

Office of the Senate President



EMIL JONES, JR.
Senate President

The Senate President is the presiding officer of the Illinois Senate, elected by and among the members of the Senate to serve a two-year term. The Illinois Constitution, statutes and rules define the functions and responsibilities of the office.

The President appoints Senate members to standing committees and permanent and interim study commissions, designating one member as chair. With the Speaker of the House, the Senate President shares primary responsibility for legislative procedures and operations. The President also is required to approve all vouchers for the expenditure of funds appropriated for use by the Senate, and to certify that all bills passed by the Senate are in accordance with Senate rules.

In addition to presiding over the Senate, the President is the leader of the majority party in the upper chamber. The Senate President is one of the most important and prestigious officials in Illinois Government. It is incumbent upon the person holding the office of Senate President to promote a legislative environment conducive to debating and enacting legislation that reflects the needs of Illinois citizens.

Office of the Speaker of the House

The Speaker of the House of Representatives is the leader of the largest and most diverse segment of Illinois Government chosen directly by the voters. The Speaker is both leader of the majority party caucus and the presiding officer of the 118-member legislative chamber.

The Speaker, with the concurrence of a majority of Representatives, sets the session meeting schedule, establishes the order of business and manages the operational activities of the body's annual budget.

In addition to the annual meeting schedule, the Speaker can, with the cooperation of the President of the Senate, call for a special session of the General Assembly. In coordination with the Senate President, the Speaker manages the activities of various support agencies, including the Legislative Reference Bureau, Legislative Information System and the Legislative Research Unit.

The House and Senate Minority Leaders also are part of the management team for the support agencies.



MICHAEL J. MADIGAN
Speaker of the House