

Issues	GOP Legislators Compromise Balanced Budget Press Release	Senate Democrats Response
<b>Budget Bill:</b>	<p>Comprehensive budget proposal that includes real spending cuts and a four-year spending cap, while providing funding to state agencies like the Department of Human Services to care for our state’s most vulnerable and the Department of Transportation to continue important infrastructure projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four-year hard spending cap at \$36 billion</li> <li>• Approximately \$5 billion in spending reductions and adjustments to balance the budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Savings from reforms to pensions, state employees' group health insurance and procurement</li> <li>o Across-the-board reductions to most state agencies and all branches of government</li> <li>o Reductions to automatic transfers, including transits and local governments</li> <li>o Tap into other state funds to make use of all our taxpayer dollars, not just the General Revenue Fund</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Pays down the backlog of bills by over \$4 billion</li> </ul>	<p>Balanced Budget -- Senate approved SB 6, which mirrors the governor's introduced spending plan. Utilizes a mix of spending cuts (nearly \$3 billion) and new revenue (partial restoration of income tax rates and expansion of sales tax to services like surrounding states do) to eliminate a nearly \$5 billion hole in Governor Rauner's budget. The plan uses the governor's spending number, the tax increase rate he wanted (4.95 vs. the 5.0 that former Gov. Pat Quinn had) to deliver a balanced budget.</p> <p>Job Creation -- A balanced budget is what job creators need most. Also, the state's universities and colleges currently have no budget and have been laying off hundreds of people. Same thing with social service charities like Lutheran Social Services. They've eliminated hundreds of jobs because the state isn't paying on their contract for services. So, SB 6 -- our balanced budget state spending plan that mirrors the governor's spending plan -- is good for jobs in that it finally provides university funding so they can stop laying off workers and funds human service agencies so the state can honor the contracts and they can stop laying people off.</p> <p>Status: SB 6 is pending in the Illinois House.</p>
<b>Property Tax Relief:</b>	Four-year freeze for all taxing districts, but would allow residents,	Dems want a two-year freeze. It's in SB482 and SB484.

	through voter referendum, to lower or increase their taxes. Allows for an exemption on existing debt service payments as requested by Senate Democrats.	Status: Now pending in the Illinois House.
<b>Local Government Consolidation:</b>	Strengthens and improves the already passed SB 3, and will allow for citizens-initiated consolidation on units of local government.	Senate drafted and approved SB 3. This is sponsored by Senator Tom Cullerton from DuPage County and draws upon the success that DuPage Chairman Dan Cronin -- a Republican -- has had there in reducing outdated and redundant government units.  Status: SB 3 is on the governor's desk awaiting his signature.
<b>Education Funding:</b>	Changes to the K-12 education funding formula that treats every district equitably that is consistent with the bipartisan framework of the Governor's School Funding Commission. Funding for early childhood education, K-12 education, community colleges and universities.	The Senate approved SB 1, a comprehensive overhaul of the worst-in-the-nation school funding plan currently in place. It would target state dollars to the issues we know are hurdles to quality learning. Schools with greater concentrations of poverty or special education students would get a greater percentage of state aid. No one would lose funding. Everyone is locked in at what they get now and then, going forward, new state dollars go through this new formula to target new dollars where they are needed most.  Status: SB 1 has passed both the House and Senate. Supporters are holding off sending it to the governor because he said he would veto it.
<b>Workers' Comp:</b>	Uses previously negotiated language between Senate GOP and Senate Democrats, like changes to the medical fee schedule, but does not	Senate approved two plans and was very close to another that would have saved businesses more than \$100 million annually but the governor

	reduce benefits to workers or include a causation standard.	wanted more and the plan stalled.  Status: HB2622 and HB2525 passed both the House and Senate and next go to the governor's desk.
<b>Pension Reform:</b>	Accepts SB 16, which has previously passed the Senate, including President Cullerton's consideration model and the state's pickup of Chicago Public School's pension payments.	SB 16 is the product of years of work and research by the Senate President and his legal staff. It is a model created to survive a constitutional challenge and also includes additional changes the governor wanted for new public sector hires to create savings now. This had bipartisan support in the Senate.  Status: SB 16 passed the Senate and is pending in the Illinois House.
<b>Term Limits:</b>	Constitutional amendment to impose 10-year term limits on legislative leaders in the General Assembly and eight-year limit on Constitutional Officers (Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Treasurer, and Secretary of State)	The Senate enacted term limits on Senate leaders on the first day of the 2017 session. Those limits are now in place and have the effect of law and did not require House action or the governor's signature. Legislation locking the Senate rules in place also passed the Senate and is pending in the House. In addition, the Senate President has said he would support a leader term limit constitutional amendment. Republican Leader Christine Radogno has one pending in the Senate but has not called it for a vote yet.