



SENATE IN REVIEW

A LOOK AT THE 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ILLINOIS SENATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

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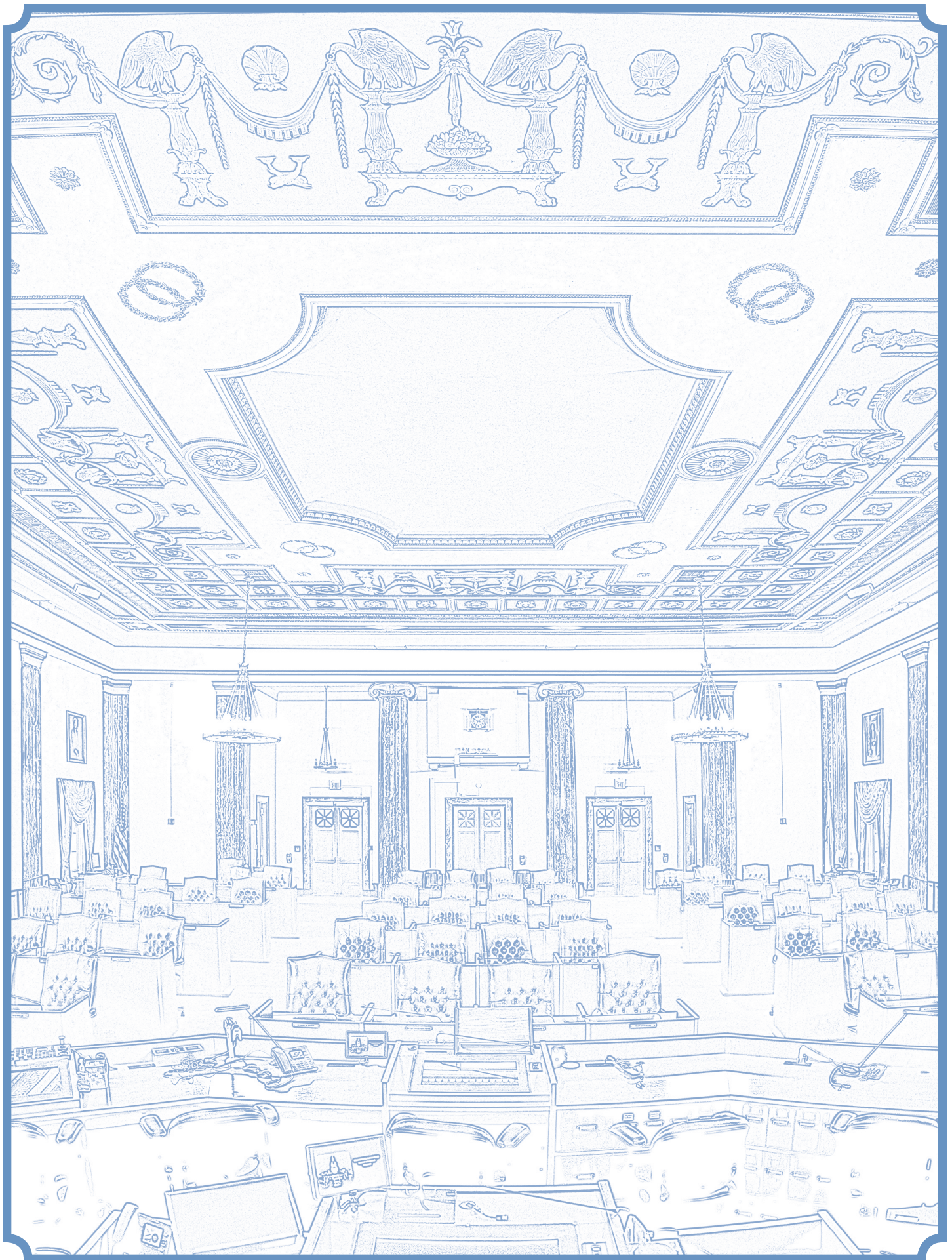




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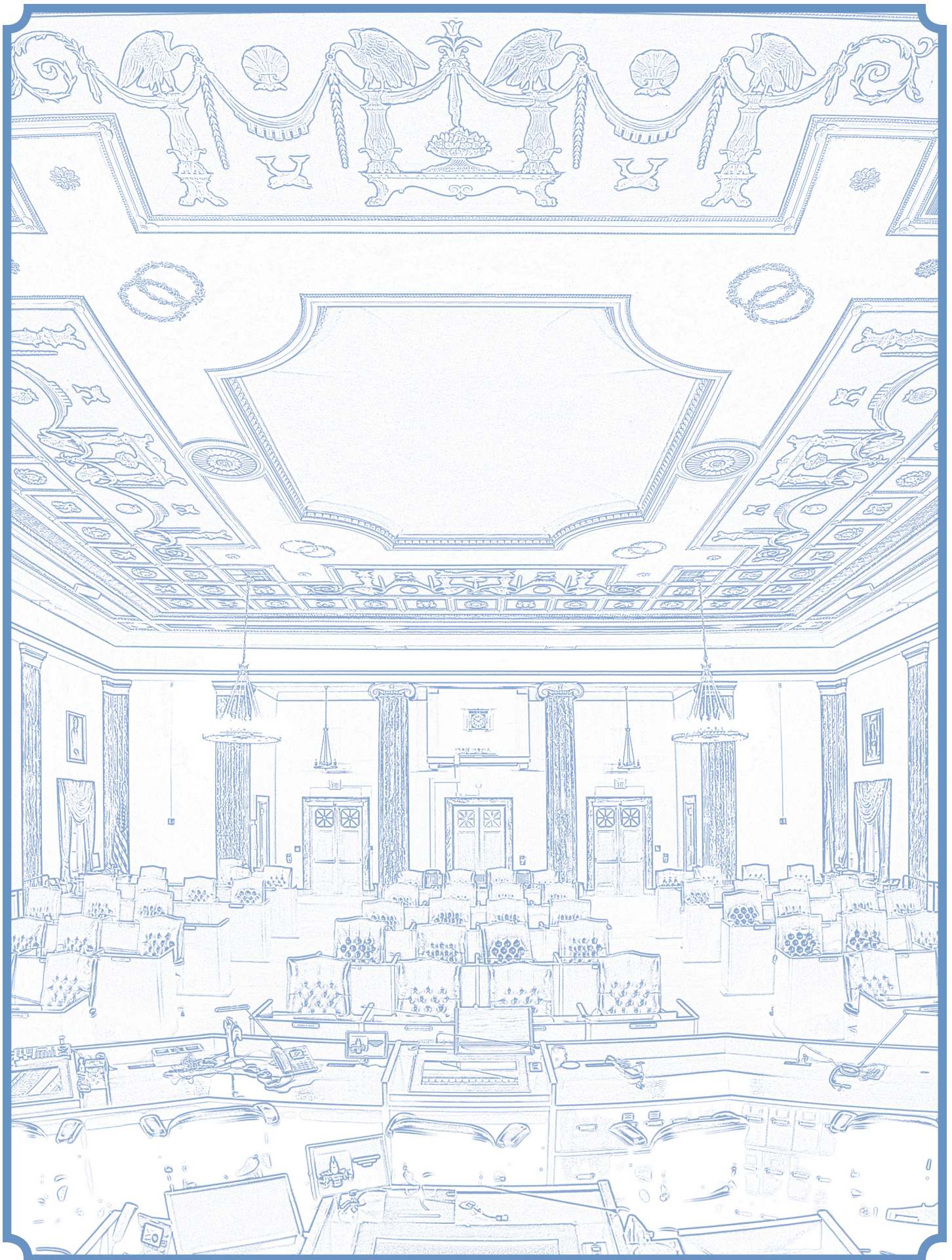
LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



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Legislative Accomplishments

Entering the second year of the 103rd General Assembly, the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus passed hundreds of measures to serve and assist Illinoisans in all corners of the state.

The General Assembly focused its efforts on making health care more accessible, becoming the most equitable and inclusive state in the nation, and protecting workers and consumers alike.

Enhancing fertility coverage

Medical treatments for infertility are increasingly expensive and difficult to navigate, rendering a

growing number of women in Illinois unable to access the care necessary to start or grow their family.

In response, members of the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus championed legislation to make infertility treatments like IVF and preservation services more accessible.

To remove barriers that prevent many couples in Illinois from receiving coverage for IVF treatment, State Senator Michael E. Hastings (D-Frankfort) led Senate Bill 2639. The measure would require insurance companies to provide coverage for fertility treatments recommended by a

licensed physician approving the covered individual to seek these treatments. Currently, insurance companies can require a patient to complete other procedures and test before receiving coverage for IVF, even with a licensed physician's recommendation.

Decreasing medical debt

Members of the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus advocated for the Healthcare Protection Act to curb predatory insurance practices to ensure adequate access to health care for people in Illinois.



Led by State Senators Robert Peters (D-Chicago) and Laura Fine (D-Glenview) House Bills 5495 and 2499 aim to ban step therapy and prior authorization for crisis mental health care, improve network adequacy and end unchecked rate increases for large group insurance companies.

The initiative follows various instances of residents struggling to receive treatment from their health care provider due to prior authorization requirements and other issues when attempting to access health care.

The measures would secure access to treatment for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis by eliminating prior authorization requirements, ensuring the safety of the individual and their communities. Additionally, insurance companies would be required to provide updated and accurate information on the availability of providers in their network. The measure would also end unchecked rate increases in fully-insured large

group insurance carriers, making insurance more affordable.

Burdensome medical debt can quickly snowball, making it difficult for people to keep up with the cost and, in turn, affecting their credit scores. State Senator Steve Stadelman (D-Rockford) led Senate Bill 2933 to prohibit a consumer reporting agency from making a credit report containing any adverse information about the consumer related to medical debt. Medical debt is often incurred unexpectedly

and can accumulate quickly, leading to financial strain and hardship for many Illinois residents.

Enhancing consumer protections

To stop companies from advertising the price of goods or services that do not include all mandatory fees and charges — often known as “junk fees” — State Senator Omar Aquino (D-Chicago) led House Bill 4629. The measure aims to tackle the issue of fair prices for families while also protecting small businesses that do display honest and transparent information about their prices.

State Senator Doris Turner (D-Springfield) led Senate Bill 2764 to protect consumers from deceptive tactics with automatic renewals.

Senate Bill 2764 would require businesses that offer a free gift or trial period of its products or services that automatically renew to notify the consumer by email at least two weeks before the cancellation





deadline. The measure would apply to free gift or trial periods that last longer than 15 days.

Building off of that legislation, State Senator Javier Cervantes (D-Chicago) championed House Bill 4911 to make it easier to cancel gym subscriptions. Under the new legislation, businesses offering physical fitness services, like gym memberships, would have to allow customers to cancel their contract either online or by email, instead of only by mail or in-person.

Stadelman worked to enhance transparency in the ticketing industry through Senate Bill 3678. The measure would ban the practice of speculative event ticket listing where unofficial sellers list tickets for sale even though they do not actually possess those tickets.

Protecting workers

In an effort to safeguard the rights of young workers, Peters advanced Senate Bill 3646 to update regulations on child labor to shield young individuals from exploitation.



Under the measure, additional regulations would be established for minors in the workforce, such as working conditions, age requirements and industries prone to exploitation.

Currently, minors in Illinois who are employed in the entertainment industry are subject to the Child Labor Law and additional rules for performers set by the Illinois Department of Labor. The agency establishes maximum work hours for minors based on their age,

including how long they can spend on the set of a production and the length of time spent working that day. State Senator Cristina Castro (D-Elgin) included provisions in that bill to revise these age limitations, including adding time restrictions for 16-year-olds who are currently exempt from IDOL's child performer requirements.

Employers are also currently required to provide studio teachers to fulfill school hour requirements when child performers are not otherwise receiving instruction. The legislation would also add guidance for studio teachers to ensure they are upholding their responsibility to provide at least one hour of rest and recreation per day when the minor is on set.

State Senator Ram Villivalam (D-Chicago) led the charge to expand the list of documents an employee can request from their employer and how to do so. House Bill 3763 would expand the list of documents an employee can request such as documents used to determine





qualification of employment, contracts that are legally binding to the employee, handbooks, and any written employer policies or procedures.

Additionally, to secure a broader scope of accountability for protecting human rights, State Senator Mike Simmons (D-Chicago) advanced legislation to extend the deadline for filing human rights violations in the workplace and public accommodations. Under Senate Bill 3310, the deadline for filing and seeking redress for a civil rights violation in employment and public accommodations will be extended from 300 days to two years.

Prioritizing the environment

Access to clean drinking water is often taken for granted. In reality, a number of chemicals and bacteria

are tainting water across the state. Members of the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus led a number of measures to enhance water quality – calling it “the year of water.”

State Senator Laura Ellman (D-Naperville) worked to identify critical water issues throughout the state through Senate Bill 2743. The State Water Plan Task Force would be required to publish a State Water Plan at least every 10 years and maintain a publicly available website. Under the measure, the task force would develop recommendations, and assist state and local authorities in the implementation of those recommendations.

With a district that includes many communities on the shore of Lake Michigan, State Senator Adriane Johnson (D-Buffalo Grove) has remained a steadfast advocate to ensure the water – and its shores – are safe. Senate Bill 3716 would

ensure that the IEPA is regularly monitoring water quality from nearshores, harbors and public water supply intakes in Lake Michigan. Under Johnson’s measure, the IEPA would be required to provide an executive summary every two years on conditions of the water quality in Lake Michigan to the governor and General Assembly.



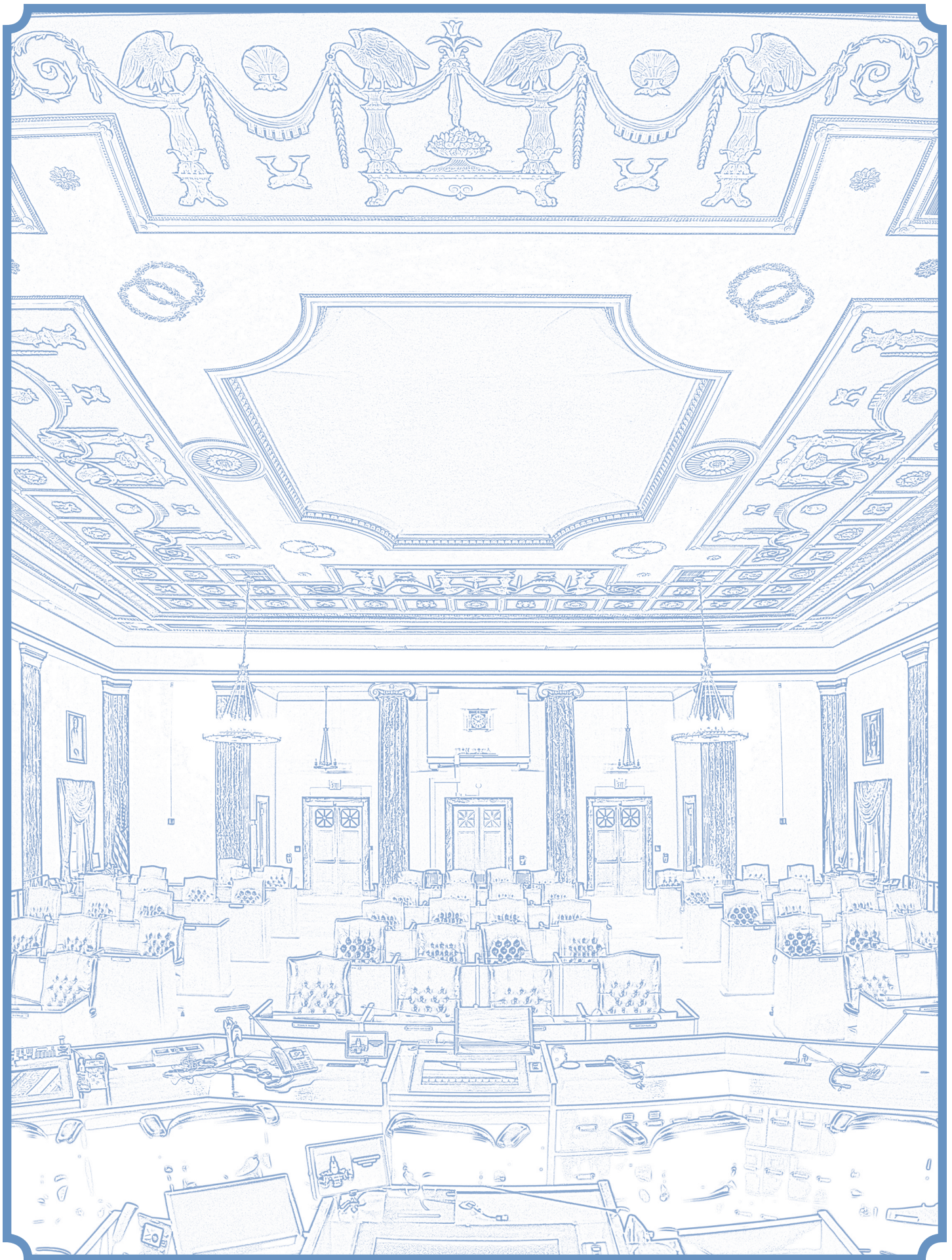
SPREADING THE NEWS



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TOP 5 ISDC ACCOUNTS

@ilsendems



@DonHarmonIL

+ 7,783

1



@SenatorSara6

+ 7,685

2



@ElgieSims

+ 4,256

3



@LLCoolK_4

+ 3,399

4



@SenatorFine

+ 2,954

5



TOP 5 ISDC ACCOUNTS

@IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus



@KimberlyALightford

+ 6,564

1



@SenatorDonHarmon

+ 5,538

2



@RobertMartwick

+ 4,481

3



@SenatorRam

+ 4,315

4



@SenatorNapoleon
BHarrisIII

+ 4,297

5



TOP 5 ISDC ACCOUNTS

@ilsendems



@SenMikeSimmons

+ 2,927

1



@SenatorCelina

+ 2,606

2



@SenatorSara6

+ 2,085

3



@SenatorKarinaVilla

+ 2,042

4



@Elgie_Sims

+ 2,030

5



TOP 5 TWEETS

@ilsendems

1

The Senate Democratic Caucus has a new member! Please welcome Senator Mark Walker.

May 11, 2024

9,128 Impressions



@SenALJohnson advances measure to ensure quality air ventilation in public schools
<https://ilsendems.co/3QBOU4r>

May 15, 2024

7,963 Impressions

2

3

Landowners could receive additional hunting tags under @SenDorisTurner measure
<https://ilsendems.co/3VT59xq>

April 12, 2024

1,091 Impressions



A bill sponsored by @SenatorVentura encouraging school districts to include set time each week for students to prioritize their mental health advances in the House.

May 3, 2024

759 Impressions

4

5

Majority Leader Lightford @LLCoolK_4 fights to keep families together
<https://ilsendems.co/4aG5Ajl>

April 18, 2024

692 Impressions





TOP 5 POSTS

@IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus

1

To honor the life and legacy of the late Senator Scott Bennett, State Senator Paul Faraci joined elected officials, community members, as well as friends and family of Scott Bennett at a memorial to name portions of I-74 the "Senator Scott M. Bennett Memorial Highway." <https://ilsendems.co/4aRgH9d>

April 26, 2024

392 Reach



Jewish American Heritage Month is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of Jewish culture, history and contributions to our nation. Let's take the time to educate ourselves on the diverse experiences and narratives within the Jewish American community.

May 4, 2024

324 Reach

2

3

A longtime member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, State Senator Mattie Hunter declared May 1, 2024 as AKA Day in Illinois in recognition of the sorority's history of uplifting women, building friendships and giving back to the community. <https://ilsendems.co/4aYTd1l>

May 1, 2024

322 Reach



Illinois is one step closer to having a new early childhood agency thanks to State Senator Kimberly Lightford. ilsendems.co/3Uef27H

April 12, 2024

270 Reach

4

5

Senator Elgie R. Sims, Jr. proclaimed May 1, 2024 as Alpha Phi Alpha Day– recognizing the significant contributions made by the fraternity, particularly in the areas of service, leadership and community empowerment. <https://ilsendems.co/3Us8QrL>

May 2, 2024

269 Reach





INSTAGRAM

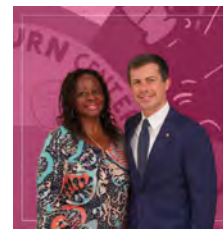
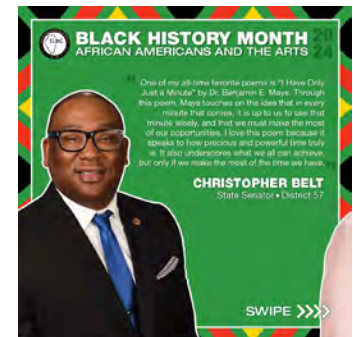
@ilsendems

THIS YEAR WE FOCUSED ON ESTABLISHING OUR BRAND AND GROWING OUR FOLLOWING AND ENGAGEMENT. WE'VE POSTED ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES AND WORKED TO FULLY REFLECT THE VIBRANCY AND DIVERSITY OF OUR CAUCUS. OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE'S GROWTH CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

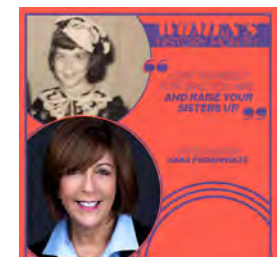
1,154 POSTS

2,275 FOLLOWERS

1,454 FOLLOWING



SHOW US YOUR GOOD SIDE

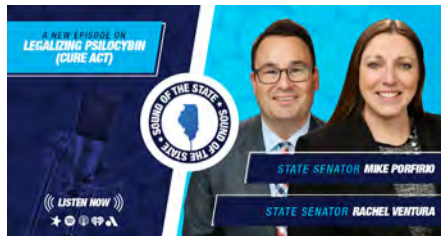




AUDIO AND PODCASTS

(((LISTEN NOW))) ★ 🎧 📱 📺 📻

DURING THE 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WE CONTINUED TO DISCUSS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION, ISSUES AND EVENTS.



1,300
DOWNLOADS
VIA SPREAKER
OVER 20% INCREASE IN ENGAGEMENT



17
LONG-FORM EPISODES
LEGISLATION AND MEMBER ISSUE /
ENGAGEMENT SUBJECTS

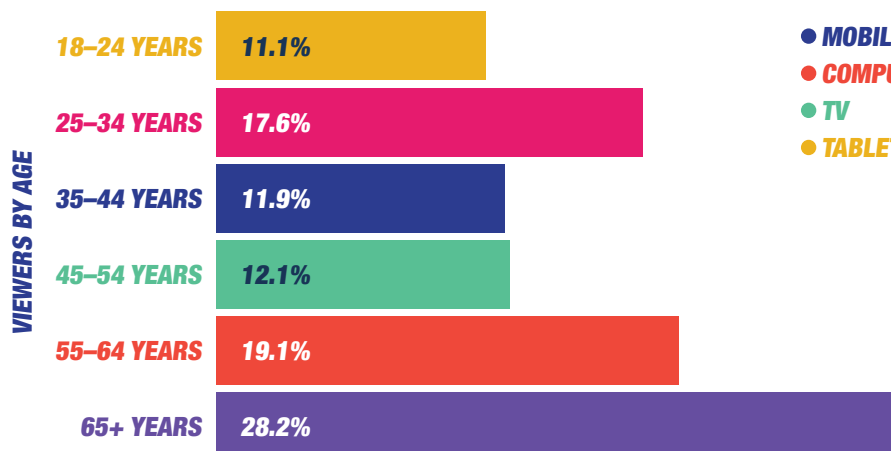
YOUTUBE

CC 100%
ACCESSIBLE

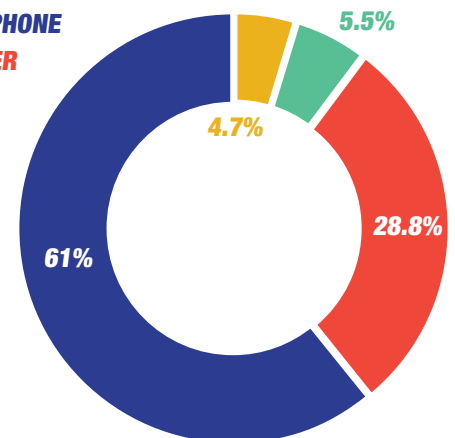
17,268 VIEWS
143% MORE THAN
PREVIOUS 365 DAYS

238 VIDEOS + SHORTS
POSTED THIS SESSION
COMPARED TO 150 VIDEOS IN THE
SAME TIME PERIOD IN 2023

+71 SUBSCRIBERS
129% MORE THAN
PREVIOUS 365 DAYS



● MOBILE PHONE
● COMPUTER
● TV
● TABLET





TOP 5 VIDEOS + SHORTS



1,122 VIEWS

Sen. Gillespie resigns Senate seat, heads to Department of Insurance



449 VIEWS

Sen. Ventura Tours Hydrogen Fuel Cell Plant in Bolingbrook



420 VIEWS

Sen. Hunter Joins Governor Pritzker at Executive Order on Gene and Cell Therapy Treatment



284 VIEWS

Sen. Villivalam Speaks on Legislation Replacing Temporary Visitor Driver's Licenses



280 VIEWS

ISDC Members Passionately Support Bill to Allow Gender Neutral Multi-Occupant Restrooms



701 VIEWS

Sen. Hastings wants #ivf treatment to be up to #families and #doctors not insurance companies.



686 VIEWS

Sen. Aquino says junk fees be gone!
#ILSenateDemShorts



501 VIEWS

Sen. Cunningham says No More to #medicaldevices being held hostage by towing companies in #illinois



469 VIEWS

Sen. Koehler leads charge to make #battery #recycling easier for #illinois consumers.



452 VIEWS

Sen. Peters demands #people before #insurance companies in #Illinois.



Delivering progress for Illinois families

Gillespie retires, leaves legacy of service

As state senator for the 27th District, Ann Gillespie served as a tireless advocate for working families and underserved communities for more than five years. From spearheading efforts to expand health care access, to championing legislation to bolster the state's affordable housing supply, Gillespie's dedication to public service has positively impacted the lives of countless Illinoisans.

Gillespie began her first term in office in 2019 with a clear mission: to bring forth policies that would

benefit working families and individuals in all corners of the state. Leveraging her experience as a lawyer and health care consultant, Gillespie advanced legislation to broaden affordable health care coverage, expand Medicaid services and protect the state's most vulnerable populations.

Understanding the limitations of the federal health insurance marketplace, Gillespie carried legislation in 2023 to transition Illinois to a state-based insurance marketplace. This shift will provide the state with flexibility in

offering consumer-focused health insurance plans, more enrollment windows and an opportunity to reach traditionally underinsured communities, extending coverage to more Illinoisans.

One of Gillespie's top priorities as senator was protecting Illinois' social safety net and ensuring underserved populations receive the support they need. Drawing on her personal experiences, Gillespie crafted policy initiatives aimed at addressing systemic inequities and improving access to essential services. This translated into her



work on Illinois' Medicaid system, making it more efficient and accessible for those it serves. Under a 2023 measure, Gillespie expanded access to care for thousands of Illinoisans through increased reimbursement rates for inpatient substance use disorder treatment, hospitals, supportive living facilities, community-based mental health services and more. In 2021 and 2022, she passed legislation extending Medicaid coverage to additional services, enhancing provider networks and removing barriers to enrollment.

One of Gillespie's significant legislative accomplishments was her leadership in overhauling Illinois' nursing home system. Seeing the challenges facing nursing homes, she championed legislation in 2022 to reform how the state assesses and reimburses nursing facilities, and tied funding to staffing levels and quality of care.

Responding to the statewide need for affordable housing — which was further complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic — Gillespie went to work with Senate colleagues to develop a long-term strategy to keep housing costs reasonable for working families. A 2021 legislative package created property tax incentives for affordable housing units and established the COVID-19 Affordable Housing Grant Program to support housing stability in areas



disproportionally impacted by the pandemic.

Gillespie's dedication to improving Illinois' financial outlook and strengthening public confidence in state government was also evident throughout her Senate career. In 2021, Gillespie spearheaded the state's first comprehensive ethics package in over a decade. This bipartisan effort sought to target abuses of power and close loopholes that had allowed bad actors to exploit the system. Gillespie was also known for her work of bringing transparency and accountability to the use of tax increment financing districts. She passed a measure in 2021 to enhance municipalities' reporting on TIF projects, making it easier for taxpayers to see how funds were being used.

This legislative session, Gillespie introduced a measure to protect Illinois residents, particularly seniors, from predatory contracts.

Senate Bill 3420 would prohibit businesses from entering into Non-Titled Recorded Agreements for Personal Services, known as NTRAPS. These are contracts between a service provider — such as a real estate firm — and a homebuyer, in which the buyer is offered a small amount of money in exchange for signing an agreement for future services. These long-term agreements give the service provider the right to list the property for future sale and often target older homeowners who may not realize the financial impact of these contracts, which can fall onto family members who may inherit the property years later.

Inspired to run for office by the 2017 Women's March in Washington, D.C., Gillespie brought to her role a deep commitment to gender equality. She served as co-chair of the bipartisan Senate Women's Caucus, joining female legislators in advancing policies



to improve the livelihoods and futures of women across the state. During her time as co-chair, the Women's Caucus partnered with Habitat for Humanity Sangamon County to build wheelchair ramps at residents' homes, sponsored a hands-only CPR training course for Senate members and staff, brought attention to the importance of heart health and paid tribute to the legacy of women's suffrage.

In her final legislative session, Gillespie chaired the Senate Appropriations-Health and Human Services Committee where she oversaw budget investments to fund critical health programs throughout the state, and served on the Early Childhood Education, Insurance, Judiciary and Revenue committees.

Outside of Springfield, Gillespie remained engaged with residents of the 27th

District, providing assistance through her district office and hosting community town halls in the summer to provide updates on recent legislation and budget investments. Connecting with youth in her district, Gillespie partnered with a local school district to host an annual bake-off competition, allowing high school students to

showcase their culinary talent and creativity, with the winning team receiving scholarship funds to attend Harper College.

In April, Gillespie was selected by Governor JB Pritzker to assume the role of director at the Illinois Department of Insurance — a natural next step after years of advocating for legislation aimed at optimizing the state's health care and insurance systems. Throughout her tenure in the Senate, Gillespie exemplified a strong commitment to the

well-being of the state's residents, uplifting the voices of those she served.





ILBC focuses on building equity, dismantling systemic racism

Driven by a strong sense of responsibility to address issues affecting the Black community, the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus' primary focus remained on building equity and dismantling systemic racism across the state.

This year, members of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus started budget negotiations early, advocating for tangible investments to address criminal justice reform and health care disparities, and increased economic opportunity for underserved communities.

To promote fairness and equity in the financial sector, Senate Bill 3235, introduced by

State Senator Christopher Belt (D-Swansea), would mandate the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to study and address financial service disparities based on race, ethnicity, gender and other protected characteristics. Belt's legislation builds on previous initiatives to incentivize state-regulated financial institutions to meet the needs of underserved areas, aiming to correct inequities in loans, mortgages and other financial services.

Advocating for and supporting programs aiding low-income families across Illinois, State Senator Lakesia Collins (D-Chicago) proposed

Senate Bill 3939 to safeguard Illinoisans' data and generate job opportunities by incentivizing the establishment of data centers in economically disadvantaged areas. Collins' legislation would provide tax credits to minority- and women-owned companies, investing in underserved areas to stimulate job creation and economic growth.

To further support families, State Senator Napoleon B. Harris, III (D-Harvey) sponsored House Bill 5357 to protect homeowners. Harris' bill would require an insurer to disclose whether a homeowner's insurance policy covers damage from a sewer backup or overflow



from a sump pump when issuing or quoting a homeowner's policy. Filed in direct response to flooding in the Burnham, Calumet City, Dolton and South Holland area, Harris trusts that this legislation will empower homeowners to make informed financial decisions for their families.

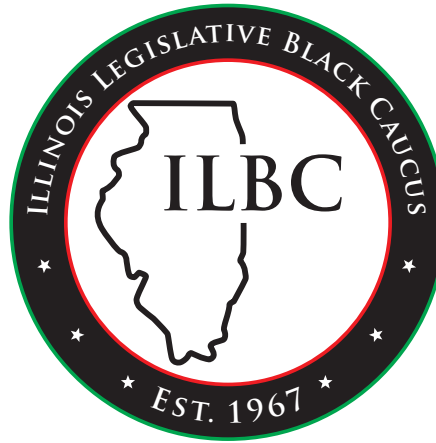
Members of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus were pivotal in ensuring equitable access to health care this legislative session. Recognizing the importance of health data in achieving equity, State Senator Mike Simmons (D-Chicago) sponsored Senate Bill 3751 to establish the Health Outcomes Review Board, which would be tasked with collecting and analyzing health data to address disparities.

