



News From
State Representative Dennis Reboletti

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Reboletti, Birkett Bill Signed into Law
Bill Goes after Corrupt Contractors Who Waste Taxpayer Money

Addison, IL ... Legislation enhancing the penalty for corrupt public contractors who waste taxpayer money, sponsored by State Representative Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) and DuPage County States Attorney Joseph Birkett, was recently signed into law.

“Most contractors around the state are ethical and hard working, unfortunately there are some who are unethical and don’t perform the job correctly. There have been times where contractors shorted the quantities of raw materials and then the roads didn’t last as long as originally intended. Taxpayers should get what they paid for,” said Reboletti.

House Bill 2651 adds to the current Class 3 felony penalty for violations by barring the contractor from contracting with, employment by or holding public office with the state, a unit of government or school district for a 10-year period after conviction.

“Often times these corrupt contractors get caught, get convicted, pay a fine and are back working on another state contract the next day under a new business name,” said Reboletti. “With the recent passage of the \$29 billion capital plan, we want to make sure taxpayers receive all of the goods and services they have rightly paid for. The people of Illinois are tired of paying a corruption tax!”

The legislation originally was proposed by DuPage State’s Attorney Joseph Birkett.

“Most contractors are honest and ethical in their work,” commented Birkett. “Unfortunately there are those who would cheat the taxpayers out of honest services. This new law will provide a powerful tool for the Attorney General and State’s Attorneys across the state to go after corrupt contractors and ensure that Illinois taxpayers get what they pay for.”

The bill also allows the attorney general or state's attorney to sue on behalf of the state or unit of local government to recover the cost of the violation. There will also be a 6-year statute of limitation to initiate a civil action.

Photo Caption: Governor Quinn recently signed into law legislation proposed by DuPage States Attorney Joseph Birkett and sponsored by State Representative Dennis Reboletti that would increase the penalty for corrupt contractors who waste taxpayer money.

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