

State of New Illinois

NOTICE TO ALL ILLINOISANS!

Grievance 5

March 28, 2021

Introduction

New Illinois is a new state in development exercising its Constitutional Right to form from the State of Illinois. The process to form New Illinois is authorized and codified in Article IV, Section 3 of the United States Constitution (the Admissions Clause).

The United States Constitution, Article IV Section 3 states:

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new States shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

Excerpts From the New Illinois Declaration of Independence October 17, 2020:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, Property, and the pursuit of Happiness.

To secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government...

...there has been a long train of abuses and acts to seize and hold the People's power without legal authority. When such efforts clearly demonstrate a design to reduce them under absolute

Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Protections for their future security.

The history of the present Governor, other recent Governors, and the Government of Illinois, is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having the direct objective of establishing a Tyranny over the Counties of New Illinois and the State of Illinois.

The government of the State of Illinois has become destructive of these ends by violating the People's unalienable Rights and by ceasing to derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. It is the right of the People to seek a constitutional remedy to the abuse of powers.

Statement of Intent

The Citizens of New Illinois have decided to remedy the abuse of power by the government of Illinois by exercising their right to form a new state, as provided in the United States Constitution, Article IV Sections 3. *We are determined to live under a state government in the United States of America and under the Constitution of the United States.*

Therefore, the counties of New Illinois bring forward 40 grievances against the government of Illinois to be announced in public in the various counties over the next 40 weeks.

State of New Illinois

Grievance 5

Declaration of Grievance

The United States Constitution, Article IV Section 4 states in part:

The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a Republican Form of Government...

The Illinois Constitution Bill of Rights, Article I, Section 1 declares that:

...Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 7, subsection (a) states:

Committees of each house, joint committees of the two houses and legislative commissions shall give reasonable public notice of meetings, including a statement of subjects to be considered.

Failure of the Government of Illinois to provide a Republican Form of Government

A Republican Form of Government is government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Power is to benefit the people, not the rulers. In a republican form of government, the government derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the people.

The Rules of the Illinois House of Representatives

The Illinois House of Representatives operates under a set of House Rules. Many of them are routine, but some are pernicious, undermining a republican form of government, which is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

These rules are Machiavellian, not intended to benefit the people of Illinois, but to amass power to the Speaker of the House. The Illinois Speaker wields more power than any other speaker in the country. Few other states employ any of these rules; in some states they are illegal.

These rules include:

1. The Speaker has complete control of committee chairs. Chairs are paid an extra \$10,000 annually, even though Illinois lawmakers are some of the highest paid in the country, and even though some of these committees rarely or never meet. Committee chairs serve at

“the pleasure of the Speaker,” and he can appoint or remove them at will, so they vote the way he wants.

2. The Speaker can shuffle members on and off committees—that way his people can avoid casting a risky vote. No one knows who will be voting when a bill comes up, so there is no transparency or accountability.
3. The Speaker has the power to determine what becomes law, because he can prevent bills from ever getting voted on. In a republican form of government, people vote for lawmakers who will represent them. In Illinois, house rules take the power to legislate away from those we elect. Some of the scuttled bills have included: term limits, supported by 80% of the people; a ban on lobbying by legislators, supported by 61% of the people; and the Fair Maps Initiative, supported by 64% of the people, and which would have ended extreme partisan gerrymandering.
4. The speaker can call any bill to be voted on at any time. In other states, legislatures have a calendar so that people know when a bill will be voted on. The calendar enables representatives to do their jobs competently—they can research, debate, and be prepared to vote. In Illinois, the speaker can call for a bill to be voted on after hours, making sure his supporters are present, but his opponents have left. A bill hundreds of pages long can be voted on at midnight, shortly after it’s been filed.

A republican form of government requires transparency, but under these rules the Speaker obscures and manipulates the workings of the House. The Speaker has been allowed to become an autocrat; that is, one ruling as a monarch with unlimited authority, who has undisputed influence and power. How can Government derive its “just powers from the consent of the governed” when the people are kept in the dark and are cheated of their ability to act?

Transparency provides a defense against corruption and tyranny. But for nearly 40 years, Speaker Madigan betrayed the citizens’ trust. He was loyal to himself and his cronies, not to the people of Illinois. We the People experienced Tyranny, with a leader unrestrained by the law or the constitution, seizing more power than he had a right to.

In January 2021, the new speaker was selected, Emmanuel Chris Welch. He promised to reform the house rules and provide a more transparent process. However, the changes made to the rules were of little consequence, such as allowing remote meetings during a pestilence or public danger.

Mike Madigan is gone, but his ghost lives on in the House Rules, because one person can still shut the whole legislative process down. This corrupt structure silences the will of the People.

The legislature of the State of Illinois works on behalf of a corrupt political machine and has undermined representation and debate. The citizens demand a state run by We the People, not We the Government.

This Concludes These Proceedings