Senate Black Caucus Chairman Robert Peters (D-Chicago) and State Senator Willie Preston (D-Chicago) advocated for expanded health care access by addressing insurance issues. Preston's measure, House Bill 2385, would address barriers to preventative care by expanding insurance coverage for all colonoscopies deemed medically necessary — such as in cases where a patient displays signs or symptoms of colon cancer or has an existing colon condition.

Peters championed the Healthcare Protection Act — House Bill 5395 — which fights predatory insurance practices and aims to ensure access to mental health treatment by eliminating prior authorization requirements. Further, the bill would require insurance companies to regularly update provider networks and

curb unchecked rate hikes in large group insurance carriers, ultimately making insurance more affordable.

Similarly, Assistant Majority Leader Mattie Hunter (D-Chicago) led Senate Bill 3203 with support



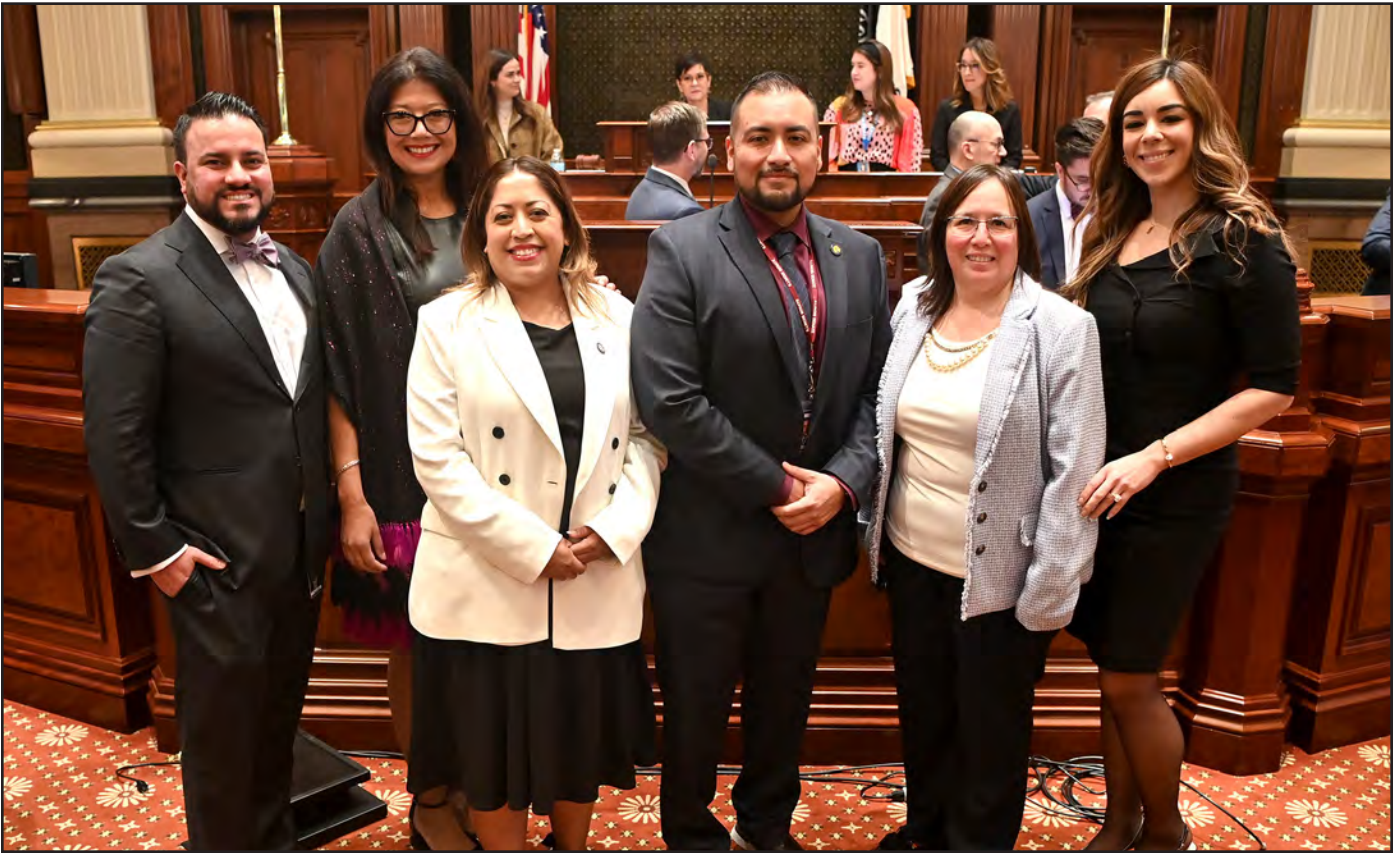
from State Senator Emil Jones, III (D-Chicago) to alleviate financial burdens for individuals managing asthma by limiting the cost of prescription inhalers to \$25 for a 30-day supply. Hunter also supported an executive order tasking the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services with developing payment models to facilitate access to new sickle cell disease treatments and other high-cost drugs within the Illinois Medicaid program.

Recognizing the disproportionate impact of asthma and other health issues on minority groups and under-resourced communities, State Senator Adriane Johnson (D-Buffalo Grove) championed legislation to improve air quality in schools. House Bill 4903 mandates the assessment and maintenance of ventilation systems in schools to promote better health outcomes for students.

Continuing the fight to enhance support for our most vulnerable children, Senate Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford (D-Maywood) led efforts to establish the Department of Early Childhood through Senate Bill 1, streamlining the administration of early childhood education programs to ensure equitable access for all children in the state.

In the pursuit of fair and efficient legal proceedings, State Senator Elgie R. Sims, Jr. (D-Chicago) and Senator Peters stood firm in their commitments to dismantle systemic racism in our criminal legal system. Following the passage of the Pretrial Fairness Act in 2021, Sims' measure, House Bill 4621, would codify the Office of Statewide Pretrial Services created by the Illinois Supreme Court to establish uniform standards and uphold principles of due process. Additionally, Peters introduced legislation — Senate Bill 2626 and Senate Bill 3463 — to streamline expungement proceedings, providing individuals with smoother access to record clearance and opportunities for rehabilitation.

Senate Black Caucus members spent this legislative session continuing to build on the work of the Caucus' comprehensive four-pillar legislative agenda, addressing areas of criminal justice reform, education and workforce enhancement, economic access and equity, and health care and human services. Members will continue to be champions for equity, justice and opportunity for all residents of Illinois.



Latino Caucus: Empowering equity, unity, and progress in Illinois

This spring, the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus pursued its mission to empower Latinos and champion legislative initiatives aimed at advancing the community's needs. From the onset of the legislative session, the caucus remained dedicated to its objectives, particularly in areas concerning education, wages, health care and ensuring equitable language access for all.

The Latino Caucus prioritized elevating representation and engagement within the Latino community. Latino senators remained committed to amplifying constituent voices, recognizing that

public service stems from actively listening to and advocating for their concerns.

Ensuring the community's voices are heard begins with delivering everyday services in languages they comprehend. That's why State Senator Karina Villa (D-West Chicago) championed Senate Bill 3762, also known as the Language Equity and Access Act. This bill, which garnered unanimous support from every member of the Senate Latino Caucus, aims to guarantee that individuals who are English language learners can access crucial services. It proposes to bolster state agencies by implementing

language access plans to offer assistance in languages other than English for information, programs, services and activities.

The Latino Caucus continued its advocacy for equitable access to education, exemplified by the higher education transfer fee waiver bill led by State Senator Celina Villanueva (D-Chicago). Senate Bill 3081 aims to address higher education affordability by requiring public universities to waive admission application fees for students transferring from an Illinois public community college if they are in their final semester of a degree program and on



track to graduate. Additionally, it incentivizes public universities to establish policies for automatically waiving undergraduate transfer admissions application fees for all low-income students transferring from community colleges.

Securing fair wages for all workers in Illinois is critically important to the Latino Caucus' agenda, as evidenced by their unanimous support for a bill aimed at boosting the wages of home care workers. Spearheaded by State Senator Omar Aquino (D-Chicago) with strong support from longtime labor advocate State Senator Javier Cervantes (D-Chicago), Senate Bill 3332 seeks to raise the base wage for Community Care Program home care workers to \$20 per hour, a significant increase from the current minimum wage.

In the meantime, Cervantes is at the forefront of legislation aimed at protecting marginalized workers. Senate Bill 508 would prevent employers from imposing work authorization verification requirements that are greater than those required by federal law, and it would give employees time to correct any discrepancies in work authorization documents before an enforcement action is taken against them. It would also require employers to notify each employee of upcoming inspections of employment records from federal entities. Inspired by his own experience working alongside labor and health care organizations and seeing employees hurt by this process, Cervantes' efforts on this initiative demonstrate

a commitment to protecting marginalized workers' rights.



By championing this legislation, Latino Caucus members not only address immediate concerns but also contribute to a fairer and more equitable working environment for all.

Boosting equity across minority communities can be achieved by bolstering financial resources through budget investments. That's why the Latino Caucus diligently pursued efforts this session to enhance support for a statewide child tax credit through Senate Bill 3329, led by Aquino. Additionally, they are working to expand loan opportunities for minority-owned small businesses through Villanueva's Senate Bill 859.

The Latino Caucus' newest member, State Senator Natalie Toro (D-Chicago), advocated for investing in work authorization support this spring through Senate Bill 3296. It would ensure eligible new arrivals have expert support in the work permit application process so they are able to join the workforce seamlessly when their application is approved.

By facilitating the work permit application process through local organizations, Toro aims to reduce barriers for immigrant workers and enable them to start contributing to the economy more swiftly.

Access to health care is of utmost importance to the Latino Caucus, and State Senator Cristina Castro (D-Elgin) propelled this priority forward by championing a groundbreaking measure. Senate Bill 773 requires health insurance plans across Illinois to extend coverage for both the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, a pivotal step toward comprehensive health care inclusivity. By embracing coverage for treatments like in vitro fertilization, Castro and the Latino Caucus once again showcased their commitment to fostering a more equitable society where the fundamental right to health care is not merely acknowledged, but safeguarded. This legislation isn't just about expanding coverage; it's also about ensuring that all who seek to build families in Illinois can do so without undue financial burden.

The Senate's Latino Caucus acknowledges the importance of protecting workers, implementing education initiatives and promoting health and prosperity within Latino communities. They stand proud in their service and remain dedicated to continuing their representation, aiming to advance opportunities and foster a brighter future for all who call Illinois home.



IAALC advocates for greater resources and representation

The Illinois Asian American Legislative Caucus has worked endlessly to continue advocating for resources that communities need, while being an active voice for them in Springfield. Working toward common goals of advocating for resources for youth and families to thrive, and negotiating funding for programs in Illinois, they continue to be a pillar for many.

Co-chaired by State Senator Ram Villivalam (D-Chicago), the Illinois Asian American Legislative Caucus

worked closely together to reach those goals. During their legislative session, they prioritized furthering access to state information, programs, services and activities for those with limited English proficiency under Senate Bill 3762. This measure would require state agencies to prepare a language access plan, where it must describe the policy and programmatic actions the agency will implement to ensure access to their programs, in regards to language needs

throughout the state.

To recognize Asian Americans across Illinois, Villivalam led the charge on a number of resolutions that uplift Asian American communities.

To celebrate the Lunar New Year, Villivalam sponsored Senate Resolution 775 to support the cultural and historical significance of the holiday.

Senate Resolution 868 was an effort to uplift diverse businesses across Illinois. This resolution



recognized the continuation of minority- and women-owned business diversity enterprise programs across the state. In the wake of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that deemed affirmative action in college admissions unconstitutional, the court will potentially take up cases regarding diversity business enterprise programs and its constitutionality.

Minority- and women-owned diverse business enterprise programs have continued to make a large impact on businesses, particularly in providing access to opportunities within the construction and engineering industries. The Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois Tollway have created training programs and strategic partnerships for diverse business across the state to grow their economic opportunities while improving infrastructure across the state. This resolution seeks to recognize and help further the benefits that many businesses are seeing through such programs.

Continuing to meet with advocacy groups such as the Asian Americans Advancing Justice or the Pan Asian Voter Empowerment Coalition to discuss legislative priorities involving immigrant

services, language access, and funding negotiations, Villivalam continues to work closely and diligently for these goals.



Villivalam joined both groups at the Capitol building on May 1 to kick off Asian American Pacific Islander heritage month, in which he spoke about the importance of his legislative goals, and how he can continue working to represent Asian Americans in Springfield.

Illinois is home to over 800,000 Asian Americans, and the caucus

has continued their efforts to best represent them. They look forward to continuing on their mission to advocate for access to essential resources, respect, and representation across Illinois.





Senate Women's Caucus leads effort to advance women's health equity

Members of the Senate Women's Caucus were once again at the forefront of legislative efforts to bolster women's health, safety and advancement. Through legislative initiatives, members addressed critical issues such as the need for expanded insurance coverage, removal of financial barriers and increased representation in technology fields.

Breast cancer is the leading

cancer affecting women, accounting for about 30% of all new female cancer cases each year. Recognizing that mammograms may not always be effective for women with dense breast tissue, State Senator Mary Edly-Allen (D-Grayslake) led House Bill 4180 to expand insurance coverage for molecular breast imaging and magnetic resonance imaging. These screenings are crucial for early

detection of cancer in individuals who may need advanced testing beyond a standard mammogram.

Further tackling potential gaps in insurance coverage, State Senator Julie Morrison (D-Lake Forest) introduced Senate Bill 2697, which would mandate insurance coverage for preventive cancer screenings and genetic testing for individuals with a family history of cancer. By expanding coverage to include



these susceptibility screenings, more individuals would have an opportunity to catch cancer early, improving their rate of survival.

For women experiencing menopause, hormonal changes can bring added health issues, such as decreased bone density and a higher risk of cardiovascular complications. State Senator Linda Holmes (D-Aurora) spearheaded efforts through House Bill 5295 to establish insurance coverage for hormonal and non-hormonal therapies to treat menopause symptoms, regardless of whether the onset of menopause was natural or surgical. With improved coverage of treatment, more women would be able to better manage their symptoms and take control of their health.

In the area of reproductive health, Women's Caucus members have been instrumental in safeguarding access to care and removing barriers to infertility treatment. With the high cost of infertility treatment, many women in Illinois struggle to afford this as an option to start or grow their families. To remove this financial barrier, State Senator Cristina Castro (D-Elgin) championed Senate Bill 773, requiring all health insurance plans in Illinois to cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility.

Building on her work to protect patients and providers from legal action involving reproductive or gender-affirming care performed in Illinois, State Senator Celina Villanueva (D-Chicago) led a measure to protect the confidentiality of reproductive health care records.



ILLINOIS STATE SENATE WOMEN'S CAUCUS

House Bill 5239 would exempt records of reproductive health care performed in Illinois from the Freedom of Information Act, securing the rights of patients who legally received such care in the state.

In an effort to increase female representation in technology fields, State Senator Laura Ellman (D-Naperville) proposed creating a Women in Technology Task Force through Senate Bill 2682. The task force would study the recruitment and retention of women in technology positions with the goal of closing the gender gap within tech-related jobs.

While addressing current issues facing women today, members of the Senate Women's Caucus did not lose sight of the

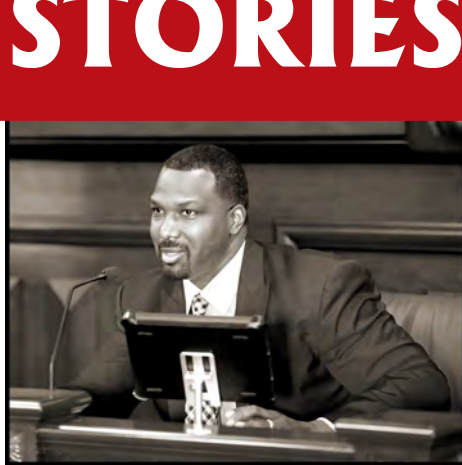
women whose efforts paved the way for future generations to participate in the democratic process. In March – Women's History Month – Senate women coordinated a day to wear white attire to honor suffragists who fought for justice, equality and women's right to vote, reaffirming a commitment to breaking barriers and bringing forth positive change.

Looking ahead, the Senate Women's Caucus remains dedicated to advancing policies that empower women, promote gender equality and strengthen communities across Illinois.





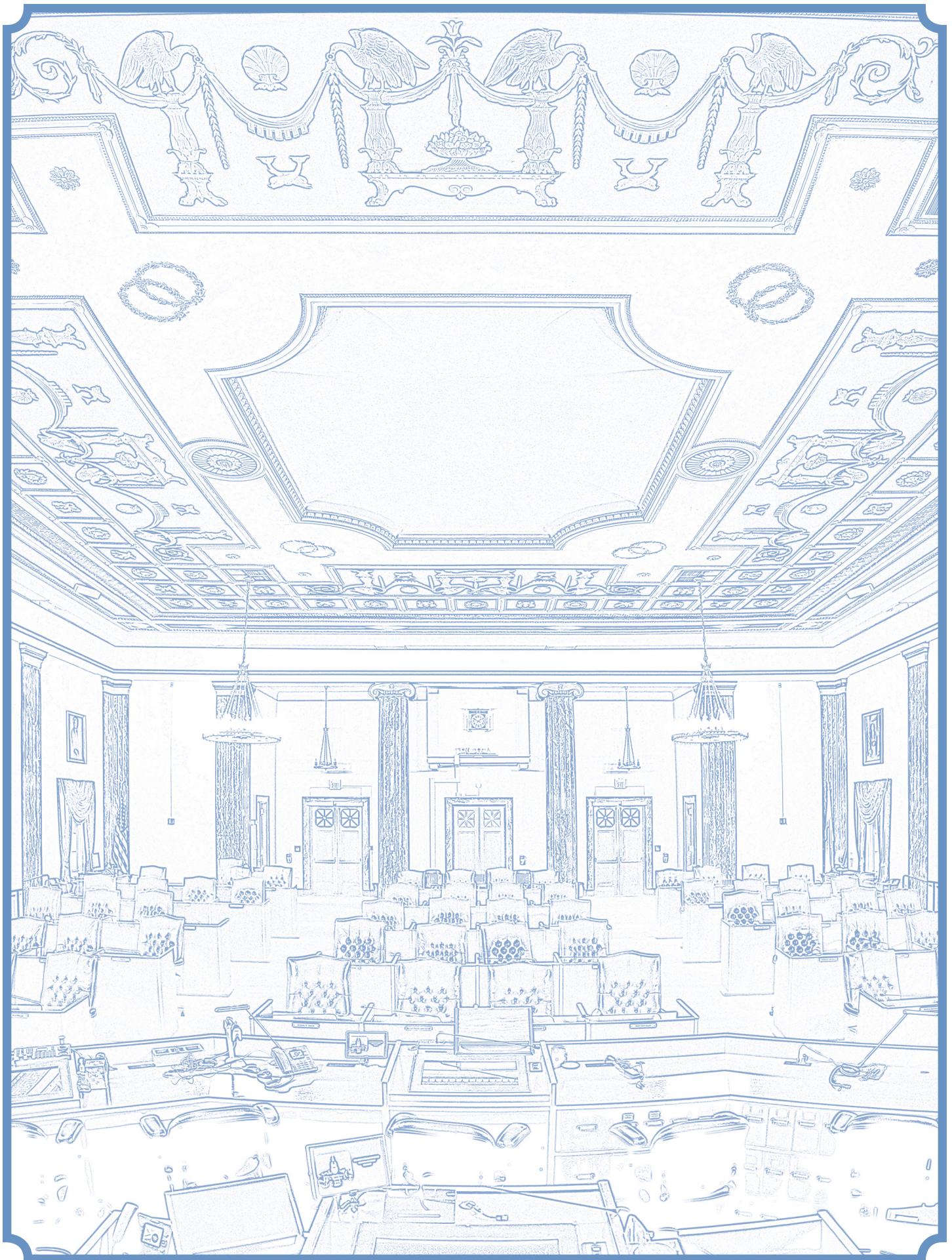
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Cunningham legislation reforms BIPA while protecting businesses and employees

Published: January 31, 2024



SPRINGFIELD – In an effort to shield Illinois employers from costly lawsuits without rolling back the state’s strict digital privacy protections, State Senator Bill Cunningham filed Senate Bill 2979, which makes changes to the liability guidelines in the Biometric Information Privacy Act.

“Given the rash of cybersecurity breaches we hear about, Illinoisans should be proud that we have arguably the strongest digital privacy laws in the nation. However, our laws have not kept up with

changes in technology, which has left some small businesses facing overwhelming financial liabilities,” said Cunningham, a Democrat who represents portions of Chicago and the Southwest Suburbs. “SB 2979 will keep the current privacy restrictions in place and hold violators accountable, as well as ensure businesses are not unfairly punished for technical violations of the law.”

Under BIPA, private entities must obtain written consent before collecting and storing

biometric information, such as an employee’s fingerprint. If a business is sued for violating BIPA, they can be ordered to pay damages for each instance where biometric information is collected — even if they repeatedly collect the same information. This has led to situations where an employer can be ordered to pay millions in liquidated damages, and in a case involving White Castle, billions of dollars, because each collection counts as a separate violation. For instance, businesses that use



digital fingerprinting systems for employee timekeeping often take swipes of each employee's fingerprint multiple times per shift — like when the employee arrives for work, leaves for and returns from a lunch break, or checks out at the end of the work day. Under BIPA, each of those swipes can qualify as a violation of the law if the employee has not provided written consent, exposing the business to a minimum of \$1,000 in damages every time a swipe is taken.

Cunningham's bill would limit the number of claims accrued under that scenario should an employee bring a lawsuit against a company

for a violation of BIPA. If a certain biometric identifier is collected by the same employer in the same manner, only one violation would accrue. In other words, the liability faced by the business would accrue on a per-employee basis, rather than a per-collection basis.

SB 2979 also modernizes the manner in which written consent can be granted to include the use of electronic signatures. The original BIPA legislation took effect in 2008 when electronic signatures were not widely used. Cunningham's legislation clarifies that because using electronic signatures is a common practice to obtain consent, they can be used to comply with

BIPA consent requirements.

"Dozens of legislative proposals to update BIPA have been offered in recent years, but most of those efforts have attempted to remove or narrow privacy protections that have been embedded in the law," said Cunningham. "SB 2979 does not take that approach. Rather, it puts a common-sense formula in place to determine the amount of financial damages that must be paid for violations of the act."





Senate Democrats outline plans to remove barriers to infertility treatment

SPRINGFIELD — Medical treatments for infertility are increasingly expensive and difficult to navigate, rendering a growing number of women in Illinois unable to access the care necessary to start or grow their family. In response, members of the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus held a press conference Wednesday to highlight legislation they are championing to make infertility treatments like IVF and preservation services more accessible.

“Many women, including myself and those close to me, experience profound anxiety about running out of time to start a family and facing barriers to preserving their fertility,” said State Senator Natalie Toro (D-Chicago). “Requiring insurers to cover expenses for standard fertility preservation for all, not just those diagnosed with infertility, will give people the security to explore their options about having a family without facing emotional and financial stress.”

State-regulated health insurance plans are only required to cover standard, evidence-based fertility preservation services — such as cryopreservation — when deemed medically necessary, making these treatments largely inaccessible due to their high cost.

To make fertility preservation services and treatment more accessible, Toro is leading a measure

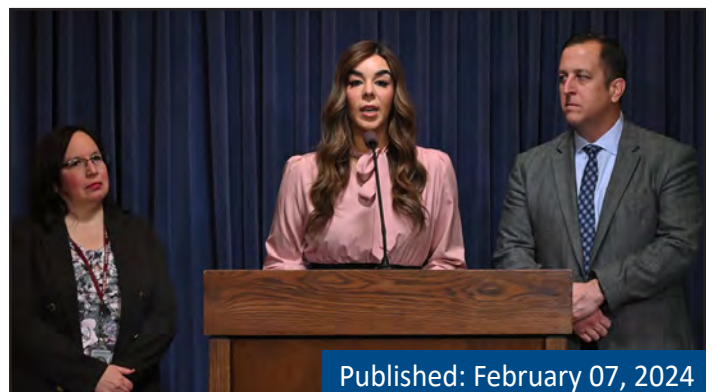
to expand insurance coverage for Illinois patients. Senate Bill 2623 would require insurers to cover expenses for standard fertility preservation and follow-up services for any interested patient, not only those who have been diagnosed with infertility.

“A failure by insurance companies to recognize and respond to women’s health needs is yet another barrier women have to overcome to access necessary care,” said State Senator Cristina Castro (D-Elgin). “Removing the financial barriers to diabetes, obesity and infertility treatment will help men and women across Illinois live healthier lives.”

In response to the growing number of Illinoisans who struggle to afford the care needed to diagnose and treat infertility, Castro is sponsoring legislation to tackle the cost. Senate Bill 2572 would require employers with more than 25 employees to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility in women, along with coverage for injectable medicines that improve glucose levels for those diagnosed with pre-diabetes, diabetes or obesity.

“Ensuring access to fertility treatment is not just a matter of health care—it’s a commitment to the fundamental right of individuals to pursue the dream of parenthood,” said State Senator Michael E. Hastings (D-Frankfort). “It is our duty to ensure policies are in place that empower and support every person on their journey toward creating a family.”

To remove barriers that prevent many couples in Illinois from receiving coverage for IVF treatment, Hastings is championing Senate Bill 2639. The measure would require insurance companies to provide coverage for fertility treatments recommended by a licensed physician approving the covered individual to seek these treatments. Currently, insurance companies can require a patient to complete other procedures and test before receiving coverage for IVF, even with a licensed physician’s recommendation.



Published: February 07, 2024



Aquino champions Illinois Child Tax Credit



Published: February 07, 2024

SPRINGFIELD — Under a proposal announced Wednesday by State Senator Omar Aquino and State Representative Marcus C. Evans, Jr., working parents in Illinois earning the median income or less could soon have the option to claim a state-level child tax credit on their state income taxes.

“The Child Tax Credit I am proposing this year would put money back in working-class parents’ pockets,” said Aquino (D-Chicago). “That little bit of extra change helps families stay afloat, provide a good education for their children, and re-invest that money right back into our local economy.

It’s why studies show that just this investment in our families would pay dividends, by creating a \$1 billion surplus in our economy.”

Senate Bill 3329 would create a state-level child tax credit for eligible low- and middle-income families. Families would receive a \$300 tax credit for each child under the age of 17. The proposal would benefit joint filers earning less than \$75,000 and single filers earning less than \$50,000. If passed, Illinois would become the 15th state to enact a state-level child tax credit.

Analyses of the 2021 expansion of the federal child tax credit found that the benefit reached the most

working families in history, including 12 million new families for the first time. The expansion is credited with reducing child poverty rates by half, reducing poverty among Hispanic children by 43%, benefiting five million children in active-duty and veteran households, and reaching over 230,000 Puerto Rican families — eight times more than the previous year.



Senate Democrats outline plan to protect youth from e-cigarettes



Published: March 21, 2024

SPRINGFIELD – E-cigarette use is rising dramatically among Illinois teens – with the newest culprit of the epidemic being vapes that look like highlighters, markers and other school supplies.

During a press conference Thursday, State Senators Julie Morrison and Meg Loughran Cappel outlined their proposals to curb the youth vaping epidemic.

“The dangerous and addictive nature of nicotine consumption is the reason I have taken a strong stand on this issue,” said Morrison (D-Lake Forest). “We should do everything in our power to make it impossible for children to obtain and conceal tobacco products.”

Nicotine companies marketing to kids is nothing new but now they’re

creating vapes that resemble school supplies, like highlighters. Morrison is leading Senate Bill 2662 to prohibit the advertising, marketing or promoting of an electronic cigarette in a manner that is likely to cause an adult to mistake it for an object that is not a tobacco product.

Educators have complained to the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services about finding electronic cigarettes on school property that are designed to look like school supplies such as highlighters, erasers and pencil sharpeners.

Part of the issue, however, lies in how simple it is for people to get their hands on these devices. With the click of a button online, an e-cigarette that looks like a

highlighter can be ordered for under \$20 – making it even more enticing to children.

Loughran Cappel is championing Senate Bill 3098 to prohibit electronic cigarettes purchased by mail, online or through other remote sale methods from being shipped to anyone in the state other than a distributor or retailer.

“With technology ever evolving, kids can easily get whatever they want from a quick Google search,” said Loughran Cappel. “Students are getting e-cigarettes online that look like school supplies, making it difficult for teachers to decipher if it is a vape or not. By putting guardrails in place, we can protect our youth from the dangers of e-cigarettes.”



Senate Democrats stand against predatory insurance practices



SPRINGFIELD – Senate Democrats advocated for the Healthcare Protection Act to curb predatory insurance practices to ensure adequate access to health care for people in Illinois at a press conference Wednesday.

“The big time insurance companies are going to fight us on this, but we are going to bring the public – the people of Illinois – with us to the negotiating table and get this done,” said State Senator Robert Peters (D-Chicago). “I am honored to sponsor this bill and will not fold on my commitment to make Illinois a healthier and safer place by ensuring they have access to the best possible care.”

Senate Bill 3739 aims to ban step therapy and prior authorization for crisis mental health care, improve network adequacy and end unchecked rate increases for large group insurance

companies.

The initiative follows various instances of residents struggling to receive treatment from their health care provider due to prior authorization requirements and other issues when attempting to access health care.

“I’m no stranger to the frustrating prior authorization practices of our health insurance industry. My son has a rare heart malformation that has required multiple insurance re-approvals over the years, and before my daughter passed after being diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia, we dealt with the prior authorization processes once again,” said State Senator Patrick Joyce (D-Essex). “These processes can take away from timely access to vital treatments, and it’s time we see reform within them.”

The measure would secure access to

treatment for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis by eliminating prior authorization requirements, ensuring the safety of the individual and their communities. Additionally, insurance companies would be required to provide updated and accurate information of the availability of providers in their network. The bill would also end unchecked rate increases in fully-insured large group insurance carriers, making insurance more affordable.

“Prior authorization from an insurance company for prescriptions, medical care or even hospitalization, prevents the physician and their patient from following the best course of treatment,” said State Senator Julie Morrison (D-Lake Forest). “This measure will make patient care the priority, not cost savings for the insurance carriers.”



Murphy's measure will make medication easier to obtain in shortages



Published: March 06, 2024

SPRINGFIELD – Under a new measure proposed by State Senator Laura Murphy, medications could be easier to obtain during shortages.

“When you are a patient dealing with a long-term illness or condition, the last thing you want to hear is that your medication is out of stock, but the name brand — which isn’t covered by your insurance — is in stock and you’ll have to pay hundreds more just to get the medicine you need,” said Murphy (D-Des Plaines). “It is even worse when you have to call every local pharmacy and get the same answer. We need to ensure

better outcomes for our patients by ensuring that they have access to the medications that they need.”

Murphy’s measure would require health insurance and managed care plans to cover brand name prescription drugs if the generic drug is unavailable during a nationwide shortage.

Last summer, there were 309 ongoing drug shortages in the United States, marking the highest number in a decade. Among the medications affected are those used to treat cancer, diabetes, epilepsy and asthma. Insurance companies will typically cover

either the generic or the brand name medication, but rarely both. During shortages, patients whose insurance only cover the generic are given the option to purchase the brand name medications at many times the normal cost.

“Making name brand medication accessible through insurance when generics aren’t available not only saves patients money, it safeguards their health,” Murphy said. “By creating this access, we promote equity in health care, ensuring that all individuals — regardless of their financial status — can receive the treatment they need.”



Stolen license plate, registration sticker replacements would be free under Sims measure

Published: April 12, 2024



SPRINGFIELD — If a person's license plate or sticker is stolen from their car, they wouldn't be on the hook for paying the replacement fee under a measure led through the Senate by State Senator Elgie R. Sims, Jr.

"Imagine the stress of seeing someone violated your personal belongings," said Sims (D-Chicago). "Now imagine the exacerbated stress of wondering how you are going to pay to fix the problem so you don't get fined. We should never penalize victims – no matter

how big or small the price."

Under Sims' measure, if a person's license plate or registration sticker is stolen, they would be able to receive a new one at no cost. Currently, drivers would have to pay either \$6 for a new plate, or \$20 for a new registration tag if stolen.

According to the Illinois Secretary of State's Office, 651 drivers reported their plates stolen over a three-year period.

"There's no reason someone should have to open up their

pocketbook because of someone else's wrongdoing," said Sims. "Public safety isn't just about keeping our communities safe – it's also about protecting and uplifting victims."



Illinois one step closer to having new early childhood agency thanks to Lightford

Published: April 12, 2024



SPRINGFIELD – Senate Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford led the charge through the Senate to create a new state agency – the Department of Early Childhood – to streamline the administration of early childhood education care programs and services.

