HB 1167 (Yang Rohr/Belt)
COVID-19 Administrative Days and Paycheck Protection Support

Analysis

This legislation represents an agreement between Governor Pritzker, Illinois Education Association and the Illinois Federation of Teachers. The legislation provides COVID-administrative leave for COVID-19 vaccinated employees and paycheck protection for non-instructional employees.

Rationale

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge Illinois educational institutions.
- **This bill applies to all public school, community college and university employees who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or who has received the required doses within five weeks of the effective date of the act.**
- **Due to the need to keep students safe,** educational employers often need to ask students and employees to remain off-campus in quarantine or isolation until they can safely return to campus.
- **A school reverting to e-learning for safety reasons should not adversely impact the paycheck of non-instructional school employees.**

Issue

- **Currently, employees are exhausting their sick time when excluded from work due to COVID-19 quarantine or isolation.**
- **Many educational employers are unwilling to negotiate administrative leave for their employees nor allow leave when an employer’s child must quarantine or isolate from school.**
- **For younger employees and educators with chronic diseases,** multiple instances quarantine can result in exhausted sick leave and unpaid time off.
- **Food service, custodial, transportation, administrative and many paraprofessional employees are not often able to perform their duties through virtual instruction.** This legislation offers paycheck protection for all non-instructional educational employees when a school is closed, or an e-learning day is triggered for safety.