.

No attempt has been made to survey all of the bills considered by the Illinois legislature in its last session. Bills are discussed principally because they allow interpretative latitude in practice or are likely to proceed quickly to judicial test. The practitioner will find interpretation of statutes providing aid to crime victims, restricting private ownership of handguns, and requiring land trust disclosure. Statutes such as those dealing with abortion, the death penalty and no fault insurance are analyzed in the framework of appropriate Supreme Court decisions and similar formulations in other states.

Where political considerations are vital in shaping the law or its application, these considerations are given full weight. Legal analysis supplements discussion of a state board of elections, campaign financing and ethics legislation.

All legislative note authors faced the common problem of obtaining legislative history required for proper analysis of the enactments. In Illinois there is no provision for recording the speeches and debates which occur during consideration of a bill for passage. To fill this gap, authors sought interviews with a bill's proponents and opponents, used lobbyists' published materials, or used data which the legislators used in their consideration. Where appropriate, citations to these sources have been provided.

It is our sincere belief that these notes will be of value to a wide spectrum of the Illinois legal community—*The Editors*.