“The foundation of a child’s success and well-being is built starting the moment they are born,” said Lightford (D-Maywood). “As a state, it is our duty to provide the necessary support and resources to build such stability. The creation of this unique agency will break ground on our transition to a whole,

trauma-informed approach to meeting children’s diverse needs.”

The Department of Early Childhood – which would be created through Senate Bill 1 – would focus on administering early childhood education programs. The new agency would be dedicated to making access to such state programs easier for parents and providers to navigate.

Combining streamlined oversight to state-funded early childhood programs within the State Board of Education, Department of Human Services and Department of Children and

Family Services, the new agency would house the responsibility of the Early Childhood Block Grant – which funds the Lightford-backed Preschool for All initiative – among other items.

“Illinois has become a national leader in the fight to enhance support for our most vulnerable children,” said Lightford. “However, we also acknowledge we can’t stop our work until every child in the state has access to the best, all-around care – and the creation of this agency would be a grand step toward that goal.”



Villa law aids grieving families after child loss



Published: January 05, 2024

SPRINGFIELD – Effective Jan. 1, individuals who lose a child to suicide or homicide have the right to extended bereavement leave thanks to a new law championed by State Senator Karina Villa establishing the Zachary’s Parent Protection Act.

After Laura Kane lost her son, Zachary, to suicide, she was expected to return to work just three days later. Her story inspired the law to protect grieving families from being put in the same situation.

“Losing a child is one of the most difficult experiences an individual can face especially when the child’s life was lost too soon to suicide

or homicide,” said Villa (D-West Chicago). “It is necessary to provide individuals suffering such an immense loss with a suitable amount of time to cope.”

Senate Bill 2034 – also known as Zachary’s Parent Protection Act – provides extended bereavement leave to employees who have lost a child to suicide or homicide for 12 weeks of unpaid leave if employed by a business with at least 250 workers and six weeks of unpaid leave for businesses with less than 250 employees. The act also establishes penalties for employers who violate the act and protects employees from unfair treatment by providing that employees who

take leave will not be entitled to any more benefits than they would have had they not taken such leave.

“Parents should be allotted the proper amount of time to grieve such a terrible loss to focus on healing and take care of their mental wellbeing after a traumatic event instead of worrying about employment-related concerns,” said Villa.



Ellman law requires fentanyl education in all Illinois high schools starting this year



Published: January 05, 2024

SPRINGFIELD – At the start of the 2024-2025 school year, every state-required health course will provide mandatory fentanyl education to high school students, thanks to a new law supported by State Senator Laura Ellman that took effect Jan. 1.

“In order to combat the ongoing opioid epidemic on all fronts, we need to educate our most vulnerable populations, which includes young people,” said Ellman (D-Naperville). “The age of

fentanyl exposure is younger than we think, and I am pleased this law implements such indispensable education for students.”

House Bill 3924 requires health courses for high school students in each school district to educate them on the dangers of fentanyl and fentanyl contamination through instruction, study and discussion.

“The increase in opioid-related deaths each year signals to Illinoisans that more underlying issues need to be addressed,”

said Ellman. “In the next school year, students across the state will begin to learn more about fentanyl addiction, which can empower them to set a healthier example for others and hopefully lead to fewer overdoses and deaths.”



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

CLOSING THE CHAPTER ON BOOK BANS

Illinois is the first state in the nation to prohibit state-funded libraries from banning or removing materials due to religious or partisan disapproval.

(HB 2789 - MURPHY)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

WHEN NATURE THROWS A FIT, UTILITIES WON'T QUIT

When temperatures exceed 90 degrees, there's a heat watch, or a weather advisory, utility companies must continue providing gas or electric services for residents — even if they've missed a bill payment.

(HB 1541 - HUNTER)





INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

NO MORE STOPS WHEN WINDSHIELDS ARE BLOCKED

Vehicles can't be stopped or searched solely because an object is placed or suspended between the driver and the front windshield.

(HB 2389 - BELT)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

CRACKING DOWN ON CARJACKING

Illinois car manufacturers will establish a vehicle theft hotline in order to locate stolen automobiles through their GPS.

(HB 2245 - HASTINGS)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024





INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

NAVIGATING FENTANYL FACTS

High schools will now teach students about the dangers of fentanyl in all state-required health courses.

(HB 3924 - ELLMAN)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

LET'S CLEAR THE AIR

Electronic cigarettes can't be used inside public spaces or within 15 feet of entrances.

(HB 1540 - MORRISON)





INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

GIVING BACK TO ORGAN DONORS

Within a 12-month period, employees of any unit of local government, board of elections commissioners, or any private employers with 51 or more employees can receive 10 days of paid leave for donating an organ.

(HB 3516 - VILLIVALAM)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

STEERING CLEAR OF VIDEO CHATS

Any person operating a motor vehicle may not use an electronic device to participate in video conferences or access social media sites.

(HB 2431 - CERVANTES)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024





INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

FIGHTING FERTILITY FRAUD

If a health care provider knowingly uses their own reproductive material for artificial insemination without the patient's consent, the patient is provided a civil cause of action for fertility fraud.

(SB 380 - KOEHLER)



INTERESTING NEW LAWS FOR 2024

NO FEES FOR VETERANS' FURRY FRIENDS

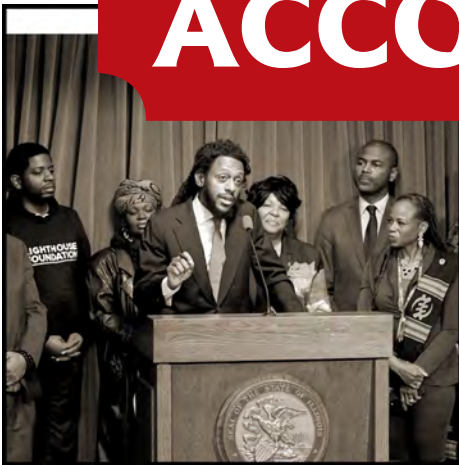
Pet adoption fees from animal shelters or animal control facilities will be waived for veterans. Shelters and facilities can also limit the number of pets adopted.

(HB 2500 - LOUGHRAN CAPPEL)





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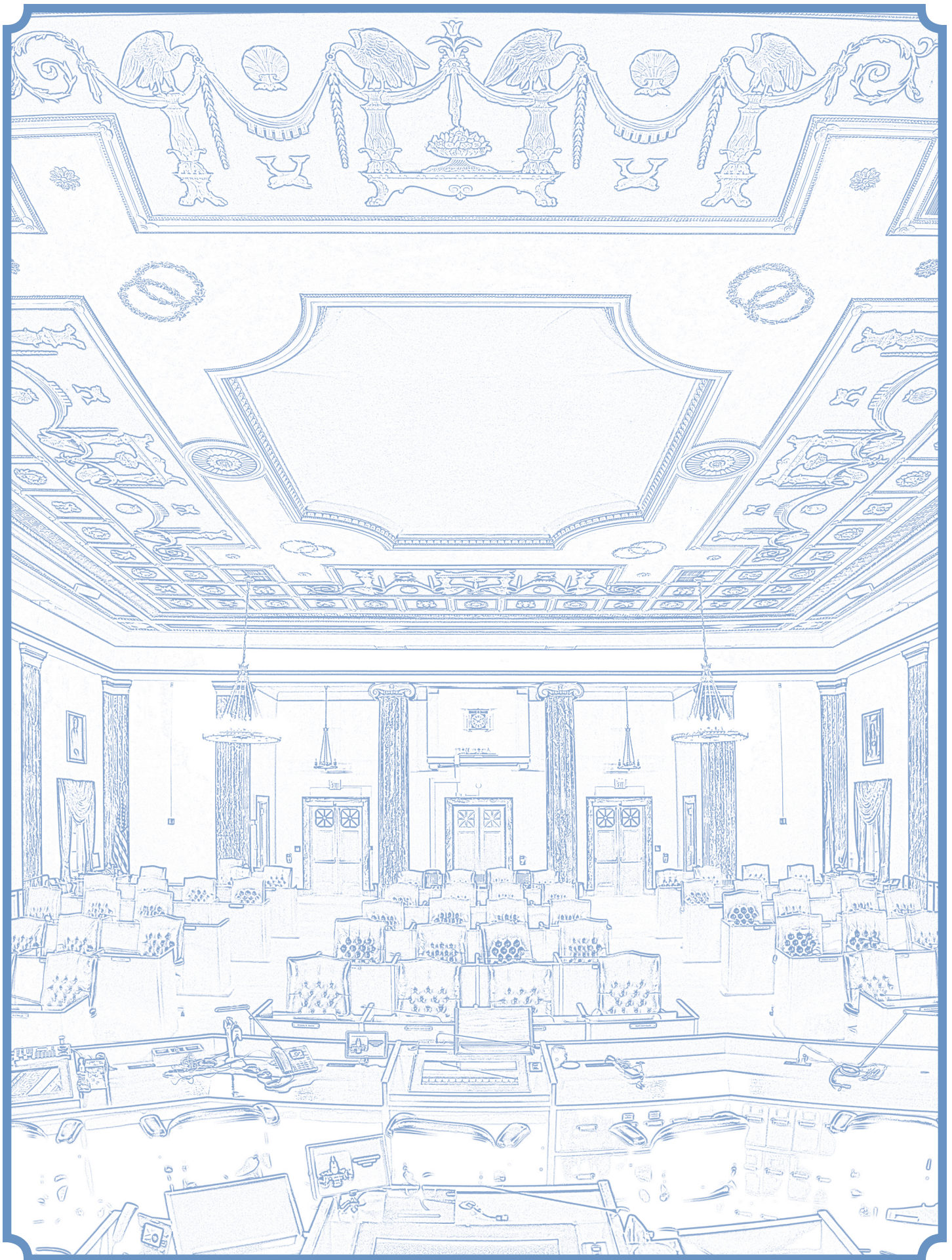


SENATE IN REVIEW

DON HARMON, SENATE PRESIDENT

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Don Harmon

Illinois Senate President | 39th Senate District

Senate President Don Harmon began the Spring 2024 legislative session with a primary goal: pass another responsible, balanced budget.

After years of chaos, financial stability is becoming the norm in Illinois.

Illinois' \$16 billion backlog is gone, and the state pays its bills to providers and vendors on time.

Under President Harmon's leadership, the Senate has invested in education, local government and other essential services.

And last year, the state secured its 9th credit upgrade in the last 4 years, putting Illinois back in the "A" ratings category.

Always a champion of democracy, President Harmon passed legislation establishing an elected school board for Chicago Public Schools. Harmon believes the people of Chicago should have a say in choosing their school board members, just like every other school district in the state.

Always a champion of strong ethics reform, President Harmon passed a bill that ensures Chicago school board members will be held to strong ethical standards that mirror those for all other school boards across the state. Harmon sought input from the Mayor of Chicago and advocates and adopted the mayor's plan: a hybrid model in which 10 CPS Board

members will be elected in 2024 and 10 CPS Board members and the Board Chair will be appointed by the mayor. Beginning in 2026, all 20 CPS Board members will be elected from subdistricts and the Board President will be elected citywide.

Despite the broad responsibilities of being Senate President, Harmon feels one of the best parts of his job is when he is able to solve a problem for a constituent.

This spring, an Oak Park mother contacted Harmon after her son, who lives in a community-independent living arrangement, had to stop managing his diabetes with an insulin pump due to restrictions under current state law. Harmon acted quickly to pass legislation updating the outdated law to provide more independence and medical autonomy for people in independent living arrangements.

Bipartisanship and local issues are a priority for President Harmon. This session, he sponsored a bill introduced by Republican Representative Brad Stephens to improve traffic safety around O'Hare International Airport. Representative Stephens noticed cars parking along the shoulder of the highway to pick up passengers rather than using the designated cell phone lots. Under his and Harmon's bill, anyone loitering on the shoulder within a half mile of the airport could be subject to a \$100 fine.

President Harmon is proud of another successful legislative session and looks forward to spending time in the 39th District.





Kimberly A. Lightford

Majority Leader | Assignments chair | Early Childhood Education chair
4th Senate District

Entering her 26th year in the General Assembly, Senate Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford (D-Maywood) stayed true to her commitment to prioritize equitable education and learning opportunities for students.

A longtime advocate of enhancing early childhood support in Illinois, Lightford led Senate Bill 1 to streamline the administration of early childhood education care programs and services.

The Department of Early Childhood would focus on administering early childhood education programs. The new agency would be dedicated to making access to such state programs easier for parents and providers to navigate.

Combining streamlined oversight to state-funded early childhood programs within the State Board of Education, Department of Human Services and Department of Children

and Family Services, the new agency would house the responsibility of the Early Childhood Block Grant – which funds the Lightford-backed Preschool for All initiative – among other items.

Prioritizing transparency and humanity, Lightford was instrumental in passing Senate Bill 378. Lightford’s measure would set forth a number of protections that must be provided to a parent or guardian at the center of an abuse or neglect investigation. Under the measure, DCFS would be required to notify the parent or guardian of an investigation and give them the opportunity to submit a second medical opinion to be considered in the investigation.

Further, if a medical professional examines a child for the purpose of providing an opinion to DCFS regarding whether the child’s injury or condition is suspicious for child

maltreatment, they must identify that intent to the parent or guardian and alert them that they may be required to communicate with law enforcement and provide court testimony.

Additionally, Lightford championed a measure to require all high school students to learn financial literacy. Under House Bill 1375, high school students would learn about financial literacy as part of their consumer education requirement. The instruction would focus on basic economics, the principles of supply and demand, how to budget income responsibly, loan repayment, and the cost of high-interest short-term “payday” loans.

Lightford has continuously played an instrumental role in the safe and equitable legalization of recreational cannabis. This year, she took those efforts a step further by spearheading House Bill 4293, which would regulate hemp derived THC products similar to how the state regulates cannabis as it relates to taxing, testing, advertisement and more. She worked diligently to protect consumers of all ages, help the cannabis industry flourish, keep the promise to social equity communities, and not stifle reputable hemp business establishments with the passage of the measure.

Lightford will spend the summer months hosting and attending events in the community and continuing to uplift her friends and neighbors.





Bill Cunningham

President Pro Tempore | Assistant Majority Leader | 18th Senate District

During this legislative session, Senate President Pro Tempore Bill Cunningham – a Democrat who represents portions of Chicago and the southwest suburbs – continued his efforts to protect first responders and stand up for Illinois workers and consumers.

Cunningham was instrumental in the passage of legislation that would protect vehicle owners by updating towing regulations often abused by rogue towing companies. Senate Bill 2654 was brought to Cunningham from a constituent of the 18th District. The constituent's vehicle was stolen from outside their residence in Chicago and was eventually located by law enforcement and towed in Alsip. The constituent did not find out where their vehicle was located until a week after it was recovered, receiving a letter in the mail from a suburban towing company that was holding the vehicle. When the constituent went to recover the vehicle, they were told they would have to pay a fee of \$1,500 and were not allowed to recover a hearing aid from the vehicle until the fee was paid. Cunningham's measure would add medical devices and other items to the list of property that can be recovered from a towed vehicle without payment. Cunningham also discovered that there was an issue with the notification process when a vehicle is stolen and later towed. To address that issue, Cunningham removed the ability for a towing company to charge storage fees on

a stolen vehicle if they do not follow the correct notification process.

Additionally, Cunningham advanced two key initiatives to expand family counseling services and disability benefits for first responders. House Bill 4460 would require every self-insured county and municipality across the state to provide coverage for marriage and couples counseling for firefighters and police officers. Coverage for marriage or couples counseling is not currently required in insurance plans for first responders because it is not considered a diagnosable mental health condition. Continuing his commitment to law enforcement and first responders, Cunningham advanced another measure to expand the net of police officers, firefighters and paramedics who can receive benefits after becoming disabled due to contracting COVID-19 on the job. This measure is an expansion of a law Cunningham led

last year to grant disability pension benefits to Chicago first responders who contracted COVID-19 before vaccines were available.

Cunningham also advanced commonsense changes to the Biometric Information Privacy Act – also known as BIPA. Senate Bill 2979 would protect small businesses from annihilative financial burden while still providing strong protections for consumers and workers. Cunningham believes that the crime should fit the punishment and his BIPA reform strikes the right balance.

This legislative session has shown Cunningham's commitment to making the community safe and providing real relief for Illinois consumers. As the spring legislative session ends, Cunningham looks forward to getting back into the 18th District to host community events and meet with small business owners and working people alike.





Linda Holmes

Assistant Majority Leader | Local Government chair

42nd Senate District

In her 18th year in office, Assistant Majority Leader Linda Holmes (D-Aurora) built on the successes of previous sessions this spring by strengthening and expanding legislative issues she has championed before.

Women's health issues and access to care are long-standing concerns for her. Common conditions may have effective treatments available, but if those aren't covered by insurance, they're unaffordable. Extending insurance coverage for menopause therapy recognizes treatment is required, whether it started naturally or due to a hysterectomy. Holmes' House Bill 5295 would require equal coverage of treatment, regardless of the cause. Another initiative for women's health, House Bill 5282, would require insurers to cover care for the mental and emotional effects on individuals who have experienced a miscarriage or stillbirth. Pregnancy

is covered through delivery, postpartum and neonatal care, and this measure extends care for this circumstance.

Holmes sponsored three bills to advance significant laws passed last year: using drones appropriately for public safety, getting farmers' surplus food to families via food banks and establishing a statewide paint recycling program.

Building off of her work as cosponsor of 2023's Drones as First Responders Act, House Bill 4715 would let local governments regulate using private drones over publicly owned or controlled properties such as parks, sports fields and sensitive wildlife areas. Commercial users acting on behalf of public infrastructure like railroads and utilities would be allowed.

The Farm to Food Bank Program became law to address food insecurity and surplus food on Illinois farms.

Senate Bill 3274 would appropriate state funds to gather, transport and distribute these healthy foods to overstretched food banks.

Senate Bill 839 would build off of Holmes' upcoming paint recycling program to manage hazardous waste paint products and IEPA concerns about oil-based paint. Illinois joins 10 other states in this recycling effort.

After years of researching laws providing end-of-life options, Holmes introduced Senate Bill 3499 on medical aid in dying. She believes Illinoisans should have the option to decide for themselves when they have suffered enough at the end of their life so they can die peacefully at home. Recalling the suffering and loss of her parents to cancer, Holmes joined an advocacy group experienced with other states allowing this option for mentally capable, terminally ill adults in Illinois with six months or fewer to live. The option would be 100% voluntary for terminally ill people, physicians and pharmacists, ensuring there would be no abuse or coercion by physicians, family members or other interested parties.

Senator Holmes looks forward to being in the 42nd District this summer, talking with local leaders about the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, and will be meeting with local groups interested in medical aid in dying to answer their questions about making this option legal in Illinois.





Mattie Hunter

Assistant Majority Leader | 3rd Senate District

This legislative session, Assistant Majority Leader Mattie Hunter (D-Chicago) continued her commitment to improving the health and safety of residents throughout the state.

As Illinois continues to prioritize residents' needs by tackling rising medical costs, Hunter led Senate Bill 3203 to make asthma inhalers more affordable. Recognizing the financial strain faced by individuals managing asthma, Hunter's bill would cap the cost of prescription inhalers to \$25 for a 30-day supply. With over 850,000 adults and 160,000 children diagnosed with asthma in Illinois, this legislation would alleviate the burden of out-of-pocket expenses for this essential medication.

To bring attention to the importance of cardiovascular health, Hunter introduced Senate Resolution 738 declaring April 2024 as Minority Health Month in Illinois. With cardiovascular disease remaining a leading cause of death among minority populations, this resolution urged Illinoisans to prioritize cardiovascular health and take preventative measures, such as undergoing regular cholesterol tests.

Throughout her career in the Senate, Hunter has taken a multipronged approach to fighting sickle cell disease, including efforts to expand education, programs and funding surrounding the condition. Continuing this work, Hunter stood

alongside Governor JB Pritzker as he signed an executive order to establish a framework for financing and expanding access to transformative therapies for sickle cell disease. This initiative aims to help address the financial barriers to treatment and ensure equitable access within the Illinois Medicaid program.

In addition to advancing legislation to better the health and well-being of Illinoisans, Hunter continued her work to address systemic issues affecting the communities she serves, notably through the Task Force for Missing and Murdered Chicago Women. The task force — created through legislation she passed in 2022 and of which she serves as co-chair — continues to meet monthly to examine data on violence against women and develop strategies to prevent further tragedies. Hunter worked to expand the

scope of the task force through House Bill 4295, which would add two members from the Chicago Police Department. This enhanced collaboration would help bridge the information gap, bringing more voices to the table as the task force works to bring forth justice.

Hunter remains dedicated to implementing initiatives outlined by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, serving on task forces and meeting with state and local stakeholders to create a more equitable health care system.

Hunter will return to the 3rd District this summer to connect with constituents on important issues and available state resources. In August, she will host her annual Family Health and Fitness Fair, marking two decades of bringing free health screenings, school supplies and local resources to the community.





Dave Koehler

Assistant Majority Leader | 46th Senate District

From advocating for local food economies, creating accessible battery recycling locations, revitalizing neighborhoods, promoting job creation and protecting Illinoisans from harmful practices used by insurance companies, State Senator Dave Koehler (D-Peoria) spent another year in the Illinois General Assembly fighting for the 46th District.

Illinois has some of the richest soil in the nation, which is why it is such a surprise that over 95% of food consumed in the state is purchased from outside our borders. Koehler took action and spearheaded Senate Bill 3077 to create the Local Food Infrastructure Grant Act. This measure would enhance local food processing, aggregation and distribution within the state through the award of grants. This shift toward the purchase and distribution of locally sourced groceries helps farmers, boosts our economy and gives residents fresh products on grocery store shelves.

Additionally, Koehler championed Senate Bill 3686 to give residents the ability to properly dispose of used batteries. This bill would establish battery collection opportunities statewide to ensure all residents have a safe, accessible facility to recycle the harmful chemicals that are contained in batteries, rather than simply throwing them in the garbage.

As a proud Peoria native, Koehler went to work to revitalize the community he raised his family in. Senate Bill 2936 would address urban decay in the greater Peoria area by giving landlords the incentive to upgrade properties to ensure every neighbor has a safe and well-maintained home to live in.

As the world relies on creative businesses to drive new projects to success, Koehler brought opportunities to bolster the expanding industry within the state. The creative arts sector employs over 190,000 workers in Illinois with

\$31.1 billion in economic impact, which is why Koehler led House Bill 4959 to establish the Creative Economy Task Force. This task force would study how to help attract new creative businesses and employment opportunities to Illinois, address inequities in historically marginalized and disinvested creative communities, and produce marketable content for national and international markets.

Patients cannot afford to wait for their medication due to unnecessary barriers created by insurance companies, which is why Koehler championed House Bill 4055 to cut red-tape practices used by insurers for the treatment of hereditary bleeding disorders. According to the American Society of Hematology, mortality rates and hospitalization rates for bleeding complications from hemophilia — an inherited bleeding disorder in which the blood does not clot properly — were 40% lower among people who received care in hemophilia treatment centers than those who did not receive this care. Koehler's measure would streamline the process for patients to receive treatment by eliminating prior authorization.

When he was not spending time in Springfield, Koehler attended town halls, hosted district-wide events and fostered partnerships with organizations throughout the 46th District. This summer, he will continue to work with his community while preparing for the next legislative session and spend time with his family.





Laura M. Murphy

Assistant Majority Leader | Executive Appointments chair | 28th Senate District

With over two decades of experience in health care and social services management, State Senator Laura Murphy (D-Des Plaines) understands the importance of improving patient outcomes. That is why this year, Murphy championed several pieces of legislation with the intention of removing roadblocks and increasing access to health care.

To streamline and improve care, Murphy's Senate Bill 2655 would create a subcommittee under the Medicaid Advisory Committee to identify deficiencies in the current Medicaid network. In particular, it focuses on removing barriers for individuals with developmental disabilities so they can receive care that is catered to their needs.

Last summer, there were 309 ongoing drug shortages in the United States, marking the highest number in a decade. These shortages still continue, and among the medications affected are those used to treat cancer, diabetes, epilepsy and asthma. During shortages, patients whose insurance only covers the generic drug are given the option to purchase the brand-name medication at full cost or to go without. Murphy's Senate Bill 2672 would require insurance companies to cover a brand-name prescription if the generic is not available starting Jan. 1, 2026.

Alzheimer's is a disease that requires treatment as soon as symptoms begin to ensure patients have the best outcomes, and roadblocks such as step therapy can delay or prevent

treatment for these individuals. Senate Bill 3318 would eliminate the step therapy requirement for people who are covered by the State Employees Group Insurance Program. The program would also be required to cover all medically necessary FDA-approved treatments or medications to slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Health care was not Murphy's only focus. She put an emphasis on ensuring education is provided to an often-overlooked group: emerging adults in custody. The measure would allow the Department of Juvenile Justice to establish educational programs for individuals ages 18 to 21 who have been committed to the Illinois Department of Corrections. It is a crucial step for the emerging adult population to be able to continue their education so that they return home to their communities with a high school degree, while also receiving other developmentally appropriate and

more individualized services. This includes case management, group and individual therapy, and opportunities for vocational training.

Murphy also took several steps forward in the field of consumer and homeowner protection with Senate Bill 2834, which would require mobile home park owners to give notice to tenants that parks must be licensed to operate, and if they are not licensed, the owner cannot collect rent. Lease agreements would be required to have this disclaimer included in a clear and conspicuous manner. Murphy also championed House Bill 4447 to enable automobile dealers to file suit against scammers who use their intellectual property to deceive consumers.

Murphy has once again demonstrated her commitment to championing legislation that uplifts the working families of Illinois. She will continue to do so going forward through summer and veto session.





Omar Aquino

Majority Caucus Chair | Approp - Health and Human Services chair
2nd Senate District

State Senator Omar Aquino (D-Chicago) led efforts this year focused on key financial and economic relief for working families. As the cost of living continues to rise across the nation — affecting families in the 2nd Senate District — Aquino worked to make sure the state was taking steps to provide tax relief, protect consumers and make life more affordable for working people.

From supporting a permanent end to the state's grocery tax, to gaining momentum on closing key corporate loopholes, Aquino's revenue proposals focused on putting money back into everyday people's pockets.

Building on the momentum of the Earned Income Tax Credit expansion he championed in 2022, Aquino spearheaded the effort to enact a statewide child tax credit this year. The Illinois child tax

credit — which includes immigrant taxpayers who utilize an ITIN — would put money back in the pockets of working-class parents from all backgrounds, marking a crucial expansion of relief for families with children in all corners of the state.

Aquino continued his advocacy on behalf of working people through his efforts to stop companies in Illinois from advertising the price of goods or services that do not include all mandatory fees and charges — often known as “junk fees.” The measure, House Bill 4629, aims to tackle the issue of fair prices for families while also protecting small businesses that do display honest and transparent information about their prices.

Since taking office, Aquino has taken on a spectrum of health- and social service-related issues, including in his role on the

Appropriations-Health and Human Services Committee. As someone who firmly believes that health care is a human right, Aquino was proud to be appointed to chair the committee in April, where he will serve for the remainder of the 103rd General Assembly.

In this new role, Aquino was able to exercise even greater advocacy on issues related to affordable care, the human services workforce and health inequities. In one of his first acts as chair, he called a hearing to address the home care workforce shortage and the need for a living wage for Community Care Program home care workers. Senate Bill 3332 would raise the base wage for these essential workers to \$20 per hour, supporting a workforce that cares for thousands of seniors and people with disabilities across the state.

Aquino is looking forward to spending the summer in the 2nd District, hosting his widely attended annual back-to-school family health fair in August, and visiting with constituents and businesses in Humboldt Park's newly designated state cultural district — Puerto Rico Town.





Cristina Castro

Majority Caucus Whip | Executive chair | 22nd Senate District

In 2024, State Senator Cristina Castro (D-Elgin) led several measures over the finish line to deliver a more equitable Illinois and lift up working families across the 22nd Senate District.

Standing strong on the issue of safeguarding women and infant health, Castro championed the effort to expand access to infertility treatments like in vitro fertilization through Senate Bill 773. Recognizing the exorbitant cost of treatment, and knowing that the right to reproductive care is not guaranteed at the federal level, the measure continues Illinois' commitment to women's health by requiring insurance coverage for treatments like IVF starting Jan. 1, 2026.

Castro continued her commitment to maternal and infant health by implementing recommendations from the Illinois Maternal Mortality Review Committee. Senate Bill 3136 would create a new task force to develop a plan for helping infants exposed to substances during pregnancy. These plans, called family recovery plans, would include medical care, recovery support and connections to community services for both the child and the caregiver – ensuring every family receives the resources they need for a healthier future.

Castro also played a key role in the General Assembly's efforts to limit health insurance rules that stand in the way of patients receiving the care they need. She carried Senate Bill 3732 that would implement a prohibition on

prior authorization, pushed for House Bill 5313 to ban “ghost networks” that falsely advertise in-network care, and supported Senate Bill 3739, a comprehensive package aimed at improving affordable health care.

A strong labor advocate, Castro supported Senate Bill 3646, which aims to give workers the right to file a claim with the Illinois Department of Labor if their employer retaliates against them for exercising their labor rights, filing a labor complaint or testifying in a proceeding related to alleged violations. Additionally, the legislation would codify protections for children working in Illinois' film industry. Under the measure, child performers and non-performers alike would have greater safeguards and rules on when they are allowed to work. The measure also gives regulators the tools to ensure industry-wide compliance with child labor laws.

Another initiative to protect workers who may be subject to

dangerous working conditions, Castro led House Bill 5561 this spring. The measure enhances whistleblower protections in the workplace by giving the Illinois Attorney General the ability to act on behalf of workers whose employers have retaliated against them for disclosing a public health, safety or workplace hazard.

A proven leader with a demonstrated commitment to prioritizing legislative results over scoring personal points, Castro was among 29 lawmakers selected this year to be members of the inaugural class of Innovation Fellows, a nationwide fellowship for Gen Z and millennial state legislators. Throughout the summer and fall, Castro looks forward to continuing her work with fellowships and national conferences like the National Alliance of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), and spending time out and about in the 22nd District.





Napoleon B. Harris, III

Majority Caucus Whip | Insurance chair | 15th Senate District

State Senator Napoleon B. Harris, III (D-Harvey) celebrated his fifth year as the chair of the Senate's Insurance Committee where he has guided commonsense legislation that increases health care accessibility and affordability for all Illinoisans.

This year, he championed Senate Bill 2573, which would require insurance plans to provide coverage for wigs or other scalp prostheses for individuals experiencing hair loss due to alopecia, chemotherapy or radiation treatment for cancer or other conditions.

He believes that individuals who are experiencing hair loss due to alopecia, chemotherapy or radiation have had endless hurdles to overcome. Standardizing medical insurance for wigs and other scalp prostheses will help alleviate some unnecessary stress and remove financial barriers to help provide individuals with some sense of normalcy.

For many, hair serves as a key component of their identity, and Harris believes that by providing individuals with affordable access to hair prosthesis, we are giving them back a piece of their selves.

Harris also advanced a measure to increase transparency of homeowner's insurance policy coverage. House Bill 5357 would require an insurer to disclose whether a homeowner's insurance policy covers damage from a sewer backup or overflow from a sump pump when issuing or quoting a homeowner's policy. Further, the measure would require insurance companies to offer the policyholder an opportunity to purchase this coverage if the policy does not already include it.

He knows that increasing transparency in homeowner insurance policies is a good first step in ensuring residents are equipped with the knowledge to make decisions that are in the best

interests of their families.

Harris led significant health care reforms through his committee such as Senate Bill 773, which would require health insurance plans in Illinois to cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, House Bill 5295, which would require insurers to provide coverage for medically necessary hormonal and non-hormonal therapy to treat menopausal symptoms, and House Bill 2385, which would reduce barriers to individuals trying to access a colonoscopy.

Harris continues his promise to ensure economic vitality for communities across his district with the development of the South Suburban Airport. This year he advocated for establishment of the airport by pushing for legislation to make sure the state accepts bids and expands the pool of applicants to get the project moving. This airport will serve as an economic engine for communities across the area and provide local businesses with access to global markets for generations to come.

Harris is a dedicated advocate for the 15th Senate District and works diligently to serve his constituents through various community events such as turkey giveaways, recycling events, career fairs, senior expos, pop-up grocery markets and much more. He believes in service above self and will spend the summer meeting with constituents and connecting them with vital government resources.





Julie A. Morrison

Majority Caucus Whip | Health and Human Services chair

29th Senate District

This spring legislative session, State Senator Julie Morrison (D-Lake Forest) sponsored legislation to maintain the health, safety and longevity of Illinois residents.

Committed to improving health care and keeping up with advances in technology, Morrison introduced a measure to increase efficiency in emergency response services. Senate Bill 3116 would require training for EMS on how to access the medical ID function within health apps on cell phones, which detail an individual's basic and pertinent health information.

