Central Division News & Views

Issue #22 - June, 2012

Illinois Will Have PRB-1 Language In State Municipal Code

After sitting on a to-do list for about three years, it was decided there was a good opportunity to get the Illinois General Assembly to approve HB 1390 - a proposal to insert FCC PRB-1 language into the Illinois Municipal Code. It turned out to be a good decision. On Friday, June 29th Illinois caught up with Wisconsin and Indiana on the PRB-1 political front when Governor Pat Quinn signed HB 1390 into law, effective immediately. Here is a synopsis of this Illinois State PRB-1 project.

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2/09/2011 HB 1390 filed with House Clerk by Rep. John E. Brady
2/14/2011 First Reading - Referred to Rules Committee
2/15/2011 Assigned to Cities & Villages Committee
3/17/2011 Do Pass by Cities & Villages Committee
4/14/2011 Second Reading - Short Debate
4/15/2011 Re-Referred to Rules Committee - HB 1390 pidgin-holed until February 2012
2/14/2012 Added Co-Sponsor Rep. Charles W. Krezwick
3/21/2012 Chief Sponsor Changed to Rep. Charles W. Krezwick
3/21/2012 Added Chief Co-Sponsor Rep. John E. Brady
4/24/2012 Approved for Consideration by Rules Committee
4/26/2012 Second Reading - Short Debate
5/02/2012 Third Reading - Short Debate - Passed by 106 to 10 with 2 absent
5/02/2012 Arrived in Senate - Placed on Calendar
5/02/2012 Chief Sponsor Sen. David S. Luechtefeld
5/02/2012 Added Alternate Chief Co-Sponsor Sen. M. Maggie Crotty
5/02/2012 First Reading - Referred to Assignments
5/10/2012 Assigned to Local Government
5/15/2012 Added Alternate Co-Sponsors Sen Emil Jones III and Sen Chris Lauzen
5/16/2012 Do Pass by Local Government
5/18/2012 Second Reading
5/22/2012 Third Reading - Passed 57 to 0 with 2 not voting
6/20/2012 Sent to Governor Pat Quinn for Signature
6/29/2012 Governor Approved
6/29/2012 HB 1390 now Public Act 97-0720
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By the summer of 2011, it was looking like HB 1390 might never again see daylight. However, on February 14, 2012, Illinois State Representative Charles W. Krezwick, WV9C, with the very able assistance of our ARRL Illinois State Government Liaison (SGL) Charlie Richey, K9DUE, got the bill moving again. Once these two people took charge, it took 79 days for House approval, 20 more days for Senate approval, and 38 days before Governor Quinn signed HB 1390 into law.

Now, as the final action on this Illinois legislative achievement, Illinois hams should send a thank-you email message to the governor at: http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/Pages/ContacttheGovernor.aspx. I know there are many who do not like Governor Quinn for a variety of reasons. But he resisted pressure from the Illinois Municipal League to veto this legislation and for that we owe him our gratitude.

We also owe thank-you emails to Representative Charles Krezwick, WV9C wb9jgg@yahoo.com and Charlie Richey, K9DUE k9due@k9due.com. Rep. Krezwick, while new to the Illinois General Assembly, is an experienced politician who is willing to go the distance to support Amateur Radio. Charlie Richey is an experienced Illinois lobbyist who really knows his way around the halls of power. We are very fortunate to have this experienced, dedicated, duo working for us.

In closing, I thank all of the Illinois Amateur Radio licensees who supported this project with their letters, QSL cards, email messages, and phone calls to their state representatives, senators, and governor at the appropriate times. Without your support, this would not have happened.

2012 ARRL Field Day Tour

In a break from our long-standing policy of operating Field Day with our local radio club, Vice Director Kermit Carlson and I visited 10 Field Day sites and we operated as KW9A 2C mobile between visits. We



visited 8 club sites on Saturday, 2 more on Sunday, drove 254 miles in urban traffic. It took a couple of days of preparation, and we were both quite tired at the end o f both days. However, our reward was meeting a lot of old friends, making new ones, and seeing a lot of interesting operating sites. Would we do it again? I don't know. But we have almost a vear to decide if another tour will be made.

Dick Isely, W9GIG Chuck Krezwick, WV9C Kermit Carlson, W9XA
Photo by Don Pointer Photography

Hamfests & Meetings

As of the publication of this newsletter, here is our ARRL travel schedule through September. It is subject to change if required ARRL meeting dates are changed or there are last minute transportation problems.

Jul 14	Indianapolis Hamfest	Indianapolis, IN
Jul 15	FRRL Hamfest	Aurora, IL
Jul 19-22	ARRL Board Meeting	Hartford, CT
Aug 5	Hamfesters Hamfest	Peotone, IL
Sep 14-15	W9DXCC Convention	Elk Grove Village, IL
Sep 21-22	Peoria Superfest	Peoria, IL
Sep 28-30	ARRL Exec Committee	Denver, CO

We hope to see many of you at the listed hamfests and conventions. In addition to shopping for new and used equipment, they are a great way to renew and develop friendships and to meet some of the voices you have heard on your radios.

73 - George R. (Dick) Isely, W9GIG Central Division Director