Utilizing a patient's health app can ensure EMS personnel are aware if individuals are allergic to certain foods or medications, or if they are taking medication that may interact with another drug or medical treatment. Taking the guess work out of emergency response will save lives.

Since 1990, cancer fatalities have dropped by 25%, with one of the most effective tools in cancer prevention being early detection. Current law only requires coverage of certain types of genetic testing for cancer. With Senate Bill 2697, Morrison made it a priority to expand private insurance coverage of early detection and genetic testing for all types of cancer for individuals of any age with an increased risk of the disease.

Rates of lung cancer are worsened by the rising use of vaping

products, and youth e-cigarette use is an emerging health threat. Today, high school seniors are vaping at a higher rate than they smoked cigarettes 10 years ago.

Morrison wants to make sure children are protected from the harmful effects of nicotine and vape products. Under Senate Bill 2662, manufacturers would be prohibited from marketing vapes that are designed to easily sneak past adults by appearing to merely be school supplies.

Another emerging public health threat is the lack of supports for people struggling with compulsive gambling or a gambling addiction.

To help the more than 300,000 Illinoisans struggling with a gambling disorder, Morrison introduced an initiative to increase resources, education and prevention efforts. Senate Bill 3410 would recognize

problem gambling as an official disorder and allow for funding to go to the Illinois Department of Human Services to coordinate gambling disorder prevention, recognition, treatment and recovery services.

Morrison also fought for early detection of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, an increase in coverage of continuous glucose monitors for people with any type of diabetes, and protection for nursing home residents.

Morrison will spend the summer months active in her community, meeting with residents, hosting events and more.





Elgie R. Sims, Jr.

**Majority Caucus Appropriations Leader | Appropriations chair
Senate Special Committee on Criminal Law and Public Safety chair
*17th Senate District***

For his fourth year as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee – and second as the Majority Caucus Appropriations Leader – State Senator Elgie R. Sims, Jr. (D-Chicago) worked diligently to bring forth a budget that takes a fiscally responsible approach and moves Illinois forward on its track toward success. Sims was instrumental in passing a budget that is balanced, fiscally sound, and addresses the needs of the people across the state.

Sims played an instrumental part in Illinois' transition toward a new pretrial system that allows courts to hold violent offenders who would ordinarily be able to use cash to pay for release through the passage of the SAFE-T Act.

This year, he built upon those efforts to lead House Bill 4621 to codify the Office of Statewide

Pretrial Services into law. Following the passage of the Pretrial Fairness Act in 2021, the Illinois Supreme Court created the Office of Statewide Pretrial Services. It employs pretrial service officers who conduct pretrial investigations and provide pretrial supervision. To date, the office has completed 11,932 investigations and 11,607 defendants have been ordered to its supervision.

The office would provide pretrial services to circuit courts and counties that don't currently have pretrial services agencies. It further would ensure the office creates – and enforces – uniform standards to pretrial services.

Additionally, to ensure the pawnbroker industry is fair, transparent and equitable, Sims led House Bill 779. The measure – which was signed into law in

March – created the Pawnbrokers Regulation Act of 2023, regulating how a pawnbroker can operate and conduct its operations to ensure they are being fair, transparent, and equitable. It gives the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation authority to oversee and regulate the industry. Further, it establishes a complaint and penalty system, which could result in the termination or suspension of a pawnbroker's license.

Recognizing a person should not be on the hook for paying a replacement fee if their license plate or sticker is stolen from their car, Sims passed Senate Bill 3471. Under Sims' measure, if a person's license plate or registration sticker is stolen, they would be able to receive a new one at no cost. Currently, drivers would have to pay either \$6 for a new plate, or \$20 for a new registration tag if stolen.

Further, under Sims' leadership, Illinois received a total of nine major credit upgrades, which come as a result of responsible spending decisions.

Throughout the summer months, Sims will continue his work to enhance public safety and equal opportunities for all. He also will continue to be active in the community, hosting a number of events to support residents and bring the community together.





Christopher Belt

Approp - Public Safety & Infrastructure chair | 57th Senate District

State Senator Christopher Belt (D-Swansea) concluded a successful spring legislative session having championed a suite of bills that will positively impact Illinoisans, especially residents of historically disadvantaged communities.

A longtime advocate for policies that extend equal economic opportunity for everyone in the state, Belt sponsored the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus' third pillar in 2021. Since then, he has continued to bring forth legislation that ensures economic access, equity and opportunity for all.

This year, Belt brought Senate Bill 3235 to the table as a way to identify and correct inequities some individuals face when seeking loans, mortgages or other financial services. This bill would incentivize state-regulated financial institutions to meet the financial service needs of areas where there is a lack of access to affordable banking, credit for small businesses, reasonable interest rates and other lending services. In bringing a voice to the disadvantaged communities within his district, Belt's legislation was a vital step toward empowering people with the financial tools and resources necessary to thrive in today's economy. Furthermore, this bill would mandate the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to conduct studies to identify areas in Illinois that show significant disparities in relation to race, ethnicity,

gender and other protected characteristics in the area of financial services, as well as identify policies and procedures that may have discriminatory effects on underserved communities.

Building on his idea that everyone should be able to thrive economically, Belt led Senate Bill 2234, which would create the Small Business Financing Transparency Act. This measure would require the disclosure of key financial terms, such as the amount financed, fees and an estimated annual percentage rate, at the time an online or non-bank provider makes a loan offer. Many small businesses in Illinois have fallen victim to predatory lending, which in turn resulted in their closure. Belt understands how important small businesses are to all communities in the state and believes that more transparency in lending practices will uplift small business owners,

creating an equitable business environment.

Belt brought forth legislation this year to address critical issues facing Illinoisans — including granting equal access to economic opportunity for all residents and business owners — and worked tirelessly to advance Senate Bill 3235 and Senate Bill 2234. Belt's commitment to bettering the state and his fierce advocacy for key issues facing residents of the 57th District and beyond continues to build a brighter future for all people in Illinois.





Javier L. Cervantes

1st Senate District

Working with community organizations to find ways to assist residents in their time of need, State Senator Javier Loera Cervantes (D-Chicago) continued his legislative agenda this spring by bringing forth legislation to empower his community. From working with labor advocates, independent living centers and organized labor to therapists, immigrants, refugee families and more, Cervantes has been diligently prioritizing support to the 1st District and across Illinois.

During the spring legislative session, Cervantes led efforts to expand workforce and mental health care opportunities in the community. Under Senate Bill 3211, marriage and family therapist applicants licensed to practice in another state would be more easily able to obtain licensing from the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Cervantes consistently hears from constituents about the need for

therapeutic resources to be more widely available, and his legislation aims to expand therapy options by allowing out-of-state counselors to bring their business and care to Illinois residents with fewer barriers. Giving mental health providers more opportunities to practice in Illinois will leave residents with better access to these resources in their communities.

Cervantes continued working to expand licensing opportunities for professionals by moving legislation to expand real estate licensing in Illinois. Senate Bill 3740 would require brokers and managing brokers licensed in another state who are applying for licensure in Illinois to follow specific, clear guidelines to obtain licensure. The legislation would require applicants who hold an active license in their home state to complete a single test on Illinois specific real estate brokerage laws in place of a more nationalized testing requirement and go through a single course for

pre-license endorsement. This would also expand DEI and fair housing continuing education requirements for brokers in Illinois. The measure would reduce barriers for those who want to enter the profession, leading to better access to licensed real estate providers in Illinois communities.

Cervantes continued his commitment to workers across Illinois by putting his experience as a former representative of SEIU to use with legislation to limit the discriminatory use of artificial intelligence in decisions related to employment. Companies using AI to make employment decisions could be using data points in racially discriminatory ways to single out and target workers, negatively impacting minority communities. Under House Bill 3733, employers would not be allowed to use artificial intelligence to consider demographic information such as race or ZIP code in employment decisions related to recruitment, hiring, promotion, renewal of employment and more. Any employer using AI in a prohibited manner or who fails to notify an employee of their use of AI would be in violation of the Illinois Human Rights Act.

Working with organizations and constituents from around the state, Cervantes knows that employees across Illinois need more support to continue providing for their families, and he remains committed to continuing his efforts to provide relief and representation for families in the 1st District and beyond.





Lakesia Collins

5th Senate District

Continuing her work on behalf of Chicago's West Side communities, State Senator Lakesia Collins (D-Chicago) started her new term as state senator picking up where she left off in the House, bringing forth legislation to support youth in care, create new economic opportunities for low-income communities and ensure residents have the health care options they need.

Collins advanced a measure to include family circumstances as part of the determination process when evaluating a parent's ability to pay for the cost of foster care. Informed by her experience in the foster care system, Collins led Senate Bill 3367 to ensure parents of foster children would only be responsible for the cost of foster care if the Department of Children and Family Services determines that payment would not be contrary to the best interests of the child and would not harm any reunification efforts. Right now, parents can be held responsible for more than they can afford to pay, causing reunification efforts to be significantly delayed. This initiative was spearheaded by Collins to provide more support to foster families who may struggle financially.

Collins knows the experience youth in care go through every day, and to continue her support, she moved legislation that makes certain Illinois is accounting for all

youth in the DCFS system. To assess the progress being made to place youth in the appropriate settings, Collins led House Bill 4758, which would require DCFS to annually report the number of youth in care who remained in temporary living spaces like psychiatric hospitals, out-of-state residential facilities or other emergency placement like shelters. As someone who experienced homelessness on her departure from foster care, Collins knows that making sure children have the best homes possible is an important step toward setting them on a path to success. Accounting for all youth in temporary living spaces would allow the public guardian's office to more accurately advocate on behalf of children in care.

Collins also continued her efforts this year to support seniors. Patients in nursing homes should not have to worry about retaliation for wanting better

living conditions for themselves, and Collins is making an effort to expand the definition of retaliation to include actions that interfere with residents' quality of life in response to protected activities. Under Senate Bill 3559, "retaliatory action" would be expanded to give nursing home residents better protections from abuse.

Making her move to the Senate, Collins knows how much work needs to be done to assist the communities that have been underserved for far too long in the 5th District, and will continue her efforts to provide support and bring economic opportunity and safety to all residents of Chicago and across Illinois.





Mary Edly-Allen

31st Senate District

State Senator Mary Edly-Allen (D-Libertyville) continued her legacy of impactful artificial intelligence measures this session including leading protections for artists' and an individual's likeness and voice. Additionally, she advanced legislation to remove restraints on pregnant incarcerated individuals and provide them with the resources they need. Edly-Allen worked closely with numerous experts and agencies to introduce a comprehensive task force to update an outdated crime statistic software system.

After joining the Senate last year, Edly-Allen brought forth numerous AI measures to protect Illinoisans. As an emerging technological platform, there are no current restrictions on AI models replicating a music artist's voice. Without regulations, some organizations and music studios have sought to establish a monopoly of control over their artists' voices and melodies for AI projects. With this

in mind, she crafted Senate Bill 4762 so that recording artists would have more protections from AI replicating their voice or work.

Another AI measure, Senate Bill 4875, would create a private right of action for the artist or music studio to sue when a digital replica of the individual was disseminated or made available publicly without authorization of the artist or music studio. The initiative takes a balanced approach in dealing with the issue of the unauthorized use of digital replicas by protecting artists' ability to control their voice, image and likeness while still providing necessary exemptions to allow for artistic creation. Additionally, the measure targets bad actors while also providing safe harbor for those who unknowingly contribute to the distribution of such content.

After working with the Women's Justice Institute's Reclamation Project, Edly-Allen led House Bill

5431 to address the lack of humane treatment toward pregnant and postpartum prisoners in state prisons when it comes to nutrition and restraints.

House Bill 5431 would ensure pregnant and postpartum prisoners are made aware of their rights, are not forcibly restrained and have access to supplemental nutrition while imprisoned. Additionally, the bill would ensure all female prisoners receive a medical screening within 14 days of arrival to a county or state facility and require annual reporting on pregnancies, births, miscarriages, and the use of restraints in facilities as well as require supplemental nutrition for pregnant and breastfeeding prisoners.

Lastly, she worked closely with the Lake County State's Attorney to bring forth House Bill 2323, which would create the Uniform Statewide Crime Statistics Task Force.

The task force would collaborate with numerous agencies and experts to assist the Illinois State Police in the development and implementation of an integrated software system for gathering and publishing crime data from all law enforcement agencies throughout the state, which would help all law enforcement agencies optimally allocate resources in their communities.

Edly-Allen worked hard for the people of Illinois over the course of this session, and is excited to go back to her district and meet with community members.





Laura Ellman

Environment and Conservation chair | 21st Senate District

State Senator Laura Ellman (D-Naperville) led a number of measures this year focused on fortifying environmental and community protections to preserve the welfare of our state. As Illinois continues to see a rise in opioid-related deaths, contaminants compromising our state's valuable water resources, and low female representation in the technological workforce, Ellman is working to advance the state toward alleviating these issues.

Ellman spearheaded a measure to update the State Water Plan Task Force and address existing water issues in our environment through Senate Bill 2743. The measure – which is part of Ellman's "year of water" campaign – would require the State Water Plan Task Force to address and reevaluate water-related needs by assisting state and local authorities in the implementation of recommended plans. The task force would also regularly update the State Water Plan at least once every 10 years and meet once per quarter each calendar year.

Committed to building a sustainable environmental landscape for the state, Ellman set out to address prevalent sources of pollution that pose serious threats to all fronts of biological health. Excessive light is a common, but overlooked, source of pollution that interferes with bird migration patterns, nocturnal insects and

our optical health. Senate Bill 3501 would establish the Outdoor Lighting Control Act, requiring all new state-funded luminaries purchased for land or structures owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to follow specific outdoor lighting requirements that would help regulate the amount and duration of light in our skies.

Ellman has championed multiple measures to spread awareness on the opioid epidemic by educating youth on the dangers of fentanyl and expanding access to lifesaving fentanyl test strips. Building on earlier fentanyl measures, Ellman led House Bill 4219 to expand this education requirement to all students in grades six through 12, ensuring students learn at an earlier age about the dangers of fentanyl and how to respond to an overdose.

Further enhancing protections for residents, Ellman introduced

Senate Bill 3350 to provide free fentanyl test strips to mitigate fentanyl overdoses. The measure would authorize the Illinois Department of Human Services to establish programs for distributing fentanyl test strips to promote harm reduction efforts and prevent overdoses.

Like many of her colleagues, Ellman also has taken on social-related issues, including the recruiting and retention of women in the technological workforce. Through Senate Bill 2682, a new Women in Technology Task Force would study the recruitment and retention of women in technology positions, as well as their corresponding management chain.

As this spring legislative session comes to a close, Ellman is eager to continue assisting her constituents in the 21st District, including hosting the Playground Passport Program this summer for local youth.





Paul Faraci

52nd Senate District

Kicking off his second year in the General Assembly, Senator Paul Faraci (D-Champaign) worked diligently to pass legislation to give first responders additional access to mental health treatments, extend utility assistance programs for low-income households and rename a portion of I-74 as the “Senator Scott M. Bennett Memorial Highway.”

After several Champaign firefighters were unable to engage the mental health counselor of their choice based on a non-compete clause in the counselor’s contract, Faraci led Senate Bill 2737. When a mental health professional leaves their employment with a provider, often times there is a non-compete clause in their contract, leaving them unable to provide services within a 50-mile radius for two years. Police, fire and veteran organizations often want to contract mental health professionals who have a shared background or an

establishment of trust with the organization, making these non-compete clauses detrimental to mental health care access for first responders and veterans. Faraci’s legislation would allow every trained mental health professional to provide these much-needed services to any first responder or veteran, regardless of whether they have a non-compete clause in their employment contract.

In an effort to make energy bill assistance available to more Illinois families, Faraci’s House Bill 4471 aims to eliminate the scheduled sunset date on a state fund that finances two needs-based assistance programs – the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the Percentage of Income Payment Plan. The fund was set to shut down Jan. 1, 2025. LIHEAP and PIPP offer bill payment assistance to low-income residential utility customers by helping eligible

households pay for home energy services. Faraci believes that it is necessary to extend this program to help his community deal with ongoing inflation and the rising cost of living.

Last spring, Faraci passed Senate Joint Resolution 32 designating I-74 from Route 45 in Champaign to the Indiana state line as the “Senator Scott M. Bennett Memorial Highway.” In late April 2024, Faraci was proud to join the Illinois Department of Transportation in placing the signs along the interstate in his honor.

As Faraci wraps up his second legislative session, he looks forward to getting back into the 52nd District, which includes Champaign and Vermilion Counties. He spent his first year in the Senate getting to know as many people and organizations in the district that he possibly could. Now, with some experience under his belt, Faraci looks to expand on initiatives that the district cares about the most through the budget process. Some of the issues he’s focusing on the most are economic development, supporting children with disabilities and their families, and improving the state’s infrastructure. Faraci is proud of the work he’s been able to accomplish for the people of the 52nd District.





Sara Feigenholtz

Financial Institutions chair | 6th Senate District

A champion for youth and families, businesses and local economies, State Senator Sara Feigenholtz (D-Chicago) spent the spring legislative session building upon over two decades of dedication to enhancing child welfare, prioritizing consumer protection and continuing her advocacy on behalf of Illinois' business and tourism sectors.

Feigenholtz believes one of the most important things a society can do is provide a quality education for children, and that begins with a holistic approach to behavioral health. To lay the groundwork to ensure youth can safely and easily access mental health supports without delay, Feigenholtz led Senate Bill 726. A continuation of her work on the Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Initiative, the measure aims to build out a framework for school districts to offer universal mental health screenings for students in Illinois.

To help youth formerly in DCFS care achieve their higher education goals, Feigenholtz led another initiative that provides flexibility to DCFS scholarship recipients with regard to their chosen career path. Instead of only counting toward tuition for a degree, her measure would allow students to apply DCFS scholarship funds toward a certificate program or to cover living expenses while they make progress on their certificate

or degree.

As chair of the Senate Financial Institutions Committee, Feigenholtz has prioritized strengthening corporate and consumer transparency throughout her career. To foster a fair and equitable business environment throughout the state, Feigenholtz led a measure to modernize oversight of financial institutions. Senate Bill 3550 seeks to establish a strong method for investigating exploitative financial practices like false credit repair advertising and debt collection harassment. The measure gives the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation the tools it needs to protect financially vulnerable consumers in the future.

A longtime advocate on behalf of Illinois' tourism and hospitality sectors, Feigenholtz was proud to see years of working with North Side and Magnificent Mile business owners pay off with the passage

of a key priority – the Business Improvement District Law. Senate Bill 3679 would set the foundation for Chicago businesses to form a Business Improvement District – or BID – and collectively fund improvement projects. Business owners would have direct oversight on how the funds are utilized for projects within the district. The measure aims to give Chicago's vibrant retail, hospitality and tourism sectors the tools they need to address organized retail theft, the changing shopping habits of post-pandemic consumers, and other unique challenges a BID can help them tackle.

Feigenholtz believes summer is the best time in Chicago and is eagerly looking forward to the many concerts, street fairs, neighborhood festivals, farmers markets and special events the season will bring.





Laura Fine

Behavioral and Mental Health chair | 9th Senate District

As a longtime mental health and health care advocate, State Senator Laura Fine (D-Glenview) continued her work on legislation to make quality health care services affordable and accessible.

In 2023, Fine supported legislation establishing a state-based insurance marketplace for Illinoisans to access affordable insurance coverage options. To facilitate this transition, several updates are needed to allow the Illinois Department of Insurance to effectively manage the marketplace once it goes into effect. Fine led Senate Bill 3130, which would assist in the transition to a state-based insurance marketplace through several provisions, including adding pregnancy as a qualifying life event, aligning flat-dollar copay requirements and standalone dental plans with federal regulations, and requiring insurers who exit the market and discontinue coverage to provide 45 days' notice to the IDOI.

Further enhancing access to quality, transparent health care services, Fine introduced Senate Bill 3137, also known as Jordan's Law, named after a suburban youth who died while in a rehab facility. This legislation would require substance abuse disorder programs and mental health and developmental disability facilities to notify a patient's personal representative of their death within 24 hours and provide a written notice within five days.

To establish regulations that give patients necessary protections against abuse, Fine led initiatives to ensure the safety of adults who are unable to care for themselves and patients residing in state-run mental health and developmental disability facilities. Senate Bill 2799 would create a screening procedure for cases of self-neglect among adult patients under the Adult Protective Services intervention program. This initiative would also require

an agency to develop a case plan within 10 days and with the consent of the adult if a patient is found to be a substantial health threat to themselves due to self-neglect.

Expanding on this harm reduction plan, Fine passed legislation to increase the ability of the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Human Services to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect. Senate Bill 857 is a preventative measure that would allow the inspector general's office to conduct targeted site visits to all community agencies in the state, which includes Community Living Arrangements and Community Mental Health Centers. Additionally, this bill prioritizes patients' safety by preventing employees from covering up instances of abuse and neglect.

Fine also seeks to preserve environmental sustainability in Illinois and prevent man-made pollutants from compromising our state's natural resources. This includes leading Senate Bill 2960, which would create the Small Single-Use Plastic Bottle Act to require hotels with 50 or more rooms to eliminate the use of small, single-use plastic bottles containing personal care products in individual rooms and public bathrooms.

Fine is looking forward to returning to the 9th District to visit with constituents, spend time with her family, and continue Illinois' transition toward making health care accessible for every resident.





Suzy Glowiak Hilton

Licensed Activities chair | 23rd Senate District

State Senator Suzy Glowiak Hilton (D-Western Springs) spent this legislative session taking action on pressing issues that matter most to her district. Glowiak Hilton worked to improve access to prescription medication, expand local schools and address nursing shortages in her community.

In response to the opioid epidemic, the Illinois General Assembly passed a law in 2021 requiring prescriptions of controlled substances to be sent electronically. However, some pharmacists are now refusing to fill non-electronic prescriptions despite exceptions to the current law. This led Glowiak Hilton to spearhead House Bill 4874. Under this measure, pharmacists would be prohibited from refusing to fill written prescriptions. This measure eliminates unnecessary barriers that prevent residents from receiving the care they need.

Believing nurses should not lose out on work due to application waiting periods, Glowiak Hilton led a measure to extend the time nurses can practice while waiting for their license. House Bill 5047 would allow advanced practice registered nurses with pending license applications to practice under supervision for six months while waiting for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's review of their application. Under current law, this status is revoked after

three months. These nurses would need to have completed at least 250 hours of continuing education in their area of certification and have at least 4,000 hours of clinical experience to be eligible for this opportunity. Over half of registered nurses in Illinois are over the age of 55, with the state being projected to see a nursing shortage of 15,000 by 2025. Glowiak Hilton's initiative would help combat this shortage and ensure accredited health care professionals are not turned away from medical facilities.

The Philip J. Rock Center and School in Glen Ellyn provides educational services to children with hearing and visual impairments throughout the 23rd District. However, the center only serves students who have both of these impairments, not one or the other. Seeing their construction of a larger facility as an opportunity to serve more students in the community,

Glowiak Hilton spearheaded Senate Bill 3768, which would allow the center to serve students who have visual or hearing impairments, as well as those who have both as a means to expand their services to more individuals in the community.

While working tirelessly to make positive change in her community and the state, Glowiak Hilton spent time with her fellow community members attending groundbreaking ceremonies for crisis centers, hosting shred and recycling events and touring local libraries, fire departments and organizations. After this year's legislative session wraps up, Glowiak Hilton looks forward to continuing to help her community through these events while preparing to represent her community in Springfield this fall.





Michael W. Halpin

Higher Education co-chair | 36th Senate District

Alongtime champion for working families, rural communities' needs and public safety, State Senator Mike Halpin (D-Rock Island) chose to tackle legislation that acknowledges the sacrifices of Air Force combat veterans, expands the state's cover crops program and raises awareness about the importance of keeping first responders safe.

Currently, the Air Force is the only branch of the military that does not have a license plate for combat veterans. To give Air Force veterans this option, Halpin's House Bill 4108 would allow the Illinois Secretary of State to issue specialty Air Force Combat Action Medal license plates to Air Force veterans who were awarded the Air Force Combat Action Medal.

Senator Halpin represents over 30 cities and villages, from Moline with 43,000 residents to Good Hope with 135 residents. In order

to advocate for the needs of rural communities, Halpin sponsored legislation to expand the cover crops discount program, which many farmers across the state use to protect the health of their soil for generations to come. This Illinois Department of Agriculture's Crop Insurance Rebate Initiative is offered to landowners with additional acres of cover crops that are not covered by other state and federal incentives. Eligible applicants receive a premium discount up to a \$5 per acre on the following year's crop insurance, depending on their insurance policy, for every cover crop acre enrolled and verified in the program. In 2023, the program covered up to 160,000 acres with \$666,000 budgeted for the rebates. To expand the program, Halpin supported Senate Bill 3814, which would increase the program's budget to \$3.1 million and fund

up to 500,000 acres. There are around one million acres planted with cover crops throughout the state, so this expansion would be significant victory for a popular program.

Halpin played a key role in the passage of House Bill 4711, which would raise awareness about Scott's Law. The measure would require the Secretary of State to provide specific information about Scott's Law to any person who incorrectly answers the question about Scott's Law on the driver's license written exam. Scott's Law is an important public safety rule requiring drivers to change lanes when approaching stationary emergency vehicles, including highway maintenance vehicles displaying flashing lights, and any stationary vehicle with their hazard lights activated. When driver's license applicants get that question wrong, Halpin's measure would ensure they are specifically made aware of the law, as increased education can help reduce the number of unnecessary deaths in the line of duty.

As this year's session wraps up, Halpin looks forward to getting back into the 36th District to talk with residents all across the district. With the district encompassing six counties, Halpin is excited to represent such a large part of Western Illinois and he is proud of the work he's done this year to further the interests of his communities.





Michael E. Hastings

Veterans Affairs chair | 19th Senate District

As the chair of the Senate's Veterans Affairs Committee, State Senator Michael E. Hastings (D-Frankfort) spearheaded a number of initiatives that support and uplift our veterans and their families.

Hastings, who is one of three veterans in the Senate Democratic Caucus, passed measures to streamline procedures for military families and connect veterans with vital resources. He led the passage of Senate Bill 2769 which would require the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability to create a Veteran Internship Pilot Program. The program would provide internships to honorably discharged veterans with the opportunity to participate in the General Assembly's legislative staff internship program.

Hastings believes that this new program will serve as an opportunity to welcome more veterans into a career in state government and provide them with another outlet to give back to our communities.

To help ease childcare shortages among military families, he championed House Bill 5596, which would create an exemption from licensure for daycare homes and group daycare homes serving children of military personnel if the daycare is located on a military base or federal property and is certified as a child development program by a branch of the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S. Coast Guard.

Hastings knows that our brave military personnel work tirelessly to

keep communities across Illinois safe and it is imperative that they know their children are well taken care of at home.

To support local first responders, he spearheaded a measure that ensures municipal and county emergency personnel receive free mental health insurance coverage. Senate Bill 3538 would require any self-insured county or municipality that provides health insurance coverage to first responders to include mental health counseling coverage without imposing any cost-sharing requirements on patients. Hastings believes that untreated mental health conditions can lead to increased absenteeism, reduced productivity and higher rates of turnover among first responders.

Before the nation was astounded by attacks on women's fertility health care, Hastings started his mission to guarantee insurance coverage for medically prescribed infertility treatments. After hearing from

individuals and families being denied medically advised fertility treatments by insurance companies, Hastings filed Senate Bill 2639 which would ensure that insurance companies provide coverage for infertility treatments that are recommended by a physician without requiring them to complete treatments that were deemed ineffective by their doctor.

His daughter was born via in vitro fertilization, so this initiative is near and dear to his heart. He believes that it is problematic that the health care system is set up in a way that insurance companies can trump the treatment plan recommended by their physician.

Hastings will be busy in the summer months hosting his annual Touch-A-Truck event, shred and recycling opportunities and meeting with different constituencies to listen to their concerns and opinions to ensure the fighting 19th District's voice is represented in Springfield.





Adriane Johnson

Education chair | 30th Senate District

State Senator Adriane Johnson (D-Buffalo Grove) continued the spring legislative season leading measures that prioritize the safety and health of her district and beyond. She remained resolute in her pursuits to advocate for equitable mental health resources, end homelessness and create an eco-friendly Illinois as vice-chair of the Senate Environment and Conservation Committee.

Johnson continues to support those affected by homelessness by sponsoring House Bill 5407. This measure would expand the uses for funds received by school districts from the Education of Homeless Children and Youth State Grant Program. School districts would be permitted to use grant funding for rental assistance, transportation, emergency shelter assistance, case management services, and other housing strategies.

In an effort to support Lake County residents affected by behavioral and mental health issues, Johnson

advanced legislation that would assist in grants for Community Resource Healing Centers. Senate Bill 3226 would allow the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Agency to award Live Free Illinois \$10 million to establish and maintain mental health resource centers in underrepresented communities.

Johnson declared 2024 the “Year of Water” by passing a measure that would update an existing provision to ensure that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is regularly monitoring water quality from nearshores, harbors and public water supply intakes in Lake Michigan. Senate Bill 3716 would also require the IEPA to provide an executive summary every two years on conditions of the water quality in Lake Michigan to the governor and General Assembly, further aligning Illinois with the federal Clean Water Act.

As chair of Senate Education Committee, Johnson has spearheaded

measures to protect students from corporal punishment, as well as broaden the curriculum to include climate change. House Bill 4175 would prohibit the use of corporal and physical punishment in all schools in Illinois, except the use of certain restraints in specific circumstances to prevent a student from imminently harming themselves or others. Currently, physical punishment is only explicitly prohibited in public schools. Johnson’s measure would extend the prohibition to all non-public schools.

Additionally, House Bill 4895 would task public schools in Illinois with providing learning opportunities on the environmental and ecological impacts of climate change and solutions for addressing the crisis, granting schools the flexibility to decide whether to create a separate class or implement these lessons into existing relevant classes.

Another measure that would greatly impact Illinois diversity and inclusion is Senate Bill 2930. This would require charitable organizations that annually report \$1 million or more in grants to other charitable organizations to disclose on their public-facing websites the aggregate demographic data of their boards of directors. This demographic data includes race, ethnicity, gender, veteran status, disability status, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Johnson is looking forward to more opportunities to improve the lives of the people she represents.





Emil Jones, III

14th Senate District

As a lifelong resident of Chicago, State Senator Emil Jones III (D-Chicago) prioritized the residents of the 14th Senate District by working to better their lives during the 103rd General Assembly.

Understanding the need to allow municipalities to have a greater say in their development plans, Jones led House Bill 4489. Currently, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) must fund pedestrian and bicycle ways in conjunction with construction, reconstruction or other change of state transportation facilities in or within one mile of a municipality of over 1,000 people. This forces municipalities to work pedestrian and bicycle ways into their development plans even if they won't be used. Jones' measure would allow an area of a county within one mile of a city with a population of 50,000 or more to pass a resolution to opt out of IDOT-funded pedestrian or bicycle ways. Jones believes this measure would give smaller municipalities the power to have more say in their infrastructure by allowing them to plan and build new construction without the restriction of including pedestrian and bicycle ways.

He also worked to eliminate barriers people face when trying to manage asthma. Senate Bill 3203 – backed by Jones – would limit the cost of prescription inhalers to \$25 for a 30-day supply. Jones

also supported an executive order tasking the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services with developing payment models to facilitate access to new sickle cell disease treatments and other high-cost drugs within the Illinois Medicaid program.

Building upon his efforts to make health care not only more accessible, but more fair, Jones supported Senate Bill 2933 to prohibit a consumer reporting agency from making a credit report containing any adverse information about the consumer related to medical debt. Medical debt is often incurred unexpectedly and can accumulate quickly, leading to financial strain and hardship for many Illinois residents.

To promote fairness and equity in the financial sector, Senate Bill 3235, co-sponsored by Jones, would mandate the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional

Regulation to study and address financial service disparities based on race, ethnicity, gender and other protected characteristics. The legislation builds on previous initiatives supported by Jones to incentivize state-regulated financial institutions to meet the needs of underserved areas, aiming to correct inequities in loans, mortgages and other financial services.

Jones continued to be active in the community by attending local events, community meetings and more. He will always be a voice for the residents of the 14th Senate District. This summer, Jones looks forward to being active in the district, spending quality time with his family and meeting with constituents to hear their needs.





Patrick J. Joyce

State Government co-chair | 40th Senate District

Entering his sixth year in the Illinois Senate, State Senator Patrick Joyce (D-Essex) went straight to work advancing legislation to address issues that matter most to his constituents in the 40th District, as well as policies benefitting residents throughout the state.

As a farmer, Joyce understands the importance of agriculture to our state's economy and food security, and he has been a longtime advocate for legislation that uplifts the industry. Initiatives Joyce worked on this year included Senate Bill 3814, which would appropriate \$3.1 million in state funds to the Illinois Department of Agriculture for costs associated with the Crop Insurance Rebate Initiative to provide incentives for at least 500,000 acres of eligible land. The measure would expand the amount of acres eligible for the program from 160,000 to 500,000, giving Illinois farmers the opportunity to

submit more of their cover crop acreage to the program. With the recent success and popularity of the cover crops program, Joyce pushed for the program's expansion, knowing it would positively affect farmers, as well as result in beneficial environmental impacts – including helping the state meet its nutrient loss reduction goals. Joyce proudly carried this bill in an effort to greatly strengthen Illinois' agricultural sector.

The conservation and protection of the Kankakee River has also been a major priority for Joyce over the last few years. This year, he brought forth Senate Bill 2766, which would create the Kankakee River Basin Conservancy Task Force. Since the 1890s, excessive flooding along the river has resulted in property and infrastructure damage. The task force would focus on flooding problems, monitoring and studying drain infrastructure within the

river basin, and developing a plan to address these issues. Joyce understands how important the Kankakee River is to the state – particularly the 40th District – and remains dedicated to focusing on issues benefitting this resource.

Additionally, Joyce has always been a staunch supporter of ensuring Illinois has a fair and accessible health care system. This year was no different as he proudly supported House Bill 5395, the Healthcare Protection Act. Joyce's personal experience navigating tedious insurance requirements with his son's rare heart malformation and his daughter's battle with leukemia led him to co-sponsor this bill. The Healthcare Protection Act aims to protect and prioritize patients through several key initiatives, including banning prior authorization before receiving necessary treatment and limited-duration health plans, eliminating ghost insurance networks and putting a stop to insurance companies suddenly raising rates. Joyce advocated for this legislation as a pivotal step toward ensuring all Illinoisans receive the medical care they deserve in a timely manner.

As this session wraps up, Joyce plans to host and attend events around the 40th District. Alongside this, he remains dedicated to advocating for his constituents and looks forward to continuing his work for the next legislative cycle.





Meg Loughran Cappel

Appropriations - Education chair | 49th Senate District

As a former special education teacher who spent 15 years in the classroom, State Senator Meg Loughran Cappel (D-Shorewood) understands the importance of prioritizing all students. She has been a strong advocate and voice for teachers and education professionals across the state.

Since joining the General Assembly, Loughran Cappel has worked to ensure all special education students can receive a quality education in the least restrictive environment. To bring equity to funding, she led Senate Bill 3606, which would equalize the reimbursement rate received by public school districts from the Illinois State Board of Education when sending high-needs special education students to private and public special education day schools. The initiative would achieve equitable funding for all special needs students, no matter their placement.

Additionally, Loughran Cappel, a staunch advocate for career and technical education teachers, sponsored Senate Bill 463 to allow them to be granted tenure if they have a license with credentials. Her measure aims to expand the requirements under current law to include CTE teachers. Loughran Cappel hopes the initiative will give educators the benefits they deserve.

After hearing from local school boards and superintendents, Loughran Cappel introduced a

measure to protect youth from the dangers of vaping. There has been a rise in students obtaining electronic cigarettes that are designed to look like everyday objects, like highlighters. Teachers and school administrators can't decipher whether it's a vape or school supplies. Senate Bill 3098 would address this by prohibiting e-cigarettes purchased by mail, online or through other remote sale methods from being shipped to anyone in the state other than a distributor or retailer.

Loughran Cappel also made it a top priority to address background check delays childcare facilities are facing across the state. House Bill 4412 would allow a childcare facility, non-licensed service provider, daycare center or home-based daycares to use a third-party vendor licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for the

required fingerprinting that is part of the application process for facility licensure and as a condition of employment. The initiative aims to reduce delays to prevent qualified applicants from losing interest and seeking employment elsewhere. Currently the background check process takes between six and 12 weeks to receive results. Loughran Cappel believes this is a necessary step to speed up and streamline the process so qualified early education teachers stay in the field.

Alongside her legislative accomplishments, Loughran Cappel continues to be active across the district with her Youth Advisory Board, coffee and conversations, traveling office hours and hosting events for residents.

Over the summer, Loughran Cappel plans to continue her community outreach and provide assistance and services to residents of the 49th District.





Robert F. Martwick

Judiciary chair | 10th Senate District

As chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, State Senator Robert Martwick's (D-Chicago) schedule has been dedicated to ensuring vital and impactful legislation can be heard and move forward to become law. Alongside this responsibility, Martwick also chairs the Special Committee on Pensions and the Judiciary Subcommittees on Privacy and Property.

Illinois has one of the highest effective property tax rates in the nation according to a study by the Tax Foundation. In calendar year 2021, Illinois ranked second behind New Jersey, with 2.08% and 2.23% effective property tax rates, respectively. The national average is just over 1%.

Senate Bill 3455 would commission the Department of Revenue, in consultation with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, to conduct a comprehensive study evaluating the entire property tax system in the state. During the study,

IDOR would examine whether the existing property tax levy, assessment, appeal and collection process is reasonable and fair, and issue recommendations for improvement.

To ensure tax money goes back to individuals who pay into home equity assurance programs, Martwick passed House Bill 4921, which builds on a law he passed in 2015 that enabled home equity assurance programs – or HEAPs – to provide low-interest home repair loans to members of the program. House Bill 4921 further addresses the limitations of HEAPs by allowing the loan funds to go toward grants or rebates for repairing or preventing damage from natural disasters, including flooding. Homeowners could then use the funds to make repairs and maintain, remodel, alter and improve homes, basements or landscaping.

Martwick passed Senate Bill 2919 – which would allow foreclosure sales to be conducted online. Online

sales provide more flexibility and transparency, allowing interested buyers to bid on their own schedule and in a more accessible way for those unable to travel to the courthouse. Online sales also provide information to potential bidders beyond what can be provided in a newspaper advertisement, allowing bidders to conduct due diligence on the property.

Martwick also focused on various issues faced by first responders. He began by tackling discrimination experienced by police. Senate Bill 2918 ensures police officers cannot be discharged from their duties based on their application for disability-related pension benefits. Once a chief of police receives notice that an officer is able to return to work, the measure would require the officer to be reinstated to the same rank or grade they held prior to being placed on leave.

In addition, Martwick passed House Bill 5104, which aims to expand the net of police officers, firefighters and paramedics who can receive benefits after becoming disabled due to contracting COVID-19 on the job by increasing the eligibility window by six months.

Martwick will continue to champion legislation to protect consumers and uphold fiscal responsibility. He plans to continue advocating for improving schools, bettering working conditions for teachers and first responders, and providing tax relief for the middle class.





Robert Peters

Labor chair | 13th Senate District

A longtime advocate for equity and opportunity, State Senator Robert Peters (D-Chicago) remained committed to expanding access to affordable health care, advancing labor rights and championing criminal justice reform this legislative session. Building off of the historic move to end cash bail, Peters introduced several comprehensive criminal justice reform bills, particularly those focused on improving how the court systems handle young people.

Peters' Senate Bill 3463 would require juvenile court record expungements to be scheduled at the same time as initial court decisions in order to streamline the process and reduce the burden on youth navigating the legal system. Recognizing the challenges faced by young individuals, such as limited legal representation and awareness of expungement proceedings, Peters helped set the stage for a smoother and more efficient process for their reintegration into society.

Peters championed Senate Bill 2626 – which would enable defendants in diversion programs to initiate expungement petitions before their cases are dismissed, thereby expediting the process and facilitating successful rehabilitation.

With a focus on youth-led initiatives this session, Peters pushed for updates to child labor regulations through Senate Bill 3646 to protect youth in the workforce. This legislation would extend protections to minors who are not enrolled in

traditional public or private schools with standard school hours to define when a student is permitted to work. Further, the measure adds to the list of prohibited jobs for minors and jobs requiring adult supervision, and imposes increased penalties for violations.

Peters, like many of his constituents, understands the stress and anxiety that comes with maneuvering through the health care system. He fought tooth and nail with corporate giants in the insurance sector this year, striving to safeguard and broaden health care access. Peters spearheaded the Healthcare Protection Act – House Bill 5395 – in the Senate and joined Governor JB Pritzker in taking a firm stand against predatory insurance tactics statewide on their advocacy tour.

The Healthcare Protection Act aims to secure access to treatment for individuals experiencing a mental

health crisis by eliminating prior authorization requirements, ensuring the safety of the individual and their communities. Additionally, insurance companies would be required to provide updated and accurate information regarding the availability of providers in their network. The bill would also end unchecked rate increases in fully-insured large group insurance carriers, making insurance more affordable.

Looking ahead to the next legislative cycle, Peters is eager to continue his work on behalf of the 13th District. He recognizes there is still much to be done in terms of advancing policies that promote equity and opportunity for all Illinoisans. He looks forward to engaging with members of the community, gathering valuable insight from constituents, hearing their ideas and sharing their concerns to tackle the challenges ahead and make meaningful change.





Mike Porfirio

11th Senate District

Coming off his first year in the Illinois State Senate, State Senator Mike Porfirio (D-Lyons Township) came back to Springfield for the spring legislative session ready to continue fighting for veterans across the state. As a Navy Commander and Reserve member — serving over six years on active duty — Porfirio knows firsthand the hard work and sacrifice it takes to dedicate oneself to military service.

To honor these sacrifices and protect our veterans from predatory business practices, Porfirio passed Senate Bill 3479 aimed at combating companies who target veterans by offering veteran and military benefit services in exchange for financial compensation. This measure would inform veterans on the services available to them through accredited organizations, protecting both our past service members and their benefits.

Similarly, as an elected official and Reserve member, Porfirio understands

the unique challenges that come with military service members participating in civic responsibilities. Embracing the diverse perspectives of our military personnel, Porfirio advanced Senate Bill 2665, which would allow military service members on active duty status who are also members of a public body remote access to meetings of said body, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility in civic engagement.

In addition to advancing legislation that will improve the quality of life for our nation's veterans, Porfirio sponsored initiatives to offer increased flexibility for both service members and refugees attending higher education institutions. In an effort to support the educational aspirations of refugees, Senate Bill 2690 would waive foreign transcript evaluation fees for refugees from Iraq and Afghanistan, fostering a more inclusive and diverse learning environment.

Likewise, Porfirio moved House

Bill 5655 through the Senate, which would allow members of the National Guard or Reserve who attend a public college or university to make up any coursework they miss due to military obligations, including drill or other military requirements. These measures will ensure fair treatment on college campuses and remove the barriers to academic success for military and refugee students across the state.

Porfirio has taken on numerous committee assignments since taking office, including vice chair of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. Additionally, Porfirio continues to serve on the Residential Sound Insulation Program Advisory Committee, working closely with State Senator Laura Murphy and State Representative Angie Guerrero-Cuellar to mitigate noise and air pollution near the Midway and O'Hare airports. Porfirio also serves on the Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Program Advisory Council, the Interagency Advisory Committee on Hiring Veterans and the Illinois Veterans' Advisory Council.

Following a successful legislative season, Porfirio is excited to get back to the 11th District, where he will spend the coming months visiting with constituents and community partners in preparation of the next legislative term. Porfirio also intends to enjoy time with his wife and kids, including their newest addition — a second daughter, born in late April — and their two dogs.





Willie Preston

16th Senate District

This legislative season, State Senator Willie Preston (D-Chicago) wasted no time in introducing landmark legislation aimed at prioritizing the health and well-being of Illinoisans. Whether championing the Illinois Food Safety Act or celebrating his birthday collaborating with the Biden-Harris Administration at the White House, Preston has found serving the 16th District to be an exhilarating experience.

As a father of six, Preston made it a priority to push for legislation banning harmful chemicals from candies, sodas, and other food products sold and produced in Illinois. Over the last few decades, studies show an alarming increase in the number of chemicals being added to foods that are linked to heightened health risks including allergies, hyperactivity in children and even certain types of cancer. Senate Bill 2637 would ban brominated vegetable oil, potassium bromate, propylparaben and red dye no. 3 from being used in the manufacture, delivery, distribution or sale of food products. Furthermore, the legislation calls for studies on the potential health risks of BHA and BHT, two chemicals commonly found in gum, snack foods and other common grocery items.

By eliminating harmful chemicals from food items in the state, the risk of these health problems decreases, leading to a healthier population. Additionally, Senate Bill 2637 would increase consumer trust by compelling the food industry to

adopt safer and more sustainable practices.

With public safety as a top priority, Preston took aggressive action during this legislative session to secure funding for programs benefiting some of the most vulnerable communities across the state and addressing the root causes of violence. Working alongside colleagues, the governor's office and other stakeholders, Preston helped negotiate a budget that invests in high quality, accessible vocational education and after-school funding giving historically underserved communities the tools they need to build a better future.

A key focus for Preston remains equipping young people in the Chicago area who face adversity with resources and opportunities for success. Leveraging his experience as the owner of a small construction firm, Preston recognizes the value in trade careers and took advantage of the increasing availability of union

jobs to help secure over \$1 million for local pre-apprenticeship programs in his district.

Throughout the legislative session, Preston took pride in making sure constituents were active participants in the legislative process, keeping them informed and engaged through encouragement to submit witness slips and hosting town hall meetings on pressing community issues. House Bill 2385, aimed at expanding coverage for a broader range of colonoscopies, received strong support from constituents, highlighting the importance of regular screenings and destigmatizing health care settings.

After the conclusion of this year's legislative session, Preston plans to continue addressing constituent needs by remaining connected to the community through annual celebrations, including his Juneteenth Celebration and End of Summer Bash.





Mike Simmons

Human Rights chair | 7th Senate District

State Senator Mike Simmons (D-Chicago) prioritized uplifting his constituents and enacting positive change in Illinois through a constituent-centered approach.

Simmons declared 2024 as the “Year of Water” and pushed for Senate Bill 727 to establish limits on contaminants in public drinking water, emphasizing clean drinking water as a right.

His lived experiences as the first Black person to serve the 7th District, the first openly gay member of the Illinois Senate, and the third openly gay, Black state senator in the nation inform his efforts to combat stigmas in health care. Simmons led Senate Bill 3784 to update language on sexually transmitted diseases to “sexually transmitted infections” and broaden the definition of STIs to include HPV and mpox, promoting a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding

of sexual health. Recognizing the increasing suicide rates in African American communities, Simmons organized a subject matter hearing to investigate and advocate for targeted interventions.

Adding to initiatives that improve health care equity, Simmons introduced Senate Bill 2442 that would prohibit hospitals from directly billing low-income patients who are eligible for free care. Complementing last year’s legislation mandating hospitals to screen and enroll patients in Medicaid and financial assistance programs, this measure would safeguard health care consumers from unjust billing practices and abusive collection tactics. Simmons also spearheaded Senate Bill 3751 to create a Health Outcomes Review Board focused on addressing health disparities, particularly concerning race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Aiming to offer relief to working families, Simmons reintroduced a permanent child tax credit – Senate Bill 1444 – which would provide a refundable tax credit for eligible households under the median income.

Building off his passage of the 2021 Jett Hawkins Law, Simmons advocated for cultural sensitivity within the child welfare system by sponsoring House Bill 5097, which would mandate the inclusion of a haircare plan for children in custody of the state to ensure culturally competent haircare.

In direct response to discussions with community partners and constituents, Simmons championed Senate Bill 3297 to expand eligibility for the Housing is Recovery pilot program, which offers housing and support for those dealing with mental health and substance abuse issues. Lowering the age requirement to 18 would help prevent housing insecurity and instability among young people, eliminating the wait until age 21 for services.

Simmons’ legislative endeavors underscore his commitment to public health, equity and justice for all Illinois residents. He looks forward to engaging with constituents at summer events, community meetings and block parties in the district, ensuring their voices shape policy decisions.





Steve Stadelman

Energy and Public Utilities chair | 34th Senate District

Senator Steve Stadelman (D-Rockford) brings a unique perspective to his legislative work, drawing on his background as a former TV news broadcaster. Throughout his time in the Illinois Senate, Stadelman has leveraged his communication skills and media experience to effectively advocate for his constituents and advance key legislative initiatives. His legislation has addressed a wide range of issues, from protecting vulnerable populations to alleviating debt.

Stadelman introduced several significant bills this year aimed at tackling critical issues such as medical debt, a decline in local journalism and stalking.

Stadelman recognized the burden that medical debt places on individuals and families across Illinois and took action to alleviate this financial strain. Senate Bill 2933 would prohibit consumer reporting agencies from including adverse information related to medical debt onto a consumer's credit report. This crucial legislation is aimed at providing protections for individuals struggling with medical bills. Medical debt should not be an indicator of one's ability to pay their bills.

As a former broadcaster, Stadelman understands the importance of a free and independent press in a democracy. He introduced legislation aimed at supporting local journalism and ensuring that communities have

access to reliable news sources. Senate Bill 3590 would provide grants to public radio and TV stations, Senate Bill 3591 would require big tech platforms to pay news publishers a fee to use local news content, and Senate Bill 3592 would create a Journalism Student Scholarship Program and prohibit local news organizations from selling to a company without written notice 120 days before the sale occurs, to DCEO and employees. These pieces of legislation ensure that the principles of transparency, accountability and informed citizenship are upheld.

Stadelman has also introduced legislation to modernize Illinois' anti-stalking laws, ensuring that Illinois' laws are as up to date as the current digital age. Senate Bill 2683 would include electronic stalking as a method of criminal stalking, thereby providing enhanced legal protections for victims. The bill

recognizes the growing use of technology in stalking behaviors and ensures that victims of electronic stalking receive the same protections as those subjected to physical stalking.

Stadelman has demonstrated strong leadership and a commitment to serving the people of Illinois through his legislative accomplishments. From medical debt to anti-stalking measures to supporting local journalism, Stadelman has tackled a wide range of issues facing the state. His dedication to making Illinois a better place for all its residents is evident in his tireless advocacy and effective legislative work.





Natalie Toro

20th Senate District

After being sworn into the Senate in July 2023, former kindergarten teacher State Senator Natalie Toro (D-Chicago) hit the ground running to address issues in her community, meeting with local organizations and constituents about their concerns. Soon, the dangers of the existing bike lane infrastructure in the district emerged as a priority issue, following the tragic death of 16-year-old Josh Anleu in October 2023, who was struck and killed by a motorist while biking after school. To prevent future tragedies like Josh's death from taking place, Toro introduced Senate Bill 3202, which would require local governments to update maps of the existing bikeways with classifications of bike lanes that specify the safety features and degree of separations between motorists in each lane. Senate Bill 3202 would also allow cities and counties to create bicycle transportation plans, allowing

planners and developers to use a data-informed approach when determining the number of bike lanes needed and potential new routes.

Toro also worked on legislation to expand protections for vulnerable people across Illinois. One of these initiatives is House Bill 2161, which would add family obligations to the list of protected classes under the Employment Article of the Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination, harassment and retaliation based on family responsibilities. This would mean that an employer could not decide to promote one employee above another, when they are both equally qualified, because the other employee has young children, and the employer assumes this will negatively impact their ability to fulfill their role, even when the inability to fulfill the role was never demonstrated. Toro hopes

this measure will give many people who have family responsibilities in Illinois the opportunity to pursue the careers they want without fear of discrimination.

Additionally, Toro advocated for the passage of Senate Bill 3201, which would require law enforcement to undertake autism sensitivity training to reduce the risk of unnecessary violent confrontations between law enforcement and people with disabilities. As a former teacher and the aunt of a young person with autism, Toro knows firsthand how scary it is to have a loved one with autism encounter the police. Without proper training on how some people with autism communicate, law enforcement may interpret their behavior as being noncompliant, which frequently causes these interactions to escalate, resulting in unnecessary use of force.

Toro also worked on legislation to improve access to reproductive health care, and hopes to continue work on this legislation in the fall veto session.

Over the summer, Toro plans on hosting events in the district, including a disability resource fair and book club for students in her community, and spending more time with her family.





Doris Turner

Agriculture chair | 48th Senate District

As a lifelong resident of Central Illinois, State Senator Doris Turner (D-Springfield) prioritized the agricultural industry, education and ways to better the lives of residents in the 48th Senate District this session.

Agriculture is one of the top industries in Illinois. As chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Turner has been a staunch supporter of farmers and stakeholders across the state. Food deserts across the state deprive people of fresh, nutritious foods. That's why she passed Senate Bill 3219, which would allow the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide grants for equipment upgrades for farmer-owned grocery stores or markets. The legislation came from the owner of a "self-service" grocery store that sells local products to consumers. Small farmers and rural communities across the state will have the opportunity to create a locally sourced hub providing affordable, nutritious foods.

Additionally, Turner worked to hold funeral homes accountable by reestablishing integrity and trust in the death care industry. She led Senate Bill 2643 in response to a Carlinville funeral home insufficiently handling human remains, giving over 60 families the wrong remains. The legislation would add rules and regulations for the handling and storing of human bodies. When the Illinois

Department of Financial and Professional Regulation receives a complaint, the agency would be required to inspect the premises within 10 calendar days.

With streaming services, online shopping and more on the rise, Turner worked on a measure to protect consumers. Turner passed Senate Bill 2764, which would require businesses that offer a free trial or promotional period of products and services that automatically renew to notify consumers by email at least three days before the cancellation deadline. The measure would apply to free gift or trial periods that last longer than 15 days. Turner believes that businesses are taking advantage of consumers through the current loophole and hopes this will help remove the barriers consumers face by requiring the business to notify them.

When university and community

college campuses close for weather, it's not usually planned and can leave workers without pay for a day or more. Turner worked to protect the workers who play an important role in the normal, day-to-day operations for our higher education institutions by passing Senate Bill 331. The initiative would require the Board of Trustees of each public university and community college to pay employees their daily, regular rate of pay and benefits if a campus is closed due to a city, county or state declaration of a winter weather emergency.

Turner continued to be active in the community by hosting card drives, food giveaways and more. She will always be an advocate for the residents of the 48th District.

This summer, Turner looks forward to being active in the district, spending quality time with her family and meeting with constituents.





Rachel Ventura

43rd Senate District

State Senator Rachel Ventura (D-Joliet) set forth bold goals for eco-friendly legislation and measures to improve mental health. Ventura addressed critical issues such as creating a grant program for local government to help reduce the state's carbon footprint as well as aiding the costs of the transition to zero emission vehicles, providing intentional downtime for students and introducing a historic psilocybin measure intended to help veterans and those suffering from PTSD and mental illnesses.

As an advocate for our planet, Ventura wanted to ensure that Illinois continued working toward Climate and Equitable Jobs Act's goal of reducing the state's carbon footprint, which led to the creation of Senate Bill 2781. Under this measure, units of local government would be eligible to submit a grant proposal to use for the purpose of restoring degraded forest lands and

native prairies. This would promote the growth of native vegetation that removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and help mitigate the impact of climate change.

In an effort to aid local government with the transition to zero emission vehicles, she also introduced Senate Bill 3483, which would create a grant to cover the implementation costs that come with the transition toward zero emission vehicles owned by the state with the exception of law enforcement vehicles.

Under a law Ventura led last year, Senate Bill 1769, state owned passenger vehicles, except for law enforcement vehicles, must be either a manufactured zero-emission vehicle or a converted zero-emission vehicle by Jan. 1, 2030.

After conversations to root out hurdles with local governments on how to expand zero emission transitions, Ventura realigned the need to help local government

overcome the financial hurdles of accelerating the transition.

Along with eco-friendly legislation, Ventura cares deeply about improving and widening access to mental health resources for all Illinoisans. Ventura aimed to tackle the growing stress students face by providing intentional downtime for at least 20 minutes weekly under Senate Bill 2872.

With its implementation, students would have a chance to unwind and prioritize their mental health which will alleviate the constant pressure to engage in mental tasks, leading to improved academic performance.

Lastly, Ventura sought to ensure that all Illinoisans would have access to psilocybin treatments. Senate Bill 3695, also known as the Compassionate Use and Research of Entheogens (CURE) Act, aims to tackle treatment-resistant conditions such as anxiety, depression, PTSD, substance abuse, eating disorders, and other mental health conditions. Additionally, it would facilitate research into the safety and efficacy of psilocybin through medical, psychological and scientific studies. This would significantly improve the lives of individuals who have tried methods like SSRIs but found no relief.

Ventura worked hard for the people of Illinois over the course of this session, and is excited to go back to her district and meet with the community.





Karina Villa

Public Health chair | 25th Senate District

Following 15 years of service as a school social worker in her hometown, State Senator Karina Villa (D-West Chicago), was propelled into public service driven by her dedication to securing resources for underserved communities.

Rooted in working class values as a daughter of immigrant parents, Villa worked tirelessly to uplift these communities by working toward improved access to mental health services, stable housing, better education, increasing workers' rights, protecting the environment and eliminating language barriers.

Supporting one of the main pillars of the Latino Caucus, Villa championed numerous measures to secure language access in government processes. This legislative session, Villa helped pass House Bill 5457. This measure would ensure that reasonable accommodations are provided for individuals whose primary language is not English when seeking licensure as a social worker, marriage and family therapist and professional counselor. This measure not only would remove language barriers, but also address the shortage of behavioral health professionals in the state by increasing the volume of licensed behavioral health professionals in the state.

As a dedicated environmental champion, Villa passed Senate Bill 3279 to address an environmental tragedy that affected her community for decades. From 1932

to 1973, operating under different owners, Kerr-McGee, a rare earths facility in West Chicago, produced large amounts of radioactive waste, including thorium tailings, which were distributed across town for landscaping purposes. This resulted in the contamination of at least 676 properties, most of which were family residences. The facility has been decommissioning since 1994 and Villa's measure would finalize the closure of the facility by allowing the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to approve the request of terminating Kerr-McGee's radioactive materials license while ensuring public safety.

Another bill, inspired by the need for mental health services across the state, was Senate Bill 3779. To minimize the risk of opioid overdose in communities, Villa sponsored the measure to allow licensed clinical social workers and licensed social

workers to carry and administer opioid antagonists. This measure would help address the increasing rate of opioid overdose deaths, which occur in almost every county in Illinois, affecting all age groups from young adolescents to seniors aged 85 and above.

Prior to her work as a legislator, Villa has been advocating fiercely to secure adequate investments and necessary aid in her community to ensure the well-being of young children and their families. As state senator, Villa's top priority continues to be the families that reside in her district and is dedicated to providing comprehensive constituent services to every person that contacts her office. This summer, Villa looks forward to connecting with constituents and developing new ideas for legislation to continue to support families in her district and across the state.





Celina Villanueva

Latino Caucus co-chair | Revenue chair | 12th Senate District

State Senator Celina Villanueva (D-Chicago) started the 103rd General Assembly off as the co-chair of the Latino Caucus, chair of the Senate Revenue Committee, and vice chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee. In these positions, she advocated for equitable funding and budget priorities backed by caucus members and led initiatives that empower and uplift Black and Brown voices in her district and across Illinois.

As chair of the Senate Revenue Committee, Villanueva has remained focused on creating equitable funding for residents all across the state, including securing funding avenues for minority-owned, women-owned, and veteran-owned businesses. Many business owners who are a part of marginalized groups are not properly represented in the business sector. As a result, they rely on financial assistance and grants as primary resources. Businesses face many

obstacles when trying to receive financial support, leading Villanueva to work to ensure that business owners could get financial support without having to compromise their integrity. She passed Senate Bill 3807, allowing more people to apply to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Minority, Veteran, Female and Disability Loan Program by increasing the maximum loan amount from \$400,000 to \$2 million.

Additionally, Villanueva is a strong advocate for reducing recidivism. Recidivism is far more likely when people have nowhere to turn. That is why she worked to pass legislation making recorded convictions without judgment inadmissible, helping people rebuild their lives without a negative record. House Bill 5285 would protect individuals who plead guilty to a possession charge in exchange for diversion into a probation program with the promise that a

felony will not be included on their record upon successful completion of the program. This measure is needed because background checks often misinterpret diversion into special probation programs as a "conviction."

Being on the frontlines of fighting for reproductive health care rights, Villanueva continuously fought for the protection of women seeking health care options. Last year she led House Bill 4664 – a law to shield out-of-state patients and in-state providers from legal action originating from other states regarding abortions performed here. To expand upon that measure and provide further protections, she spearheaded House Bill 5239 this year to ensure that units of local governments could not assist in imposing a civil or criminal liability against a person or provider who received reproductive or gender-affirming care in Illinois.

As the child of Mexican immigrants, Villanueva's passion for ensuring equitable health and education is available to immigrants is personal. As the co-chair of the Latino Caucus, Villanueva is committed to making sure that the needs of all immigrant communities are considered in all budget negotiations.

This summer, Villanueva looks forward to remaining active in the community, figuring out ways to better serve constituents in the 12th District that are often underrepresented and creating more memories with her family and friends.





Ram Villivalam

Transportation chair | 8th Senate District

State Senator Ram Villivalam (D-Chicago) continued his advocacy for making sure that each resident in his district has affordable, equitable access to the resources they need.

As a father of two young children, he understands the challenges that many parents face when trying to invest into a bright future for their young children. During this spring legislative session, Villivalam worked hard to continue on his commitment to fighting for more funding and access to high quality education for youth.

He led Senate Bill 2943, which would call for \$50 million in funding for after school programs under the Nita M. Lowey 21st century Community Learning Centers program. These programs engage in a wide variety of services and resources for youth and their families, serving as a resource for financial literacy and social services.

To provide more access to construction grants for early childhood learning centers that provide critical resources to youth, Villivalam championed legislation that would allow nonprofit entities to be eligible for the Early Childhood Construction Grant Program under Senate Bill 2675.

A continuation of his commitment to provide support for exonerated individuals, Villivalam sponsored Senate Bill 3771, which would extend unused

grant benefits to a dependent child or spouse from the Grant Program of Exonerated Persons. This measure would continue the mission of making sure everyone has the resources they need to partake in a vibrant community.

In efforts to continue his support for families and health care access, Villivalam sponsored House Bill 5258, which would extend dependent coverage to parents or stepparents. When children are caring for parents or stepparents, it is not always seamless to provide quality and comprehensive coverage for their medical needs.

As chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, Villivalam has continued his efforts to make sure that everyone has access to affordable, equitable, and reliable transportation that is also environmentally conscious. He introduced a slate of legislation

that will provoke robust discussions as to how Illinois can provide more reliable transportation to ensure that no one will have to go without access to their jobs, education, or other critical services.

As co-chair of the Illinois Asian American Legislative Caucus, Villivalam made sure that Asian Americans in Illinois have their voices heard in Springfield by continuing to collaborate with his fellow caucus members and working to continue discussions with critical advocacy groups.

Villivalam looks forward to the summer and being back in the 8th District to connect with residents, while spending time with his family.





Mark Walker

27th Senate District

State Senator Mark Walker (D-Arlington Heights) represented the 53rd House District since 2019 and was sworn into the Senate in May. While in the House, he served many of the communities within the 27th Senate District, bringing to this role continuity for the residents of the Northwest Suburbs.

A Vietnam veteran, Walker is dedicated to advancing initiatives to address the unique challenges facing veterans and service members. He is also committed to improving his community and helping those in need, having spent a significant amount of time volunteering to help those experiencing homelessness.

Following a successful career as a financial industry executive, entrepreneur and management consultant, Walker has focused on small business reforms and legislation improving and expanding Illinois' diverse and

innovative economy.

While serving in the Illinois House of Representatives, Walker was instrumental in passing a measure to end Illinois' nuclear moratorium, giving the state more options to meet our green energy goals. Further, he remained passionate about digital asset and cryptocurrency protections and worked to define cryptocurrency so it can be regulated and implemented other consumer protections surrounding digital currencies.

Illinois has one of the richest histories and traditions involving Native American tribes. However, for far too long, that history has been abused in the form of moving or displaying Native remains against the wishes of tribes. That's why Walker led a measure to coordinate the reburial of Native American remains and artifacts between the Department of Natural Resources

and other agencies, and gave Native American tribes a voice in their ancestors' remains can be treated with the respect and honor they deserve.

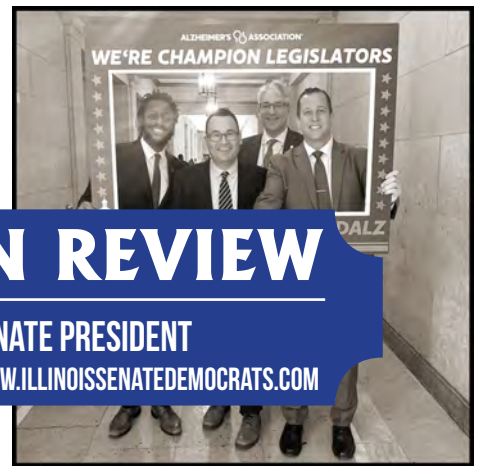
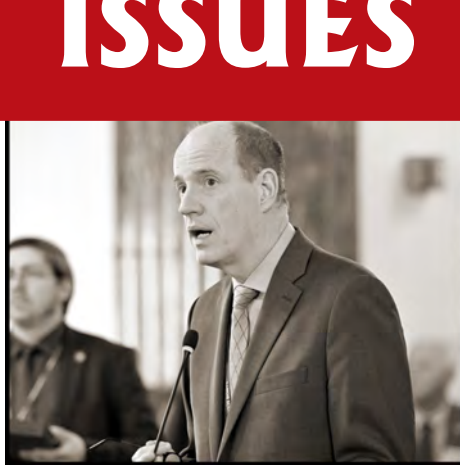
Building on that previous work to establish state processes for the handling of Native American remains and artifacts, Walker introduced legislation to return 1,500 acres of land in DeKalb County to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Senate Bill 3704 would authorize the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to transfer ownership of the Shabbona Lake State Park to the tribe. The federal government recently recognized 130 acres in DeKalb County as Potawatomi land, marking the first federally recognized tribal land in Illinois.

Walker currently serves as vice chair of the Senate Early Childhood Education Committee, and sits on the Senate Revenue, Veterans Affairs, and Financial Institutions Committees. Walker looks forward to continuing to connect with residents of the 27th District this summer, working together to bring their ideas and concerns to Springfield.





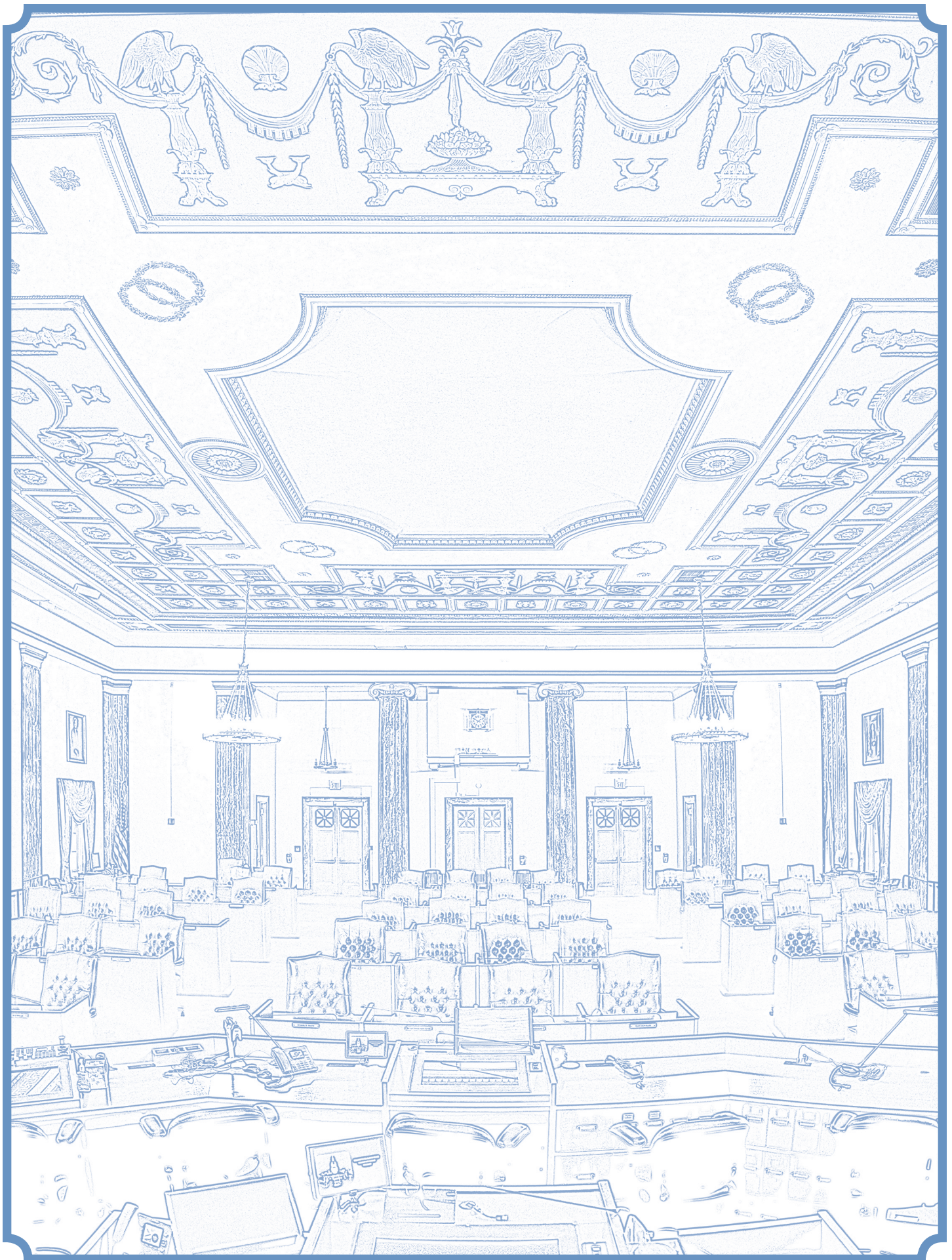
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



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2nd Amendment Rights

SB 2767	Seeks to reduce the minimum shotgun gauge allowed for taking wild turkey, from 20 gauge to .410 bore in the Wildlife Code.
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Agriculture and Natural Resources

HB 0255	Directs the Department of Natural Resources to establish a Youth and Young Adult Conservation and Education Pilot Program in order to provide educational and employment opportunities to youth and young adults.
HB 1855	Requires the Department of Natural Resources to file a written report to the General Assembly on or before March 1 of each year that include various information on payments to the Illinois Forestry Development Fund.
HB 2601	Allows the Department of Agriculture to exempt from inspection animals slaughtered or any meat or meat food products prepared on a custom basis only if the Type 1 licensee plainly marks "NOT FOR SALE" (rather than "NOT FOR SALE-NOT INSPECTED").
HB 5522	Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to issue a Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit to any person who provides nuisance wildlife control services for a fee, and to anyone who solicits customers for themselves or on behalf of a nuisance wildlife control permit holder for a fee or compensation.
SB 2747	Establishes that the Department of Natural Resources will determine which plants are exotic weeds and will consult with the Department of Agriculture before adding or removing any plant from the exotic weed list.
SB 3077	Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop and administer a Local Food Infrastructure Grant Program to enhance local food processing, aggregation, and distribution within the state through the award of grants.
SB 3219	Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may, subject to appropriation, provide grants for equipment upgrades for farmer-owned grocery stores or markets.
SB 3407	Allows meat processors to sell or donate processed deer meat that has been left unclaimed, or if the owner wishes to donate it, without having to be a member of the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program.

Budget

HB 4951	Contains the 2024 revenue package.
HB 4959	Contains the Budget Implementation for FY2025.
HB 5601	Contains the annual Budgeting For Results mandate and fund clean up bill.
SB 0251	Contains the Fiscal Year 2025 budget.
SB 3237	Allows school districts waiting on the FY 2004, 2005 and 2006 School Construction Program lists who have already expended funds towards their construction projects to adjust their required local match for their construction project for the first 3 available application cycles after June 30, 2024.
SB 3426	Contains a revenue package that makes changes to the Aircraft component exemption, Motor Fuel Tax and Liquor Control Act.



Business

HB 4447	Provides a motor vehicle dealer with a private right of action for the use of the motor vehicle dealer's name, image, likeness, registered trademark, or intellectual property without written permission.
HB 4925	Prohibits a motorcycle manufacturer from requiring a motorcycle dealer to make improvements to the dealer's facility that would result in substantial costs to the dealer or to condition any dealer's eligibility for payments under any discount.
HB 5005	Contains the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity business development omnibus.
SB 3155	Provides that business ventures receiving an Angel Investment Credit that fail to meet the minimum job requirements of the credit during a 3-year reporting period shall only have to repay credits at the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's discretion.
SB 3362	Subjects retailers that maintain a place of business in Illinois to the Retailers' Occupation Tax for sales made outside of the state to Illinois consumers fulfilled from inventory located outside of the state.
SB 3460	Codifies common practices for the initiation of a self-storage unit lease and allows a self-storage facility owner to reasonably move on at the end of a unit lease so they can find another renter. Also allows rental agreements for a self-service storage unit to be accepted by electronic mail.
SB 3679	Provides for the establishment of Business Improvement Districts by a municipality with over 500,000 residents after petition by property owners. Allows property owners to create a governing board and levy a charge on all property within the district except small residential and tax-exempt property.

Civil Law

HB 0277	Provides that if a person fails to appear in court the court may text, call, or email the person's last known contact information with notice regarding the continued court dates.
HB 4251	Clarifies that the Electronic Wills and Remote Witnesses Act does not apply to a nontestamentary estate planning document, will, or terms or a trust if the terms governing the document bar the use of an electronic record or electronic signature.
HB 4264	Protects nonprofits from lawsuits when inspecting and distributing donated menstrual products in good faith unless there's intention to cause harm.
HB 4351	Provides an option for plaintiffs in all counties to use a licensed private detective agency to serve process without a court order.
HB 4623	Creates new criminal offenses for both obscene depiction of a purported child and for non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions. Makes various definition changes in existing child pornography offenses.
HB 4660	Cleans up the Mechanics Lien Act by deleting duplicative language.
HB 4762	Creates the Digital Voice and Likeness Protection Act. Protects artists from a music studio entering a deal to allow artificial intelligence to train on an artist's work to create digital replicas that sound like the artist without fairly compensating the artist.
HB 4961	Sets certain mail or in-person notices which shall be given prior to a hearing to replace a successor guardian.
SB 0381	Requires the administrator to assess surplus real property held by the state and determine whether the property is unsellable in its current condition.
SB 2683	Adds the use of an electronic tracking system to the definition of "course of contact" of stalking. Allows a judge to prohibit a respondent from using an electronic tracking system or acquiring tracking information to determine the petitioner's location, movement or travel patterns.



Civil Law (cont.)

SB 2740	Requires condominiums to provide an accessible parking space to a unit owner with a disability. Grants the private right of action to compel the condominium to offer an accessible parking space.
SB 2919	Permits the judge, the sheriff, or other third party conducting the sale to conduct a judicial sale in person, online, or both at their own discretion. Mortgagees may request if the sale is done in person, online, or both.
SB 3284	Makes various changes to the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act including court ordered counseling agreements and support payments.
SB 3288	Provides that records and communications may be disclosed for research purposes in accordance with HIPPA and removes the witness attestation requirement.
SB 3310	Extends the statute of limitations for bringing a civil rights violation complaint from 300 days to two years and updates the relief available to include punitive damages and damages.
SB 3314	Establishes rules for refinancing consumer legal funding amounts and specifically states in contract the ability for a consumer to refinance legal funding amounts.
SB 3343	Addresses the liquidation of virtual currency and provides more flexibility concerning the requirement of liquidating such currency in cases where liquidation is not cost effective, impossible, or would result in market distortion.
SB 3420	Provides that unfair service agreements cannot be enforced, and it is an unlawful for a business to enter into such an agreement with a consumer.
SB 3421	Prohibits third parties from refusing to honor a legally-executed power of attorney based on specific, minor technicalities. The bill also provides certain circumstances where it is reasonable to refuse to honor a power of attorney for property.
SB 3652	Requires the Department of Human Rights to prepare a summary identifying the key rights and remedies of tenants or household members of tenants who are survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence.
SB 3696	Updates the Uniform Commercial Code to adopt changes recommended by the Uniform Law Commission in 2022 concerning the emergence of new technologies such as cryptocurrencies and NFTs.
SB 3713	Supports crime victims compensation by expanding the definitions of "victim" and "applicant", adds additional types of compensation damages and costs, expands provisions, and increases time allotted to submit application for compensation.

Consumers

HB 4589	Provides that in transactions involving catalytic convertors, recyclable metal dealers shall keep records of the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed and any numbers, bar codes, stickers, or other unique markings of the catalytic convertor.
HB 4891	Prohibits dentists and their employees or agents from arranging or establishing third-party financing for a dental patient, requires written notice to be provided to the patient or guardian when the dentist discusses third-party financing, and establishes penalties for violations.
HB 4911	Expands the number of ways a customer may cancel a contract for physical fitness services to include by email, if an email address was provided in the contract, or online, if the contract was entered into online.



Consumers (cont.)

HB 5232	Makes changes to the personal care products industry supplier disparity study that was enacted in 2021.
HB 5559	Requires auto insurers, upon the determination of a total loss of an insured vehicle, to provide the insured individual with a description of the determination, including any repair estimates, estimated vehicle salvage value, assessed market value and other costs or calculations used.
SB 2586	Updates teledentistry in Illinois by requiring a dental exam or review of patient records before prescribing treatment options like clear aligners. Requires teledentists provide adequate contact information for the patient.
SB 2625	Restricts the locations where alcohol-infused products and co-branded alcoholic beverages can be displayed and sold in retail establishments to prohibit alcoholic beverages from being displayed directly adjacent to non-alcohol-infused products.
SB 2654	Allows a person to recover medical devices, social security cards, passbooks, higher education and textbooks from a vehicle which is being held by a towing company. If the vehicle is stolen and later towed, storage fees cannot be charged if the vehicle is recovered within seven days.
SB 2662	Provides that a manufacturer, distributor, or retailer may not advertise, market, or promote an electronic cigarette in a manner that is likely to cause a person to mistake the electronic cigarette for a product that is not a tobacco product.
SB 2764	Requires businesses that offer a free trial or promotional period of its products and services that automatically renew to notify consumers by email at three days before the cancellation deadline. This applies to free gift or trial periods that last longer than 15 days.
SB 2933	Prohibits a consumer reporting agency from making or furnishing a credit report containing or reflecting any adverse information about the consumer that the agency knows or should know relates to medical debt.
SB 3098	Prohibits electronic cigarettes purchased by mail, through the Internet, or other remote sale methods from being shipped to anyone under 21 in the state other than a distributor or retailer.
SB 3235	Carries out studies that identify and delineate geographies in Illinois exhibiting significant disparities by protected characteristics in financial products or services and identify policies, procedures, patterns, or practices that have or may have a disparate impact or discriminatory effects.
SB 3420	Provides that unfair service agreements cannot be enforced, and it is unlawful for a business to enter into such an agreement with a consumer.
SB 3471	Allows the Secretary of State to issue a new set of license plates to an owner of a vehicle whose plates were stolen.
SB 3479	Changes the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to require veteran service disclosures when veteran or military benefit services are offered in exchange for financial compensation, benefit or thing of value.



Criminal Law

HB 1168	Provides that when DNA evidence is collected from a person because the person was a victim of a crime, that specific DNA profile collected in conjunction with that criminal investigation shall not be entered into any DNA database.
HB 2323	Creates the Uniform Statewide Crime Statistics Task Force and requires them to meet at least quarterly to assist the state police in the development and implementation of an integrated software system for gathering and publishing crime data from all law enforcement agencies throughout the state.
HB 3241	Requires the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council to study and identify discriminatory practices in sentencing across the state.
HB 4409	Ensures broader representation within the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board by adding a representative from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Department of Human Services, Sangamon and Cook County Adult Probation, and two members who have experienced the ARI system as offenders and provides board flexibility in funding allocation through grant awards.
HB 4500	Changes the name of the offense “unlawful use of a weapon” to “unlawful possession of a weapon,” and changes the name of the offense “armed habitual criminal” to “persistent unlawful possession of a weapon.”
HB 4621	Establishes the Office of Statewide Pretrial Services to provide pretrial services to circuit courts and counties without any existing pretrial services agencies and to develop, establish, and enforce uniform standards for pretrial services.
HB 4819	States that the Illinois Department of Corrections must provide lactation or nursing mothers rooms for Illinois Department of Corrections personnel.
HB 5285	Provides that if judgment is withheld, a plea, verdict or finding of guilt isn’t considered a conviction until judgment is entered. Provides that, for first-time drug offenses, a sentence isn’t considered a conviction until judgment is entered for violating probation terms.
HB 5431	Ensures pregnant and postpartum prisoners are made aware their rights, are not forcibly restrained and have access to supplemental nutrition while imprisoned. Also ensures all female prisoners receive a medical screening within 14 days of arrival to a county or state facility.
HB 5465	Allows a juvenile charge that was a result of human trafficking be expunged from a victims record.
SB 0426	Establishes an emerging adult programs for persons aged 18 to 21 who have been committed to the Illinois Department of Corrections.
SB 2285	Changes the offense of installation of object in lieu of airbag to the offense of airbag fraud. Provides that a violation of the offense is a Class A misdemeanor.
SB 2626	Provides that defendants in diversion programs may pre-file an expungement petition 61 days before the anticipated dismissal of their case.
SB 2660	Allows Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to require a chaperone in the presence of a patient if a licensed massage therapist has been or is being charged with certain sexual offenses.
SB 2934	Changes the criminal offense of hazing to provide that it is not a defense to a prosecution for hazing that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or permitted the hazing.
SB 3098	Prohibits electronic cigarettes purchased by mail, through the Internet, or other remote sale methods from being shipped to anyone under 21 in the state other than a distributor or retailer.



Criminal Law (cont.)

SB 3201	Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to develop or approve a course to assist law enforcement officers in identifying and responding to individuals with autism.
SB 3285	Allows individuals who plead guilty to petition for re-sentencing provisions.
SB 3353	Creates a Community-Based Corrections Task Force to research the benefits of specialty courts and the alternatives of detention.
SB 3463	Requires a future court date for the automatic expungement of juvenile court records to be scheduled on the same day juveniles are sentenced to streamline the expungement process.
SB 3771	Allows an exonerated person who is eligible for the Grant Program for Exonerated Persons to pass unused program benefits to a dependent spouse or child. Requires the circuit court to inform exonerated people about this program when issuing certificates of innocence.

Cybersecurity

HB 3773	Makes it illegal for employers to use AI that discriminates against workers based on protected characteristics or uses ZIP codes as a stand-in for those traits in areas like hiring, promotion, job training and more.
HB 4623	Creates new criminal offenses for both obscene depiction of a purported child and for non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions. Makes various definition changes in existing child pornography offenses.
HB 4762	Creates the Digital Voice and Likeness Protection Act. Protects artists from a music studio entering a deal to allow artificial intelligence to train on an artist's work to create digital replicas that sound like the artist without fairly compensating the artist.
HB 4875	Prohibits a person from knowingly distributing, transmitting or making available to the public an unauthorized, artificially created version of an artist's identity for a commercial benefit, and provides a civil right of action for an aggrieved recording artist or music studio.
SB 2683	Adds the use of an electronic tracking system to the definition of "course of contact" of stalking. Allows a judge to prohibit a respondent from using an electronic tracking system or acquiring tracking information to determine the petitioner's location, movement or travel patterns.
SB 2979	Updates the Biometric Information Privacy Act to limit recovery for collection or distribution of biometric information to a per-person basis when the same biometric information is collected or distributed in the same manner from the same individual repeatedly in violation of the Act.



Economic Development

HB 5005	Contains the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity business development omnibus.
HB 5412	Allows that if a REV or MICRO tax incentive recipient fails to report required data to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, then they may be ineligible to receive tax incentives under the REV Act and MICRO Act.
SB 2907	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, in coordination with other state agencies, compile a report concerning all state-funded job training and workforce development programs in the state.
SB 3219	Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may, subject to appropriation, provide grants for equipment upgrades for farmer-owned grocery stores or markets.
SB 3389	Makes changes in the Regional Planning Act regarding CMAP including what changes can be made with a simple majority of board members, and removed language that would require the General Assembly to appropriate funding annually.
SB 3807	Increases the maximum loan the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity can make for minority, veteran, female and disability loans, from \$400,000 to \$2,000,000.

Education

HB 0305	Eliminates the role of Cook County township trustee of schools and replaces it with a representative board of the schools within the township.
HB 0340	Requires that when schools send notices for IEP meetings to parents or guardians, they must also inform them about their right to receive written copies of any material discussed during the meeting and provide specific date information regarding when the materials will be available.
HB 3446	Requires the Illinois State Board of Education to create an Evidence-Based Funding spending plan tool on its website.
HB 4175	Prohibits the use of corporal punishments against students in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. This does not include permitted uses of physical restraint to prevent a student from harming themselves, others, or property.
HB 4219	Requires fentanyl education in state-mandated health courses for all students in grades six through 12.
HB 4417	Outlines what information and instruction high school students should receive during a "Workplace Readiness Week" if a public high school or charter school chooses to officially designate and observe this week.
HB 4491	Specifies that a qualified child care director or a qualified early childhood teacher with a minimum of 2,880 hours of experience must be present for the first and last hour of a workday and at the open or close of the facility.
HB 4581	Provides that the school district where a student's parent resides is the student's resident district if that student is 18 years of age or older with no legal guardian and is placed in a residential school or facility outside of the school district where their parent resides.
HB 4653	Makes changes to inconsistencies in current statute relating to educator in-service training on the safe usage of trauma kits to respond to incidents of life threatening bleeding.



Education (cont.)

HB 4895	Requires that all public schools, by the 2026-2027 school year, provide instruction on the environmental and ecological impacts of climate change and solutions for addressing and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
HB 4902	Ensures that vendors providing support and resources to schools with continuous improvement plans are providing them in a manner that aligns with the evidence-based policies of the Illinois Comprehensive Literacy Plan.
HB 4903	Requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, to compile resources to assess air quality and maintain ventilation systems in schools.
HB 5057	Allows applicants for teacher licenses to take content area tests before, during and after student teaching.
HB 5085	Clarifies that “clinical observations” regarding ambulance services include medical and mental health observations. Allows an EMS system to provide education outside its designated region with IDFPR approval, and to teach EMT classes in high schools.
HB 5250	Allows students who meet state standards in English, math and science to automatically enroll in the next most rigorous level of coursework.
HB 5276	Requires a student's assistive technology needs to be considered in the transition planning process for an individualized education program.
HB 5394	Requires public school districts to provide information regarding emergency procedures and lifesaving techniques, including hands-only CPR, the Heimlich maneuver and use of the school's AED to school personnel annually.
HB 5407	Allows school districts to use grant funds received through the Education of Homeless Children and Youth State Grant Program for student rental assistance, transportation, emergency shelter assistance, case management services and other housing strategies.
HB 5418	Allows Regional Offices of Education and Intermediate Service Centers to apply for and receive school maintenance project grants.
SB 0001	Creates the Department of Early Childhood to be the lead agency for administering and providing early childhood education and care programs and services to children and families in Illinois.
SB 0463	Creates the Performance Evaluation Advisory Committee to take the place of the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council. Allows career and technical education teachers to be granted tenure if they have a career and technical educator license with stipulations.
SB 0464	Allows North Chicago District 187 to be exempt from the public referendum requirement to build a new elementary school.
SB 0726	Requires the Illinois State Board of Education to release a strategy and tool for measuring schools' capacity to implement universal mental health screenings of students. Requires interagency collaboration to develop a program to provide in-home respite behavioral health aides to youth requiring intensive supervision.
SB 1400	Makes several changes regarding disciplinary procedures for school districts. Provides that out of school suspensions and expulsions should only be used when a student's presence threatens the health or safety of students or staff.
SB 2675	Allows the Capital Development Board to approve Early Childhood Construction Grants for all nonprofit early childhood entities in the state.



Education (cont.)

SB 2824	Allows a child to remain tuition-free in their former school or school district the child would have attended if the child moved to another school district due a Department of Children and Family Services temporary placement with a relative caregiver or non-custodial parent.
SB 2861	Requires the Illinois High School Association and Illinois Elementary School Association to adopt the Spirit Rules Book published by the National Federation of State High School Associations.
SB 2872	Requires each school district to provide students, in addition to and not substituting recess, at least 20 minutes a week for relaxation activities.
SB 2987	Requires that all voting members of a school board receive training on leveraging instruction, funding, and support to improve student outcomes and continuous improvement planning for the school districts.
SB 3110	Allows the members of a regional board of school trustees, within a single county, to fill a vacancy with an individual who is a resident of a township not represented on the board.
SB 3151	Requires public school district driver education courses to include instruction on worker safety in highway construction and maintenance zones.
SB 3156	Continues the State Board of Education's efforts to streamline the school code provisions and amend or repeal outdated, contradictory, and problematic provisions of the school code.
SB 3164	Allows schools to screen students between prekindergarten and second grade for advanced academic program eligibility.
SB 3237	Allows school districts waiting on the FY 2004, 2005 and 2006 School Construction Program lists who have already expended funds towards their construction projects to adjust their required local match for their construction project for the first 3 available application cycles after June 30, 2024.
SB 3348	Allows Union Ridge School District 86, subject to the passage of a district-wide referendum, to issue bonds not to exceed \$35,000,000 for the purposes of school construction.
SB 3349	Allows students attending both public and non-public schools to obtain a State Global Scholar Certification remotely if their school does not offer an in-person option.
SB 3378	Repeals the required meningococcal educational materials for age-appropriate children to be provided to schools. The vaccine became mandated in schools in 2015. Thus, it is no longer necessary to supply the educational materials.
SB 3571	Requires that an automated external defibrillator be present at all public schools both during the school day and during school-sponsored extracurricular activities.
SB 3606	Equalizes the reimbursement rate received by public school districts from the State Board of Education when sending high needs special education students to private and public special education day schools.
SB 3768	Aligns current state and federal law with the current operating procedures and administration of the Philip J. Rock Center, and recognize the Center as its own employer, and provide more flexibility for appointments to its Advisory Board.



Elections

HB 4226	Clarifies that a new election cycle for associate judges begins the day after the last day that a judicial vacancy may be certified for election in a general election cycle in Cook County.
HB 4488	Contains the 2024 election omnibus.
SB 0015	Establishes the election procedure and boundaries of the Chicago Elected Representative School Board.
SB 2412	Moves all petition dates for established political party candidates up by 28 days beginning with the 2026 General Election cycle. Eliminates the current political party slating of General Assembly candidates. Adds three advisory referendum questions on the 2024 General Election ballot.

Energy

HB 4118	Requires electric and gas utilities with more than 500,000 customers to implement a Disconnection Protection Program by June 1, 2025 to protect customers from disconnection if they applied for energy payment assistance. Costs associated with this program may be recovered through the utility's rates.
HB 4141	Expands eligibility to apply for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to those living in subsidized housing, those whose rental expenses are no more than 30% of the household income, or those whose energy bill is a portion of their rent.
HB 4471	Eliminates the sunset on the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund, which is currently Jan. 1, 2025.
HB 4661	Clarifies how electric utilities may use, develop and maintain broadband systems, telecommunications services, cable services and video services until Dec. 31, 2027, when provisions prohibiting certain utilities from using SmartGrid infrastructure to offer retail broadband service sunset.
HB 4804	Allows public water distributors to use on-file contact information to inform customers about a disruption in water supply without the customers' expressed consent.
HB 5459	Requires public utilities that provide drinking water services to provide water usage data to a municipal wastewater agency or a unit of local government that handles wastewater upon request for purposes of calculating wastewater billings.
HB 5539	Allows public universities to be eligible entities for existing energy efficiency credits and measures to be procured by electric utilities as part of their energy efficiency and demand-response requirements.
HB 5546	Makes several substantive and technical changes to the the Illinois Underground Utility Facilities Damage Prevention Act.
SB 1289	Regulates the capture, sequestration, and transportation of carbon dioxide in Illinois.
SB 3173	Permits a county to lease, license, or grant access to the use of infrastructure, including fiber optic cables, that the county owns or controls to public or private entities to allow for the delivery of broadband services.
SB 3481	Requires battery storage sites that store 5,000 kilograms (approximately 11,000 pounds) or more of used batteries to register with the Illinois EPA prior to commencing operation, or by February 2026, and maintain records related to the weight or volume of batteries stored.



Energy (cont.)

SB 3501	Establishes the Responsible Outdoor Lighting Control Act, whereby all new luminaires purchased with State funds on a structure or land that is owned, or managed by the IDNR must follow specified outdoor lighting control requirements.
SB 3601	Repeals outdated language requiring registration of hazardous waste underground storage tanks using forms provided by the Illinois EPA pursuant to federal UST law, and requiring owners and operators of hazardous waste USTs to register by May 8, 1986.
SB 3686	Requires those who sell or distribute portable batteries or portable battery-containing products to implement a plan and cover all costs to recycle covered batteries and battery containing products. Also prohibits people from placing covered batteries in waste containers.

Environment

HB 1837	Allows tree removal business to burn landscape waste at a site other than where it was generated if the site meets specified conditions.
HB 2363	Bars the sale, offer, or distribution in Illinois, as a new manufactured product, a screw-base, bayonet-base type compact fluorescent lamp, a pin-base type compact fluorescent lamp, or a linear fluorescent lamp.
HB 3046	Allows the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to propose rules the Pollution Control Board must adopt to allow for the reuse of treated wastewater.
HB 4751	Clarifies that information or facts expected and intended to be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is "confidential information" that will be excluded from Public Schools Carbon-Free Assessment report forms.
HB 4895	Requires that all public schools, by the 2026-2027 school year, provide instruction on the environmental and ecological impacts of climate change and solutions for addressing and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
HB 4903	Requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, to compile resources to assess air quality and maintain ventilation systems in schools.
HB 5296	Prohibits homeowners associations from prohibiting residents from planting native Illinois species on their lawns so long as the area is maintained.
HB 5488	Creates the Legacy Tree Program Task Force to provide the General Assembly with recommendations for the creation of a statewide legacy tree recognition program.
SB 0839	Designates hazardous paint and paint-related waste as a category of universal waste subject to the streamlined hazardous waste rules.
SB 1289	Regulates the capture, sequestration, and transportation of carbon dioxide in Illinois.
SB 2743	Creates the Water Plan Task Force Act and codifies the State Water Plan Task Force.
SB 2781	Mitigates the effects of climate change by encouraging the maintenance and growth of forests, prairies, and other landscapes.
SB 2849	Attempts to protect wildlife by allowing government to regulate the use of the airspace by a private party above public property that is intended for recreational or conservation purposes.



Environment (cont.)

SB 2876	Requires owners and operators of large event facilities to participate in their respective county recycling program and send recyclable materials from the facility to a recycling center.
SB 2960	Creates the Small Single-Use Plastic Bottle Act, which requires hotels with 50 rooms or more to not provide small single-use plastic bottles containing personal care products beginning July 1, 2025.
SB 3165	Requires that any solicitation issued by the Environmental Protection Agency for a statewide recycling needs assessment.
SB 3239	Disbands the Health and Hazardous Substance Coordinating Council.
SB 3448	Requires Illinois Emergency Management Agency to provide more thorough, accurate information on exact locations of Tier II chemicals to local and county emergency response dispatchers and planners.
SB 3481	Requires battery storage sites that store 5,000 kilograms (approximately 11,000 pounds) or more of used batteries to register with the Illinois EPA prior to commencing operation, or by February 2026, and maintain records related to the weight or volume of batteries stored.
SB 3501	Establishes the Responsible Outdoor Lighting Control Act, whereby all new luminaires purchased with State funds on a structure or land that is owned, or managed by the IDNR must follow specified outdoor lighting control requirements.
SB 3506	Deletes a provision that requires a Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit to contain a provision which creates an emergency-related affirmative defense if certain requirements are met.
SB 3566	Requires landfills in counties with a population over 250,000 (rather than landfills in counties with a population over 275,000) to provide and operate facilities to clean the wheels and undercarriages of vehicles departing the landfill.
SB 3601	Repeals outdated language requiring registration of hazardous waste underground storage tanks using forms provided by the Illinois EPA pursuant to federal UST law, and requiring owners and operators of hazardous waste USTs to register by May 8, 1986.
SB 3686	Requires those who sell or distribute portable batteries or portable battery-containing products to implement a plan and cover all costs to recycle covered batteries and battery containing products. Also prohibits people from placing covered batteries in waste containers.
SB 3716	Tasks the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency with regularly monitoring water quality from nearshores, harbors, and public water supply intakes in Lake Michigan and providing an executive summary biennially on conditions of the water quality in Lake Michigan to the governor and members of the General Assembly.



Family

HB 4350	Requires certain establishments to post in a conspicuous place, information about child abuse, what it is and how to report it. This info will be aimed at children under 18.
HB 4581	Provides that the school district where a student's parent resides is the student's resident district if that student is 18 years of age or older with no legal guardian and is placed in a residential school or facility outside of the school district where their parent resides.
HB 4758	Requires DCFS to annually report the number of youth in care who remained in unauthorized or temporary living spaces.
HB 5224	Clarifies that termination of parental rights and responsibilities occurs after the adoption of an adult, just as with the adoption of a child, except that if a parent is also a petitioner in the adoption, that legal parent retains all parental rights, responsibilities and obligations.
HB 5258	Requires group or individual policies of accident and health insurance that provide dependent coverage to make that coverage available to the parent or stepparent of the insured.
SB 3182	Requires a hospital with custody of a fetus following a spontaneous fetal death that occurred during or after gestation of at least 20 weeks to notify the gestational parent of their right to receive a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.
SB 3232	Requires hospitals to provide a person who relinquished a newborn infant with the name and contact information of the child welfare agency that received custody of the relinquished infant, if the relinquishing parent returns to reclaim the infant within 30 days.
SB 3284	Makes various changes to the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act including court ordered counseling agreements and support payments.
SB 3367	Provides that the Department of Children and Family Services should not refer a case for child support enforcement before a court has ruled out the return home of the child.
SB 3473	Requires the State Board of Education, in coordination with the Department of Public Health, to develop information materials for students' parents and guardians on type 1 diabetes.

Health

HB 0581	Requires hospitals to provide emergency services in accordance with the Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act. Clarifies that this protection applies to individuals who arrive by ambulance or other emergency medical services vehicle to the hospital.
HB 2385	Requires all group and individual policies of accident and health insurance and managed care plans to provide coverage for a colonoscopy if it is deemed medically necessary starting Jan. 1, 2026.
HB 2472	Clarifies when an individual is entitled to an appeal or external review following the denial of benefits from their insurance provider.
HB 4055	Prohibits prior authorization checks for FDA approved medication for the treatment of hereditary bleeding disorders for up to six months
HB 4180	Requires any insurance plan in the state, including Medicaid, to cover molecular breast imaging and magnetic resonance imaging if a mammogram demonstrates heterogeneous or dense breast tissue or when determined medically necessary.
HB 4271	Allows anyone 17 years of age or older to donate blood and have their blood typed without the permission or authorization of their parent.



Health (cont.)

HB 4727	Allows the Office of State Guardian to request up to four birth records annually per guardianship at no cost for individuals under the guardianship of the Office of State Guardian.
HB 4874	Prohibits a pharmacist from refusing to fill a prescription on the basis that it is not an electronic prescription.
HB 4899	Prohibits the Illinois Department of Public Health from charging fees to local health departments in connection with licensure of a home health agency or hospice program.
HB 5000	Allows assisted living facilities to provide catheter care to residents if the nurse providing the care is in compliance with CDC education, certification and training requirements for catheter care or infection control, with oversight from an infection preventionist or infection control committee.
HB 5022	Requires an APRN to observe Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility resident and staff interactions at least weekly, and requires the psychiatric medical director of the facility to be present at least monthly to review interactions and make necessary modifications.
HB 5047	Allows full practice authority-pending advanced practice registered nurses to be granted supervised full practice authority for six months pending Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation review of their license application.
HB 5086	Requires contracts between health care providers and nurse staffing agencies to specify liability to agencies related to a negligent act performed by a nurse or CNA assigned by the agency.
HB 5087	Allows physical therapists and PT assistants to provide physical therapy through telehealth services under specified conditions, so long as telehealth services are not used as the primary means of delivering physical therapy.
HB 5239	Prohibits any government unit, home rule included, from spending resources to help sue or charge a person or entity for legal health care activities, unless needed to follow state or federal law or pursuant to a state investigation. Exempts location and health record information from FOIA.
HB 5290	Contains the Medical Debt Relief Act, which creates a pilot program to purchase and forgive medical debt for eligible Illinois residents.
HB 5353	Approves all examination applications for individuals licensed by the Clinical Social Worker and Social Work Practice Act, the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act, and the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act
HB 5395	Creates the Healthcare Consumer Access and Protection Act. Bans step therapy and prior authorization for in-patient hospital mental health care, improves network adequacy and subjects rate increases for large group insurance companies to DOI approval.
HB 5429	Requires assisted living and shared housing establishments to submit architectural drawings to Illinois Department of Public Health for review and approval prior to beginning major construction on a facility.
HB 5530	Allows pharmacists to administer long-acting injectables for mental health or substance use disorders injections of long-term antipsychotic medications with to a valid prescription from the patient's care team.
SB 0647	Changes the name of the existing Andrew McFarland Mental Health Center in Springfield to the Elizabeth Parsons Ware Packard Mental Health Center. Combines and incorporates language regarding maternal mental health across multiple statutes into one section.



Health (cont.)

SB 0774	Requires Illinois Department of Public Health to administer a Certified Medication Aide Program and allows aides to administer medications at assisted and supportive living facilities under the supervision of a registered nurse, except Schedule II drugs and any intravenous, intramuscular, intradermal or subcutaneous medications.
SB 0857	Requires the Inspector General to conduct annual unannounced site visits of every mental health or developmental disabilities facility in the state.
SB 1087	Establishes a public awareness campaign on the impact of mold and requires the Department of Public Health to review the technology and maintenance techniques every five years.
SB 1089	Requires the capitol building and every rest stop along the interstate highway to install and maintain at least one adult changing station.
SB 1779	Establishes requirements that a facility must meet to participate in the Medication Aide Program, which affords licensed nursing professionals more time to provide critical resident care, while also heightening job satisfaction levels for nurses and offering a potential career path for CNAs.
SB 2442	Prohibits hospitals from directly billing a patient that is 138% below the federal poverty line.
SB 2617	Requires if a county government does not have their own health department, the county government will work with an adjacent health department, including Mobile Farmers Market, to register cottage food operations in the county's jurisdiction and take care of complaints, inspections, fees and penalties.
SB 2625	Restricts the locations where alcohol-infused products and co-branded alcoholic beverages can be displayed and sold in retail establishments to prohibit alcoholic beverages from being displayed directly adjacent to non-alcohol-infused products.
SB 2644	Creates a statewide electronic Advance Directive Registry for Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment -- POLST -- form.
SB 2658	Adds the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy test to the newborn screening tests for all newborns in Illinois.
SB 2662	Provides that a manufacturer, distributor, or retailer may not advertise, market, or promote an electronic cigarette in a manner that is likely to cause a person to mistake the electronic cigarette for a product that is not a tobacco product.
SB 2697	Requires insurance coverage for evidence-based cancer imaging for individuals with an increased risk of cancer.
SB 2737	Eliminates "do not compete" and "do not solicit" clauses from employment agreements for individuals providing mental health services to first responders and veterans.
SB 2799	Implements a procedure for cases of self-neglect, which requires provider agencies to administer an eligibility screening to determine whether an eligible adult is a substantial threat to themselves or others.
SB 2822	Adds definitions for "deep sedation," "general anesthesia," and "moderate sedation" and changes various references from "conscious sedation" to "moderate sedation" throughout the Illinois Dental Practice Act. Also establishes minimum education.
SB 3111	Requires the Illinois Department of Public Health to renew an assisted living facility's license for two years if the facility has not committed any violations in the preceding 24 months.
SB 3116	Requires all EMS Personnel, State Police, and Police Officers to be trained on how to access a cellphone's built-in medical identification information that is accessible without a passcode.



Health (cont.)

SB 3136	Establishes the Family Recovery Plans Implementation Task Force within Illinois Department of Human Services to address the treatment needs of infants born with prenatal substance exposure. Makes further changes to clarify that a finding of prenatal substance exposure does not solely demonstrate evidence of child abuse or neglect.
SB 3211	Provides that an individual without discipline applying as a licensed marriage and family therapist who has been licensed at the independent level in another U.S. jurisdiction for at least 30 months during the five consecutive years is not required to submit proof of completion of education, professional experience, and supervision and must submit certified verification of licensure from said jurisdiction.
SB 3268	Contains the 2024 Medicaid Omnibus Bill.
SB 3277	Creates a Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Program to bring awareness and credible information to patients and physicians.
SB 3430	Requires the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services to develop, post, and maintain a comprehensive informational guide that explains the 5-year Medicaid look back period as it applies to long term care coverage and specifies what information must be included in that guide.
SB 3467	Amends the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act by adding qualifications for graduate SLP assistants to include completion of requirements for certification as required by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation also much include that the assistant program must have 36 hours of related introductory courses.
SB 3473	Requires the State Board of Education, in coordination with the Department of Public Health, to develop information materials for students' parents and guardians on type 1 diabetes.
SB 3529	Repeals the Pertussis Vaccine Act requiring an informative pamphlet. Providing pertussis vaccine information may do more harm than good because it could make parents and guardians see the pertussis vaccine as "different" from other required vaccines that do not require handouts.
SB 3547	Removes clinical breast exams from cancer-related educational materials and language recommending clinical breast exams as a method for detecting breast cancer.
SB 3548	Creates new designations of Level III Trauma Centers and Acute Injury Stabilization Centers and creates related standards for those designations.
SB 3661	Adds comprehensive community mental health centers to allow employees in those centers to be eligible for waivers of background check requirements.
SB 3751	Creates an entity required to collect health data to promote equitable healthcare outcomes, decrease health care costs, and ensure quality health care for all.
SB 3763	Repeals the Reye's Syndrome Reporting Act eliminating the Illinois Department of Public Health's requirement to oversee and create reports for the condition.
SB 3784	Standardizes language changing "sexually transmissible diseases" to "sexually transmitted infections" and adds human papillomavirus (HPV) and monkey pox (mpox) to the definition of sexually transmitted infections.



Higher Education

HB 0307	Makes various changes to the Student Athlete Endorsement Rights Act by expanding opportunities for student-athlete compensation and protects student information from Freedom of Information Act disclosure.
HB 4738	Permits the Board of Higher Education to issue cease and desist orders and assess a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation to any school operating without the required permits or certifications of approval.
HB 4939	Removes the requirements for state agencies to report reports, documents, or other publications of a public institution of higher learning to the state librarian, except to the extent that the state librarian, by rule, requires the reports be deposited with the state library.
HB 5369	Makes changes to the Career and Workforce Transition Act to require public community college to accept up to 30 credit hours transferred for students who have completed a program in Masonry from a non-degree institution that has been approved by the Illinois Community College Board.
HB 5450	Removes the requirements for the Board of Higher Education to report the cost of compensable sick leave information for higher education employees participating in SERS to the governor and the Governor's Office of Management and Budget.
HB 5539	Allows public universities to be eligible entities for existing energy efficiency credits and measures to be procured by electric utilities as part of their energy efficiency and demand-response requirements.
HB 5655	Requires the governing board of each public college and university to adopt a late work policy for students participating in drill or other military obligations.
SB 0086	Requires private educational lenders to provide cosigners with the mandatory disclosures given to borrowers including loan statements, certification of exhaustion of federal student loan funds and guidelines on how to qualify and apply for cosigner release.
SB 0331	Requires the Board of Trustees of each public university and community college to pay employees their daily, regular rate of pay and benefits if a campus is closed to a city, county, or state declaration of a winter weather emergency.
SB 0461	Expands the qualifications for in-state tuition costs at public universities if a person has attended an Illinois high school, public or private community college or the combination of a community college or high school for at least two years and a cumulative total of at least three years before enrolling at the university.
SB 0462	Prohibits the consideration of "donor status" and "legacy status" in admissions to public universities.
SB 2690	Requires public colleges and universities to waive or reimburse transcript evaluation fees for refugees of Iraq and Afghanistan.
SB 2862	Requires that the Illinois Board of Higher Education, with Illinois Department of Employment Security, compile annually, a list of the most in-demand jobs in the state, along with the starting salaries, median salary, and typical education levels for the jobs.
SB 3081	Requires each public university to waive any admission application fees for a student transferring from a Illinois public community college if the transferring student is enrolled in the last semester of a degree program and is on schedule to graduate with a degree.
SB 3132	Includes the Illinois Community College Board omnibus legislation that makes various changes to data collection, requirements and fees.



Higher Education (cont.)

SB 3138	Allows youth who aged out of Department of Children and Family Services care at age 18 and received fee waivers to attend community college, university or college to retain their fee waiver and scholarship as long as they are making progress toward graduation or completing a certificate or degree program.
SB 3238	Eliminates the sections pertaining of higher education supplier diversity report and race and gender wage reports from the Department of Central Management Services Law of the Civil Administrative Code and transfers those reports to the Commission on Equity and Inclusion.
SB 3581	Requires the Board of Trustees of each public university to report student enrollment data to the Illinois Board of Higher Education by the 15th day after the start of the academic year.
SB 3594	Requires that if a public institution of higher education does not have an equivalent major or lower-division courses that align with Illinois Articulation Initiative-approved majors, the institution is considered IAI-compliant for the academic year.
SB 3771	Allows an exonerated person who is eligible for the Grant Program for Exonerated Persons to pass unused program benefits to a dependent spouse or child. Requires the circuit court to inform exonerated people about this program when issuing certificates of innocence.

Housing

HB 4206	Requires landlords to allow tenants to make rental payments by delivering a paper check to the landlord or their business office if the landlord uses a third-party payment portal to collect rent and has a transactional fee or other charge imposed through the portal on the rental payments.
HB 4467	Provides that operation of a mobile home park without a license will result in a fine of \$50 for the first month and \$100 per day starting in the second month of noncompliance.
HB 4768	Prohibits landlords from retaliating against a tenant.
HB 4921	Allows home equity assurance commissions to use loan funds to provide grants or rebates to residents for repair, maintenance, remodeling, alteration or improvement of a guaranteed residence to prevent or repair damage as a result of a natural disaster.
HB 4926	Provides that if a prospective tenant provides a reusable tenant screening report that meets certain criteria, the landlord may not charge the prospective tenant a fee to access the report or an application screening fee.
HB 5238	Requires that every newly installed manufactured home be equipped with a weather radio supplied by the person who installed the manufactured home.
HB 5357	Requires insurance companies to provide information on the availability of coverage for loss caused by a sewer backup or overflow from a sump pump to all new applicants for homeowner insurance, and to current policyholders at least 30 days prior to the renewal of the policy.
HB 5502	Makes changes to the Condominium Property Act to prohibit a condominium association from exercising any right of refusal, option to purchase, or right to disapprove of a sale by a unit owner in the association for a discriminatory or otherwise unlawful purpose.
SB 2601	Requires property owners to disclose to potential tenants if a property is located in a FEMA Flood Hazard area, or if a specific unit has flooded previously.



Housing (cont.)

SB 2834	Prohibits the eviction of a mobile home tenant for failure to pay rent to a mobile home park that have not applied for a license or a license renewal and have failed to submit all fees due.
SB 2935	Creates a right of first refusal for residents of a mobile home park. The homeowners must create and incorporate a homeowners' association to act on their behalf. If the park owner elects to sell, they must first notify the association of the offer and the price, terms, and conditions of the sale.
SB 3175	Requires that the Illinois Department of Transportation create and implement a Type 2 Noise Suppression Program to provide noise abatement for existing highways.
SB 3297	Lowers the age of eligibility for the Housing is Recovery Pilot Program from 21 years old to 18 years old.
SB 3351	Provides that an elderly parent and an adult child with disabilities of the opposite sex shall not be required to occupy subsidized housing with only one bedroom.

Human Rights

HB 2161	Prohibits discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on family responsibilities under the Employment Article of the Human Rights Act.
HB 4867	Prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's reproductive health decisions by modifying the Human Rights Act.
HB 5097	Requires the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to provide caregivers with the necessary training and resources to ensure youth receive culturally competent haircare that promotes healthy hair and self-confidence.
HB 5371	Makes several changes to the Illinois Human Rights Act, including employee harassment liability, penalties for violating the Act, redefines language, and grants the Illinois Department of Human Rights the authority to establish hotlines and helplines to report incidents.
HB 5507	Makes changes to the Code of Civil Procedure by allowing a resident to file a petition asking for the court to correct or update a birth certificate issued by another state or country. Petition must contain the petitioner's name and address; the change that is sought; and reason for the change.
SB 0859	Creates the Office of Economic Equity and Empowerment to assist minority, women, veteran, non-for-profit corporation, and businesses owned by persons with disabilities by providing outreach and promotional activities.
SB 3649	Establishes the Worker Freedom of Speech Act, safeguarding employees from facing negative consequences for standing up against actions that go against their religious or political beliefs or for reporting violations of the law in an honest manner.
SB 3652	Requires the Department of Human Rights to prepare a summary identifying the key rights and remedies of tenants or household members of tenants who are survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence.



Human Services

HB 4498	Changes a section in the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code regarding the discharge of voluntary patients to change instances of the word "he" to "the recipient."
HB 4758	Requires DCFS to annually report the number of youth in care who remained in unauthorized or temporary living spaces.
HB 5084	Streamlines and reduces duplicative reporting by the Department of Human Services for the WIC program and SNAP.
HB 5085	Clarifies that "clinical observations" regarding ambulance services include medical and mental health observations. Allows an EMS system to provide education outside its designated region with IDFPR approval, and to teach EMT classes in high schools.
HB 5094	Creates the Workforce Direct Care Expansion Act and requires the Office of the Chief Behavioral Health Officer in partnership with various state agencies to establish a Behavioral Health Administrative Burden Task Force consisting of providers, consumer advocacy groups, and key government bodies.
HB 5097	Requires the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to provide caregivers with the necessary training and resources to ensure youth receive culturally competent haircare that promotes healthy hair and self-confidence.
HB 5256	Re-defines what is included in the term disability in the training program guidelines for persons with a disability.
HB 5354	Makes various changes to the Customized Employment for Individuals with Disabilities Act.
HB 5643	Requires all state employee health plans, Medicaid, and private insurers to provide coverage for prescribed at-home pregnancy tests, regardless of whether the tests are available over-the-counter.
SB 0856	Allows a Department of Children and Family Services investigator to request a driver's license or state ID with the investigator's office or work address listed as their place of residence instead of the investigator's home address.
SB 0860	Requires the Department of Human Services to develop a medication administration training program for authorized directed staff at certain facilities for persons with a developmental disability.
SB 2715	Prohibits the disclosure of Long Term Care Ombudsman Program records unless pursuant to subpoena or with permission from the state ombudsman. Creates procedures for the disclosure of program records by the state ombudsman with consent to disclose from the individual or by court.
SB 2788	Clarifies how abused and neglected child reporting occurs under the State Central Register.
SB 2980	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to post information on its website regarding proposed changes to childcare institutions, maternity centers, or group homes licensed by the department.
SB 3207	Allows daycare centers to operate for 24 hours or longer and provide care for a child for up to 12 hours if the parent or guardian is employed in a position that requires regularly scheduled shifts.
SB 3297	Lowers the age of eligibility for the Housing is Recovery Pilot Program from 21 years old to 18 years old.
SB 3350	Allows the Department of Humans Services to establish or authorize programs to dispense and distribute fentanyl test strips to promote harm reduction efforts and prevent overdoses as part of the existing Drug Overdose Prevention Program.
SB 3351	Provides that an elderly parent and an adult child with disabilities of the opposite sex shall not be required to occupy subsidized housing with only one bedroom.



Human Services (cont.)

SB 3432	Changes the initial administration date for the Direct Support Professional Credential Pilot Program from the start of FY 24 to the start of FY 25.
SB 3476	Exempts from sales tax home-delivered meals provided to Medicare and Medicaid recipients when payment is made by an intermediary.
SB 3753	Sets criteria for the admission of individuals to state operated facilities for people with developmental disabilities.

Insurance

HB 2385	Requires all group and individual policies of accident and health insurance and managed care plans to provide coverage for a colonoscopy if it is deemed medically necessary starting Jan. 1, 2026.
HB 2472	Clarifies when an individual is entitled to an appeal or external review following the denial of benefits from their insurance provider.
HB 2499	Bans short-term, limited-duration insurance plans beginning Jan. 1, 2025.
HB 3521	Extends protections from patient abuse to hospital affiliates in addition to hospitals.
HB 4055	Prohibits prior authorization checks for FDA approved medication for the treatment of hereditary bleeding disorders for up to six months
HB 4180	Requires any insurance plan in the state, including Medicaid, to cover molecular breast imaging and magnetic resonance imaging if a mammogram demonstrates heterogeneous or dense breast tissue or when determined medically necessary.
HB 4276	Expands disclosures to consumers purchasing a refundable life care contracts.
HB 4367	Changes the Illinois Insurance Code to remove redundant language from the definition of "insolvent company."
HB 4460	Requires every self-insured county and municipality across the state to provide coverage for marriage and couples counseling for firefighters, police officers and EMT. Requires the same coverage for ISP officers and their spouses.
HB 4588	Extends the sunset of the Risk Retention Companies Article of the Insurance Code to Jan. 1, 2057.
HB 4789	Prohibits any provider of dental insurance from denying a claim subsequently submitted for procedures that were already including in a prior authorization, unless for a statutorily authorized reason.
HB 5142	Requires private insurers to cover all services for pregnancy, postpartum, and newborn care rendered by perinatal doulas or licensed certified professional midwives.
HB 5258	Requires group or individual policies of accident and health insurance that provide dependent coverage to make that coverage available to the parent or stepparent of the insured.
HB 5282	Requires private insurance and managed care plans to cover treatment for mental, emotional, nervous or substance use disorders for all individuals who have experienced a miscarriage or stillbirth beginning in 2026.
HB 5295	Requires health insurance plans to cover medically necessary hormonal and non-hormonal therapy to treat menopausal symptoms beginning Jan. 1, 2026.
HB 5317	Amends the Uniform Electronic Transactions in Dental Care Billing Act by extending the effective start date of the act a year, to Jan. 1, 2026.



Insurance (cont.)

HB 5357	Requires insurance companies to provide information on the availability of coverage for loss caused by a sewer backup or overflow from a sump pump to all new applicants for homeowner insurance, and to current policyholders at least 30 days prior to the renewal of the policy.
HB 5395	Creates the Healthcare Consumer Access and Protection Act. Bans step therapy and prior authorization for in-patient hospital mental health care, improves network adequacy and subjects rate increases for large group insurance companies to DOI approval.
HB 5493	Resolves technical inconsistencies or overlooked features discovered in statute, and makes small changes to the Illinois Insurance Code.
HB 5559	Requires auto insurers, upon the determination of a total loss of an insured vehicle, to provide the insured individual with a description of the determination, including any repair estimates, estimated vehicle salvage value, assessed market value and other costs or calculations used.
SB 0056	Expands a consumer's options when purchasing a Medicare supplement policy to include any affiliate authorized to transact business in Illinois on behalf of the issuer, that offers benefits equal to or less than the benefits provided by the previous coverage.
SB 0773	Provides that no group policy of accident and health insurance that provides pregnancy-related benefits may be issued, amended, delivered, or renewed in Illinois after Jan. 1, 2026 unless the policy contains coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility.
SB 1479	Strengthens the Department of Insurance's authority to conduct market analyses, market conduct examinations, data calls, and record examinations.
SB 2573	Provides coverage for wigs or other scalp prostheses for individuals experiencing hair loss due to alopecia, chemotherapy, or radiation treatment for cancer or other conditions.
SB 2641	Insurers must include monitoring reports for each network hospital and facility to Illinois Department of Insurance, to include numbers of each type of physician providers under contract, and demonstrate they have sufficient numbers for timely access for patients.
SB 2672	Requires any provider of a group or individual policy of accident and health insurance or a managed care plan to provide coverage for a brand name prescription drug, if a generic drug is unavailable due to a supply issue until the generic drug is available.
SB 2735	Requires insurers and managed care plans to notify health care providers that there are fees associated with the payment method they have chosen and notify the health care provider of what the total fee will be before initiating the first payment.
SB 2744	Requires all group and individual insurance policies and managed care plans to provide coverage for COVID-19 vaccines, flu vaccines, and respiratory syncytial virus vaccines, without any cost to the covered individual.
SB 3130	Makes several changes to allow the Department of Insurance to effectively manage the State-Based Marketplace once it goes into effect.
SB 3203	Prohibits health insurance providers from denying or limiting coverage for prescription inhalers starting Jan. 1, 2026, and caps the cost of an inhaler to no more than \$25 per 30-day supply.
SB 3305	Requires any provider of dental coverage to annually submit a dental loss ratio filing to the Department of Insurance.



Insurance (cont.)

SB 3318	Requires the State Employee Group Insurance Program to cover all medically necessary FDA-approved treatments and medications prescribed to slow the progression of Alzheimer's Disease. This coverage is not subject to step therapy.
SB 3414	Requires insurance to cover medically necessary continuous glucose monitors and related supplies for individuals diagnosed with any form of diabetes.
SB 3599	Requires all providers of group or individual policies and managed care plans to provide coverage to eligible recipients for medically necessary mobile integrated health care services starting Jan. 1, 2026. It also defines who is an eligible recipient
SB 3741	Helps those seeking medication for the treatment of substance use disorder by prohibiting health insurance from requiring prior authorization requirements for limitations on dosage for treatment.

Labor

HB 2161	Prohibits discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on family responsibilities under the Employment Article of the Human Rights Act.
HB 3763	Makes several changes to the Personnel Records Review Act.
HB 4170	Allows the Secretary of State to issue an International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers decal for universal special license plates. Creates the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Fund.
HB 4954	Intends to increase the safety of miners by implementing requirements of mine rescue stations and rescue teams.
HB 5324	Adds information related to unfair labor practice charges to the required annual reports the Illinois Labor Relations Board and Educational Labor Relations Board must submit to the governor and General Assembly.
HB 5561	Prohibits employers from taking retaliatory action against an employee who discloses, or threatens to disclose information related to an activity, policy, or practice of the employer if the employee has a good faith belief that the it violates state or federal law.
SB 0508	Prevents an employer from imposing work authorization verification requirements that are greater than those required by federal law and bars employers from taking any adverse action against the employee based on receipt of the notification.
SB 1996	Increases workers comp surcharges, fees and payments.
SB 2702	Requires a fire sprinkler inspector to be exclusively employed by a single fire sprinkler contractor, but can hold other unrelated employment.
SB 2737	Eliminates "do not compete" and "do not solicit" clauses from employment agreements for individuals providing mental health services to first responders and veterans.
SB 2770	Prohibits non-compete and non-solicitation agreements in the construction industry.
SB 3208	Requires employers to retain copies of employee pay stubs for at least 3 years and provide pay stubs to current and former employees upon request.
SB 3646	Provides a more comprehensive and specific framework for regulating child labor, covering a range of issues (definitions, exemptions, employer requirements, restrictions on employment of minors, employment certificates, civil penalties and criminal penalties).



Labor (cont.)

SB 3649	Establishes the Worker Freedom of Speech Act, safeguarding employees from facing negative consequences for standing up against actions that go against their religious or political beliefs or for reporting violations of the law in an honest manner.
SB 3650	Permits day and temporary laborers to decline work at a site experiencing legal labor-related actions. Additionally, requires agencies to provide interested day and temporary laborers who are not selected for jobs with confirmation documents for work sought.

Licensed Activities

HB 4059	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services or any state agency that assumes daycare center licensing responsibilities to host licensing orientation programs to help educate potential daycare centers about the child daycare licensing process.
HB 4357	Provides that an on-site physician exam is not required prior to a non-ablative laser hair procedure if the laser hair removal facility follows a physician supervision protocol, is preformed by authorized personnel, and supervision is available electronically.
HB 4426	Makes several changes to the Shorthand Reporters Act, including, but not limited to: requiring applicants to provide their address and email, adding requirements for SSNs or taxpayer IDs, and removing the rule that certified exhibits must be free. Also extends the sunset of the Act to Jan. 1, 2030.
HB 4570	Allows individuals licensed as a barber teacher for at least three years to receive education credit for similar subject areas when applying for licensure as a cosmetology teacher and vice versa.
HB 4615	Contains the 2024 sunset extension omnibus.
HB 5047	Allows full practice authority-pending advanced practice registered nurses to be granted supervised full practice authority for six months pending Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation review of their license application.
HB 5059	Allows the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to issue a pre-license practice allowance of three months for individuals enrolled in a Commission on Dental Accreditation approved general dental or temporary training program and establishes conforming provisions.
HB 5135	Requires a list of new and renewing licensed individuals to complete a one-time course approved by Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation on abnormal skin growth education and identifying melanoma as part of their education requirements.
HB 5218	Requires the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to create rules for providing the nursing assistant certification exam in both English and Spanish and prevents restrictions from being placed on who is eligible to take the exam in Spanish.
HB 5344	Requires every member, partner, shareholder, director, officer, agent and employee associated with a behavior analysis business or organization to hold a license starting two years after the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation begins issuing licenses under the Behavior Analyst Licensing Act.
HB 5353	Approves all examination applications for individuals licensed by the Clinical Social Worker and Social Work Practice Act, the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act, and the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act



Licensed Activities (cont.)

HB 5457	Provides that all examinations for licensure as a social worker, marriage and family therapist, and professional counselor must reasonably accommodate applicants whose primary language is not English.
HB 5596	Creates an exemption from licensure for daycare homes and group daycare homes serving children of military personnel if the daycare is located on a military base or federal property and is certified as a child development program by a brand of the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S Coast Guard.
SB 0774	Requires Illinois Department of Public Health to administer a Certified Medication Aide Program and allows aides to administer medications at assisted and supportive living facilities under the supervision of a registered nurse, except Schedule II drugs and any intravenous, intramuscular, intradermal or subcutaneous medications.
SB 1779	Establishes requirements that a facility must meet to participate in the Medication Aide Program, which affords licensed nursing professionals more time to provide critical resident care, while also heightening job satisfaction levels for nurses and offering a potential career path for CNAs.
SB 2702	Requires a fire sprinkler inspector to be exclusively employed by a single fire sprinkler contractor, but can hold other unrelated employment.
SB 2731	Extends the sunset date for the Genetic Counselor Licensing Act to Jan. 1, 2030. Requires the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to provide and maintain records of a certified shorthand report of any disciplinary case concerning licensed genetic counselors.
SB 2819	Removes the provision that licensed architects must complete all examinations required by Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation within five years of passing the first examination. Provides that licensed architects must complete all exams as required for licensure.
SB 3207	Allows daycare centers to operate for 24 hours or longer and provide care for a child for up to 12 hours if the parent or guardian is employed in a position that requires regularly scheduled shifts.
SB 3211	Provides that an individual without discipline applying as a licensed marriage and family therapist who has been licensed at the independent level in another U.S. jurisdiction for at least 30 months during the five consecutive years is not required to submit proof of completion of education, professional experience, and supervision and must submit certified verification of licensure from said jurisdiction.
SB 3550	Gives the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's Division of Financial Institutions sufficient authority to regulate the financial entities it licenses and to prohibit unlicensed activity.
SB 3740	Requires brokers licensed in another state applying for licensure in Illinois to hold an active license in that state, practice for at least two years prior to application, provide proof of good standing, pass a real estate brokerage test, and provide proof of pre-license endorsement course exam.
SB 3767	Allows the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to evaluate and endorse for licensure foreign-educated Engineers, Land Surveyors, Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers if they have not passed an examination so long as they have met requirements in other jurisdictions significantly comparable to the state.
SB 3779	Allows licensed clinical social workers, licensed social workers to administer opioid antagonists, and requires their employer to provide training and regulate the administration of opioid antagonists.



Local Government

HB 0305	Eliminates the role of Cook County township trustee of schools and replaces it with a representative board of the schools within the township.
HB 0478	Transfers the Midway Flight Facility property located at 5400 W. 63rd Street in Chicago from the State of Illinois to the City of Chicago for \$1 for a new police district building.
HB 2154	Bans local governments from requiring permit or approval to install a battery-charged fence if the fence is installed on non-residential property and meets specific height requirements. This would set a common standard for use of solar-powered electric fences.
HB 4179	Increases how much a rescue squad district can take from property taxes for any purpose of the district. It also increases the cap that an ambulance service can charge a caller.
HB 4284	Allows the property tax extension of Homewood School District #153 to increase beyond the maximum rate PTELL allows.
HB 4359	Provides that the Board of Trustees can accumulate funds from its ambulance fund and emergency and rescue fund to improve the property and quality of services that they respectively provide.
HB 4863	Authorizes the Department of Military Affairs to transfer a plot of land located in Sugar Grove to the City of Aurora.
HB 4899	Prohibits the Illinois Department of Public Health from charging fees to local health departments in connection with licensure of a home health agency or hospice program.
HB 4993	Requires a local registrar to send a death certificate to the deceased's county of residence if the death occurred outside of the county.
HB 5166	Dissolves the Elk Grove Rural Fire Protection District. Includes a plan to pay off outstanding liabilities and the transfer of leftover funds to Mount Prospect.
HB 5247	Allows the city of Elmhurst to use quick-take proceedings for up to two years after the bill's effective date to acquire certain property for a sidewalk expansion project and other road construction.
HB 5287	Changes how counties receive and manage stipends for certain county officers, and shifts tax and pension obligations from the state to the county.
HB 5574	Allows DuPage County to use the fees collected from a repealed road improvement impact fee to be used for capacity-related improvements.
SB 0691	Expands the ability to acquire by purchase, gift, or legacy, and hold real property for the purposes to all regional planning commissions, not solely joint regional commissions.
SB 0693	Enables the Illinois Waterway Ports Commission to conduct specific work on specific land within the boundaries of the commission, if the commission has the approval of the local port district where the work would be occurring in.
SB 0694	Allows counties to increase the fees allowed in the predictable fee schedule if the increase is justified by an acceptable cost study or internal analysis of a minimum of three years. Requires an increase to be adopted via ordinance or resolution.
SB 0951	Provides that the City of Marengo may use quick-take proceedings for up to two years after the bill's effective date to acquire certain property for the purpose of extending water and sanitary sewer services to Interstate 90-Illinois Route 23 Corridor.
SB 1102	Provides that the Shelby County Board may form, fund, and operate a volunteer rescue squad to assist law enforcement, firefighters, emergency disaster response, and any other first responder services within Shelby County.



Local Government (cont.)

SB 2617	Requires if a county government does not have their own health department, the county government will work with an adjacent health department, including Mobile Farmers Market, to register cottage food operations in the county's jurisdiction and take care of complaints, inspections, fees and penalties.
SB 2779	Requires counties to indemnify and hold harmless a physician who has been designated by the county or the coroner's office to perform autopsies for all of the physician's acts.
SB 2850	Increases the maximum salary of a member of a river conservancy district from \$3,000 per year to \$6,000 per year, and permits the board to adjust compensation to keep pace with inflation.
SB 2879	Raises the amount necessary for fire protection districts to enter the competitive bidding process for contracts related to fire protection districts from \$20,000 to \$50,000, either individually or through joint governmental or nongovernmental purchasing programs.
SB 2938	Expands the territories by which a mosquito abatement district can annex another territory.
SB 3342	Requires 24 hour notice to be given before the state or a unit of local government applies a pesticide intended to control mosquitoes to a public right-of-way.
SB 3402	Provides that a county may agree to provide emergency ambulance services to a fire protection district through an ordinance, contingent upon the expiration of the of an existing intergovernmental agreement.
SB 3405	Allows a county to use funds designated by law or ordinance for transportation purposes to fund rides for persons to attend problem solving-courts. The county may enter into an intergovernmental agreement with another unit of local government for purposes of providing rides to problem-solving court.
SB 3418	Allows counties under township organization or counties organized as a commission form of government with a road district, a board of trustees to elect or appoint a highway commissioner or clerk to provide highway commissioner or clerk services.
SB 3429	Provides that contiguous territory on the boundaries of a sanitary district may be disconnected from its district without following the specified procedure required by ordinance if all outstanding bonds debts are repaid.
SB 3538	Requires county or municipality that provides health insurance coverage for its employees, to include mental health counseling in that coverage for employees who are first responders without imposing any cost-sharing requirements.
SB 3597	Allows a county to apply and obtain a loan from the Illinois Finance Authority to build, purchase, remodel, or improve clean energy infrastructure and/or issue bonds in association with the loan. Adds IFA to the definition of "financial institution" and defines "governmental unit".
SB 3679	Provides for the establishment of Business Improvement Districts by a municipality with over 500,000 residents after petition by property owners. Allows property owners to create a governing board and levy a charge on all property within the district except small residential and tax-exempt property.



Opiod Addiction Prevention and Treatment

HB 4219	Requires fentanyl education in state-mandated health courses for all students in grades six through 12.
HB 4942	Requires the Illinois Department of Public Health to adopt rules regarding specific information that must be included in the coroner or medical examiner's report, including whether or not fentanyl was part or all of the consumed substance, when the cause or a contributing factor in the death is determined to be drug overdose.
HB 5028	Allows a state agency to make opioid antagonists available at a location where its employees work if the agency trains employees in the use and administration of the antagonists.
SB 3137	Requires substance use disorder programs and mental health/developmental disability facilities in the state to provide notice of the death of a patient in the program/facility to the patient's personal representative, if known.
SB 3350	Allows the Department of Human Services to establish or authorize programs to dispense and distribute fentanyl test strips to promote harm reduction efforts and prevent overdoses as part of the existing Drug Overdose Prevention Program.
SB 3741	Helps those seeking medication for the treatment of substance use disorder by prohibiting health insurance from requiring prior authorization requirements for limitations on dosage for treatment.
SB 3779	Allows licensed clinical social workers, licensed social workers to administer opioid antagonists, and requires their employer to provide training and regulate the administration of opioid antagonists.

Pensions

HB 5104	Allows certain presumptions related to duty disability benefits that apply to Chicago police and firefighters who became disabled or died as a result of contracting COVID-19 to apply to any Chicago police and firefighters who contracted COVID-19 between March 9, 2020 and Jan. 31, 2022.
SB 2918	Prohibits municipalities from discharging a police officer as a result of their having a physical or mental disability that forms the basis of an application for benefits.

Public Safety

HB 2323	Creates the Uniform Statewide Crime Statistics Task Force and requires them to meet at least quarterly to assist the state police in the development and implementation of an integrated software system for gathering and publishing crime data from all law enforcement agencies throughout the state.
HB 3886	Requires the Illinois Department of Public Health to implement a crisis standard plan that would serve as an addendum to the department's Essential Support Function Plan for Public Health and Medical Services.
HB 4460	Requires every self-insured county and municipality across the state to provide coverage for marriage and couples counseling for firefighters, police officers and EMT. Requires the same coverage for ISP officers and their spouses.



Public Safety (cont.)

HB 4589	Provides that in transactions involving catalytic convertors, recyclable metal dealers shall keep records of the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed and any numbers, bar codes, stickers, or other unique markings of the catalytic convertor.
HB 4711	Provides that if an applicant for a first time driver's license fails the written exam question related to Scott's Law the Secretary of State shall provide the applicant with information regarding Scott's law.
HB 5238	Requires that every newly installed manufactured home be equipped with a weather radio supplied by the person who installed the manufactured home.
HB 5288	Allows the Secretary of State to issue The 100 Club of Illinois license decals to qualifying residents, and provides that the funds be used for financial support for children and spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty and mental health resources for active duty first responders.
HB 5370	Adds "emergency scenes" to "Scott's Law" and defines "emergency scene" to mean a location where a stationary emergency vehicle is present and has activated its oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights. Also requires speed reduction and lane change, if possible.
HB 5394	Requires public school districts to provide information regarding emergency procedures and lifesaving techniques, including hands-only CPR, the Heimlich maneuver and use of the school's AED to school personnel annually.
SB 2918	Prohibits municipalities from discharging a police officer as a result of their having a physical or mental disability that forms the basis of an application for benefits.
SB 3116	Requires all EMS Personnel, State Police, and Police Officers to be trained on how to access a cellphone's built-in medical identification information that is accessible without a passcode.
SB 3151	Requires public school district driver education courses to include instruction on worker safety in highway construction and maintenance zones.
SB 3201	Requires the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to develop or approve a course to assist law enforcement officers in identifying and responding to individuals with autism.
SB 3202	Ensures protocols for pedestrian safety are included in municipality/local government bicycle transportation plans.
SB 3406	Requires the Secretary of State's Illinois Rules of the Road publication to include images and descriptions of the hazardous material placards used on vehicles transporting hazardous materials.
SB 3538	Requires county or municipality that provides health insurance coverage for its employees, to include mental health counseling in that coverage for employees who are first responders without imposing any cost-sharing requirements.



Revenue and Taxes

HB 0612	Expands the Disabled Veteran's Homestead Exemption to include veterans of World War II, regardless of their level of disability, allowing them to receive a 100% reduction in their property's assessed value, which does not have to be applied for each year.
HB 1377	Creates a new homestead exemption for single-family homes sold by municipalities if the home is located on land which was exempt from property taxes prior to the construction of the home or on land for which the municipality conducted environmental remediation.
HB 2232	Creates a 20-year statute of limitations for property tax refund claims beginning when the Property Tax Appeal Board issues the final order, and caps the total amount of refunded taxes and interest for claims older than 7 years at \$5 million per calendar year.
HB 3144	Contains the local government tax omnibus for FY25.
HB 4125	Provides that the statute of limitations for executing a certificate of error does not apply to a certificate that is correcting an assessment if the property is used as a common area by a subdivision, association, or planned development.
HB 4582	Contains the bond omnibus package for FY25.
SB 0317	Allows a State's Attorney to bring an action against a lessee of property owned by a governmental entity who is responsible for paying property taxes extended against the property if the lessee is more than 60 days late in paying those taxes.
SB 0536	Allows a public agency to adopt an ordinance to allow for investment of public funds in other instruments if the investments are in accordance with laws and investment policies.
SB 2859	Provides that nonprofit wastewater facilities shall be valued at one-third of their fair cash value.
SB 2936	Provides that the abatement for property located in an area of urban decay also applies to newly remodeled single-family homes or duplexes. Incentivizes landlords to improve and upgrade their properties located in areas of urban decay.
SB 3209	Removes a requirement for limited liability companies for tax purposes.
SB 3275	Phases out using paper revenue stamps for proof of payment of the real estate transfer tax and requires using electronic revenue stamps instead.
SB 3282	Requires the holder of a Direct Pay Permit to review its purchase activity and verify that purchases made in the preceding six-month period were sourced correctly and the correct tax rate was applied.
SB 3362	Subjects retailers that maintain a place of business in Illinois to the Retailers' Occupation Tax for sales made outside of the state to Illinois consumers fulfilled from inventory located outside of the state.
SB 3426	Contains a revenue package that makes changes to the Aircraft component exemption, Motor Fuel Tax and Liquor Control Act.
SB 3475	Streamlines and changes the allocation process for the Hotel Operators' Occupation Tax.
SB 3563	Extends various TIFs in Illinois.
SB 3567	Requires notices to be posted on the taxing district's homepage or on a page accessible by a direct link from the homepage. The notice must be posted for not less than 30 consecutive days.
SB 3617	Allows the Department of Revenue to design and implement a data match system to identify accounts of delinquent taxpayers and issue bank levies on those accounts.



Seniors

HB 4346	Removes outdated language from the Illinois Act on Aging, makes changes to the annual awards provided to seniors by the Illinois Department on Aging and allows for presumptive eligibility for Community Care Program services while an individual's Medicaid application is being processed.
HB 4427	Makes changes regarding the appointment of members to the Department on Aging's Assisted Living and Shared Housing Advisory Board.
HB 5095	Requires a nursing home to inform a resident whose Medicare benefits are ending prior to the full 100 day benefit period that their benefits are expiring in five days and that the resident will be required to move until the five days have elapsed.
SB 2957	Allows a nursing home resident to give consent for the Department on Aging Ombudsman's office to view their medical records orally, visually or through use of auxiliary aids.
SB 3112	Makes various changes related to voting requirements and timelines for the Long Term Care Advisory Board and the Developmental Disability Facility Advisory Board.
SB 3115	Requires a written transition plan to be submitted to IDPH to ensure that adequate staffing and care remain in place during the transfer of ownership of a nursing home. If a facility does not follow its transition plan and harm to a resident is found, the facility may be given a high risk designation.
SB 3318	Requires the State Employee Group Insurance Program to cover all medically necessary FDA-approved treatments and medications prescribed to slow the progression of Alzheimer's Disease. This coverage is not subject to step therapy.
SB 3691	Removes language prohibiting the availability of caregiver services to grandparents or other older relatives who are caregivers.

State Government

HB 0778	Creates a Clinical Readiness Program for international medical graduate physicians looking to establish themselves in Illinois. Directs Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation in consultation with the Governor's Office of New Americans, to develop and administer the program.
HB 0779	Regulates how a pawnbroker, pawnshop or similar business must operate and conduct themselves within the state. Allows the Secretary of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulations to oversee the industry and to regulate the conduct of members of the pawn industry.
HB 1672	Authorizes the Department of Military Affairs to transfer the West Frankfort Army National Guard Armory to the City of West Frankfort. If the property ceases to be used for a public purpose, then the title shall revert to the State of Illinois.
HB 4059	Requires the Department of Children and Family Services or any state agency that assumes daycare center licensing responsibilities to host licensing orientation programs to help educate potential daycare centers about the child daycare licensing process.
HB 4261	Contains the 2024 task force and date extension omnibus.
HB 4582	Contains the bond omnibus package for FY25.
HB 4592	Allows the Secretary of State to issue a mobile driver's license or mobile identification cards, upon request, to individuals who have been issued a driver's license or identification card.
HB 4615	Contains the 2024 sunset extension omnibus.



State Government (cont.)

HB 4634	Repeals the Universal Telephone Service Assistance Program.
HB 4719	Provides that employers may designate an open enrollment period for employees who previously opted out of the Secure Choice Savings Program and provides that an employer shall keep the options available at all times to set up a qualified retirement plan.
HB 4720	Requires the Department of Revenue to report to the state treasurer the adjusted gross income of all tax filers claiming dependents or the adoption tax credit in order to determine eligibility for the Illinois Higher Education Savings Program.
HB 4813	Requires the Department of Innovation and Technology to review, and amend as needed, the accessibility standards under the Information Technology Accessibility Act.
HB 4838	Creates the Advisory Board of the Illinois State Museum and alters the powers and duties of the Illinois State Museum.
HB 4844	Creates the First 2024 General Revisory Act to correct issues that have arisen due to multiple amendments and enactments and to make technical corrections and revisions.
HB 5028	Allows a state agency to make opioid antagonists available at a location where its employees work if the agency trains employees in the use and administration of the antagonists.
HB 5078	Authorizes the director of CMS to transfer the Tinley Park Mental Health Center and Howe Development Center property to the Tinley Park-Park District via quitclaim for \$1.
HB 5128	Amends the Emergency Telephone System Act to explicitly allow county sheriffs, in a county with a population of more than 100,000 but less than 2,000,000, to serve on their county's Emergency Telephone System Board.
HB 5344	Requires every member, partner, shareholder, director, officer, agent and employee associated with a behavior analysis business or organization to hold a license starting two years after the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation begins issuing licenses under the Behavior Analyst Licensing Act.
HB 5405	Requires state entities and hospitals that receive funding from the National Institutes of Health to increase the diversity of clinical trial participants, and directs Illinois Department of Public Health to conduct a study and issue a report examining demographic groups that are underrepresented in clinical trials in Illinois.
HB 5488	Creates the Legacy Tree Program Task Force to provide the General Assembly with recommendations for the creation of a statewide legacy tree recognition program.
HB 5495	Makes various changes related to the operations of the Illinois State Police in response to various audit findings for the Illinois State Police released by the Illinois Auditor General in 2023.
HB 5507	Makes changes to the Code of Civil Procedure by allowing a resident to file a petition asking for the court to correct or update a birth certificate issued by another state or country. Petition must contain the petitioner's name and address; the change that is sought; and reason for the change.
HB 5511	Contains the 2024 procurement omnibus.
HB 5513	Creates the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Internal Control Unit within the Governor's Office of Management and Budget and authorizes the unit to advise and assist State agencies to improve their internal controls relating to the state's financial statements
SB 0692	Establishes the Task Force on Interjurisdictional Industrial Zoning Impacts to be responsible for studying current law regarding zoning for large industrial developments.



State Government (cont.)

SB 2628	Requires land development activities owned, funded or operated by state agencies into compliance with FEMA's Nation Flood Insurance Program requirements.
SB 2643	Adds identification rules and regulations for the handling and storing of human bodies. When the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation receives a complaint, the agency is required to inspect the premises within 10 business days.
SB 2682	Establishes the Women in Technology Task Force and creates guidelines regarding the appointments, meetings, duties, and overview of the task force.
SB 2731	Extends the sunset date for the Genetic Counselor Licensing Act to Jan. 1, 2030. Requires the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to provide and maintain records of a certified shorthand report of any disciplinary case concerning licensed genetic counselors.
SB 2745	Removes the requirement that licensed retail sellers of alcoholic liquors display the hotline number for the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.
SB 2765	Allows courts to pierce the corporate veil of a limited liability company under the Limited Liability Company Act to hold members of an LLC personally liable for the debts, obligations, and liabilities of that company.
SB 2778	Allows deputy sheriff applicants to request an examination as soon as possible before the next examination date after their application is received, rather than two weeks after.
SB 2788	Clarifies how abused and neglected child reporting occurs under the State Central Register.
SB 2798	Releases access control of property acquired for road construction in Kane (Sugar Grove) and Monroe (Metro East) Counties.
SB 2803	Changes the procedure in which the Secretary of State issues ID's to persons upon release from the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice. An applicant will no longer have to have their Social Security card with their application for an ID if the Secretary of State can verify it through the Social Security Administration.
SB 2804	Enables the Department of Central Management Services to provide coordination, support and adjudication for state agency administrative hearings.
SB 2907	Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, in coordination with other state agencies, compile a report concerning all state-funded job training and workforce development programs in the state.
SB 2930	Requires charitable organizations that annually reports with \$1 million or more in grants to other charitable organizations to disclose on their public-facing websites, if one exists, the aggregate demographic data of their boards of directors.
SB 2968	Updates the demographic information and categories used to standardize data collection by the Governor's Office of Equity, the State Board of Education, and multiple other state agencies.
SB 2976	Creates the State Historic Preservation Board to advise the Department of Natural Resources on methods of protection, conservation and management of state historic sites.
SB 3091	Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to convey a parcel of land of approximately 10 acres to the Will County Forest Preserve for inclusion in the Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve.
SB 3112	Makes various changes related to voting requirements and timelines for the Long Term Care Advisory Board and the Developmental Disability Facility Advisory Board.



State Government (cont.)

SB 3133	Allows savers with a Bright Start/Bright Directions account to roll over any unused college or trade school funds into a Roth IRA for the beneficiary. Expands proof of eligibility options for the First Steps Program to include documentation from the parent or legal guardian of the eligible child
SB 3134	Allows the director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, or their designee, to determine if the suspension of an EMS professional should extend statewide.
SB 3174	Extends the Underground Railroad Task Force report date from July 1, 2024, to Dec. 31, 2024.
SB 3216	Provides that alcoholic liquors may be delivered to and sold at retail or dispensed at any facility, property, or building under the jurisdiction of the state treasurer if certain conditions are met.
SB 3238	Eliminates the sections pertaining of higher education supplier diversity report and race and gender wage reports from the Department of Central Management Services Law of the Civil Administrative Code and transfers those reports to the Commission on Equity and Inclusion.
SB 3279	Allows the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Office of Homeland Security to approve requests for terminating licenses of milling facilities after the local municipality or county adopts ordinances restricting ground water use and addresses public safety.
SB 3302	Permits alcohol delivery and sales at a building owned by North Boone Fire District #3 in Poplar Grove.
SB 3412	Creates the Uniform Money Transmission Modernization Act, which modernizes regulations for money transmission in Illinois and aims to harmonize state licensing, regulation, and supervision of money transmitters operating across state lines by adopting a single uniform set of supervisory rules.
SB 3434	Authorizes the the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to adopt rules for the implementation of its state-funded grant programs.
SB 3452	Eliminates the need for the Department of Revenue to conduct administrative hearings in cases involving the seizure of contraband when the owner/possessor of the contraband has previously waived their rights to a hearing and has consented to forfeiture of the contraband.
SB 3455	Commissions the Department of Revenue, in consultation with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, to conduct a comprehensive study evaluating the entire property tax system in the State of Illinois, including its constituent parts.
SB 3471	Allows the Secretary of State to issue a new set of license plates to an owner of a vehicle whose plates were stolen.
SB 3513	Provides that an applicant to renew an appointment as a notary public or as an electronic notary public is not required to complete a course of study or pass an examination if the applicant is a licensed attorney or judge or employed by a licensed attorney or the court.
SB 3514	Names the “giant puffball” mushroom as the official state mushroom.
SB 3551	Requires counseling for borrowers prior to entering into a shared appreciation mortgage agreement, and requires the broker to report to the Predatory Loan Database whether a borrower has entered into a shared appreciation mortgage agreement.
SB 3592	Creates a Journalism Student Scholarship Program and prohibits a local news organization from selling to a company without giving written notice within 120 days before the sale occurs to Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and affected employees.
SB 3615	States that any interest or other income from money deposited with the Department of Corrections by a resident of the Department of Juvenile Justice shall accrue to the Resident's Benefit Fund.



State Government (cont.)

SB 3622	Provides that the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council may recommend the removal of a place from the National Register of Historic Places if the place is a bridge that meets certain criteria.
SB 3631	Creates the Illinois Coordinate System Act of 2024 and the Illinois Coordinate System Committee, which will create, review and revise the Guide to the Illinois Coordinate System.
SB 3648	Updates CESSA, requiring 9-1-1 PSAP-coordinated emergency services and behavioral health coordination, implementation to July 1, 2025, with State prohibitions effective upon specified conditions, also by July 1, 2025.
SB 3687	Makes several changes to the Illinois Credit Union Act, State Finance Act, and creates the Credit Union Community Reinvestment Act Fund Clarifies to provide clarification over inconsistencies by law provisions and administrative rules.
SB 3762	Requires the state to adopt a language equity and access framework to provide access to State information, services, programs and activities for people with limited English proficiency. Requires a partnership between the Governor's Office of New Americans, the Illinois Department of Human Services and all other relevant agencies.
SB 3793	Changes the minimum number of members on a Community Action Board from 15 members to no less than nine members.

Transportation

HB 1742	Provides that the Regional Transportation Authority and Service Boards may donate rolling stock, including locomotives and equipment to not-for-profit museums in Illinois.
HB 4108	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Air Force Combat Action Medal license plates to an applicant who was awarded the Air Force Combat Action Medal.
HB 4169	Allows the Secretary of State to issue a Navy Club decal for universal special license plates.
HB 4170	Allows the Secretary of State to issue an International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers decal for universal special license plates. Creates the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Fund.
HB 4255	Allows tow trucks, motor vehicles or equipment of the state, a local authority or municipality, or Illinois Toll Highway Authority to use green lights in combination with amber or amber-white lights.
HB 4365	Provides that the Secretary of State may issue Defense Distinguished Service and Defense Superior License Plates license plates to residents who have been awarded such medal.
HB 4711	Provides that if an applicant for a first time driver's license fails the written exam question related to Scott's Law the Secretary of State shall provide the applicant with information regarding Scott's law.
HB 4848	Requires the tailgate of commercial motor vehicles be in proper functioning order to be driven on the highway.
HB 4966	Allows all specialty license plates to be issued for motorcycles and autocycles.
HB 5138	Provides that upon request from a unit of local government the Illinois Department of Transportation must make available any study or survey that concerns traffic or environmental impact of road projects, unless prohibited by a state or federal confidentiality restriction.
HB 5189	Requires personally identifying information of train crew members in railroad fatality reports and communications between police officers and crew members to be redacted when presented to the public.



Transportation (cont.)

HB 5190	States that funds from the Township Bridge Program that are allocated to a county which are not obligated within 48 months shall be considered lapsed funds. These lapsed funds shall be used to provide additional funding to townships and road districts that have insufficient funding
HB 5288	Allows the Secretary of State to issue The 100 Club of Illinois license decals to qualifying residents, and provides that the funds be used for financial support for children and spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty and mental health resources for active duty first responders.
HB 5325	Makes changes for state police and peace officers, including impounding a vehicle after citation issuance for willful or wanton disregard for safety of others, using an online payment system for fees, and clarifying language for placement of registration stickers and spot lamps and headlights.
HB 5349	Requires the Department of Transportation to deposit receipts from an agreement with any carrier, state, state agency, public or private entity, or quasi-public entity for costs related to locomotives, passenger railcars, or other rolling stock equipment into the High-Speed Rolling Stock Fund.
HB 5370	Adds "emergency scenes" to "Scott's Law" and defines "emergency scene" to mean a location where a stationary emergency vehicle is present and has activated its oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights. Also requires speed reduction and lane change, if possible.
HB 5408	Creates the O'Hare Driver Safety Act, which prohibits people from stopping or standing their motor vehicle on the shoulder of a highway within a one-half mile radius of the eastern entrance of O'Hare Airport or the intersection of Interstate 90 and Interstate 294, unless otherwise permitted.
HB 5496	Requires the Illinois Department of Transportation to accept any unsolicited bids for the South Suburban Airport that IDOT receives, in addition to the existing prequalification process.
SB 0275	Requires the Secretary of State to offer an 8-year driver's license to qualified applicants by July 1, 2027. Requires the Secretary of State to submit proposed rules to implement this option to JCAR by July 1, 2026.
SB 0898	Requires an Illinois automobile dealer to obtain an Illinois title for any vehicle which is held for sale in Illinois.
SB 1960	Defines what a low speed electric scooter is and defines requirements to use them. Sets the terms for a scooter business to operate within a local unit of government. Allows a unit of local government to prohibit the use of a low-speed electric scooters on bicycle paths.
SB 2654	Allows a person to recover medical devices, social security cards, passbooks, higher education and textbooks from a vehicle which is being held by a towing company. If the vehicle is stolen and later towed, storage fees cannot be charged if the vehicle is recovered within seven days.
SB 2667	Creates the Illinois United States Tennis Association/Midwest Tennis Foundation for Youth Tennis decal for special universal license plates.
SB 2959	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Sons of the American Legion license plates to residents who meet eligibility requirements. Provides that all money in the Sons of the American Legion Fund shall be paid as grants to the Illinois Detachment of the Sons of the American Legion.
SB 3151	Requires public school district driver education courses to include instruction on worker safety in highway construction and maintenance zones.
SB 3175	Requires that the Illinois Department of Transportation create and implement a Type 2 Noise Suppression Program to provide noise abatement for existing highways.
SB 3202	Ensures protocols for pedestrian safety are included in municipality/local government bicycle transportation plans.



Transportation (cont.)

SB 3406	Requires the Secretary of State's Illinois Rules of the Road publication to include images and descriptions of the hazardous material placards used on vehicles transporting hazardous materials.
SB 3451	Mandates annual reports by specified entities, including railroad passenger services and transportation authorities, detailing rail safety recommendations from the NTSB made in the past 12 months and the status of their implementation by Dec. 31 each year.
SB 3775	Makes several changes to clarify traffic and pedestrian stop reporting deadlines for law enforcement agencies and Illinois Department of Transportation and clarifies what traffic accidents need to be reported by law enforcement and to IDOT.

Veterans Affairs

HB 0612	Expands the Disabled Veteran's Homestead Exemption to include veterans of World War II, regardless of their level of disability, allowing them to receive a 100% reduction in their property's assessed value, which does not have to be applied for each year.
HB 4108	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Air Force Combat Action Medal license plates to an applicant who was awarded the Air Force Combat Action Medal.
HB 4169	Allows the Secretary of State to issue a Navy Club decal for universal special license plates.
HB 4365	Provides that the Secretary of State may issue Defense Distinguished Service and Defense Superior License Plates license plates to residents who have been awarded such medal.
HB 4590	Provides that an animal shelter or animal control facility may waive the adoption fee for a dog or cat if the person adopting the dog or cat is a veteran and meets specified criteria.
HB 4757	Requires the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Labor to have free posters readily available including information regarding veterans and service members' benefits, services and protections.
HB 4934	Adds a section to the Cemetary Protection Act outlining rules and regulations for the memorialization of veteran remains, and provides information for veteran service organizations and nonprofit organizations to install a marker for memorialized graves.
HB 5596	Creates an exemption from licensure for daycare homes and group daycare homes serving children of military personnel if the daycare is located on a military base or federal property and is certified as a child development program by a brand of the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S Coast Guard.
HB 5640	Adds the United States Space Force to any reference to armed forces within statute.
HB 5655	Requires the governing board of each public college and university to adopt a late work policy for students participating in drill or other military obligations.
SB 2751	Prevents a veteran with a disability or their caregiver to be charged a building permit fee for improvements to the residence that are required to accommodate the veteran's disability.
SB 2959	Allows the Secretary of State to issue Sons of the American Legion license plates to residents who meet eligibility requirements. Provides that all money in the Sons of the American Legion Fund shall be paid as grants to the Illinois Detachment of the Sons of the American Legion.



Veterans Affairs (cont.)

SB 3479	Changes the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to require veteran service disclosures when veteran or military benefit services are offered in exchange for financial compensation, benefit or thing of value.
SB 3807	Increases the maximum loan the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity can make for minority, veteran, female and disability loans, from \$400,000 to \$2,000,000.

Women's Issues

HB 4867	Prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's reproductive health decisions by modifying the Human Rights Act.
HB 5142	Requires private insurers to cover all services for pregnancy, postpartum, and newborn care rendered by perinatal doulas or licensed certified professional midwives.
HB 5239	Prohibits any government unit, home rule included, from spending resources to help sue or charge a person or entity for legal health care activities, unless needed to follow state or federal law or pursuant to a state investigation. Exempts location and health record information from FOIA.
HB 5282	Requires private insurance and managed care plans to cover treatment for mental, emotional, nervous or substance use disorders for all individuals who have experienced a miscarriage or stillbirth beginning in 2026.
HB 5295	Requires health insurance plans to cover medically necessary hormonal and non-hormonal therapy to treat menopausal symptoms beginning Jan. 1, 2026.
HB 5431	Ensures pregnant and postpartum prisoners are made aware their rights, are not forcibly restrained and have access to supplemental nutrition while imprisoned. Also ensures all female prisoners receive a medical screening within 14 days of arrival to a county or state facility.
SB 0773	Provides that no group policy of accident and health insurance that provides pregnancy-related benefits may be issued, amended, delivered, or renewed in Illinois after Jan. 1, 2026 unless the policy contains coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility.
SB 2573	Provides coverage for wigs or other scalp prostheses for individuals experiencing hair loss due to alopecia, chemotherapy, or radiation treatment for cancer or other conditions.
SB 2682	Establishes the Women in Technology Task Force and creates guidelines regarding the appointments, meetings, duties, and overview of the task force.
SB 2697	Requires insurance coverage for evidence-based cancer imaging for individuals with an increased risk of cancer.
SB 3182	Requires a hospital with custody of a fetus following a spontaneous fetal death that occurred during or after gestation of at least 20 weeks to notify the gestational parent of their right to receive a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.



Brandy Renfro
Director

Adrianna Pitrelli
Deputy Director

Reena Tandon
Deputy Director

Communications Staff

103rd General Assembly - Spring 2024



Natalie Bak

Shawn Berry

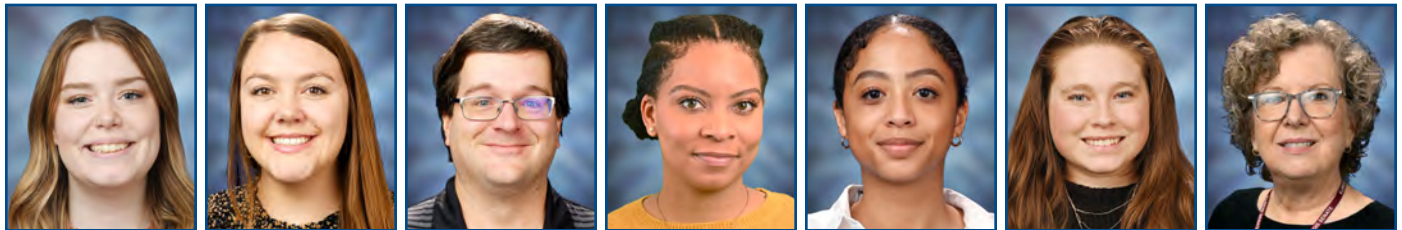
Nancy Bravo Garcia

Julie Butler

Erin Carney

Olivia Guerrero

Jake Handley



Ruthie Hedberg

Celeste Holmes

Colby Huff

Chelsi Jones

Armiyah Leatherwood

Hannah Liechty

Deb McCarver



Alyssa McCorkle

Andy McPike

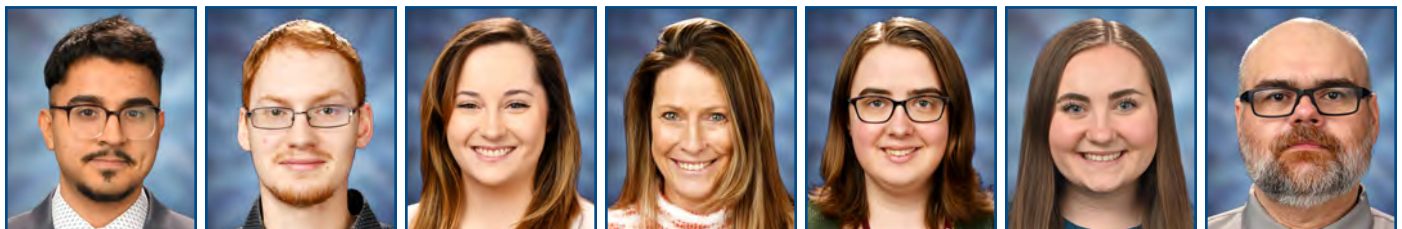
Carlos Mendez

Craig Miller

Noah Myers

Caitlin Perry

Kourtney Pollitt



Israel Ruiz

Hayden Schumer

Brooke Smith

Kellee Sporrer

Brennan Stidham

Savana Thorsen

Erin Winking

District Outreach Specialists



Rachel Johnson

José Alfonso Villalobos