



DUPAGE COUNTY

2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



DuPage County Board Chairman

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DuPage County Legislative Committee

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Legislative Update Week of May 23, 2016

This document highlights bills of interest to DuPage County Government that are still **moving** through the legislative process. To view the actual text of bills, please consult the General Assembly website at www.ilga.gov or contact the County Board Office for additional information.

Support:

HB 4501 – Extension of DuPage Efficiency Model Statewide (Yingling, D-Grayslake/Cullerton, T., D-Villa Park): Provides that the Local Government Reduction & Efficiency provision of the Counties Code (Public Act 98-0126) shall apply to all counties. In 2013, DuPage County received approval of this landmark legislation which for the first time, allowed the DuPage County Board to thoughtfully consider the potential dissolution of defined county appointed (non-elected) agencies that deliver public services. To date, under the County's ACT (Accountability, Consolidation & Transparency) Initiative, the county has dissolved several government agencies and more importantly, by changing the culture of government spending, saved local taxpayers over \$100 million. Chairman Cronin testified in support of the legislation on April 6.

Status: The bill was adopted by the House by a vote of 93-19 and is on the Order of Second Reading in the Senate.

HB 5593 – Opioid Addiction Education (Lang, D-Skokie/Bush, D-Grayslake): Provides that all programs serving persons with substance abuse issues licensed by the Department of Human Services under the Act must provide educational information concerning treatment options for opioid addiction, including the use of a medication for the use of opioid addiction, recognition of and response to opioid overdose, and the use and administration of naloxone, to clients identified as having or seeking treatment for opioid addiction. Also provides that the Department shall develop educational materials supported by research and updated periodically. DuPage County supports this initiative as it will aid in our efforts to continue to combat the heroin epidemic that has infiltrated every community in this state.

Status: The bill was adopted by the House by a vote of 115-0 and is on the Order of Third Reading in the Senate.

HB 5781 – Disposal of Meds (Bellock, R-Hinsdale/Connelly, R-Lisle): Establishes procedures to provide that police officers, coroners, and medical examiners may dispose of unused medications found at the scene of a death after consulting with the law enforcement agency investigating the death. Removing opioid prescription medications helps to ensure that highly addictive medications are not redistributed or disposed of improperly.



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(Support Continued):

Status: The bill was adopted by the House by a vote of 104-0 and is on the Order of Third Reading in the Senate.

HB 6261 – County Board of Health Powers (Sandack, R-Downers Grove/Connelly, R-Lisle): Provides that a county's board of health may enter into contracts with municipal health departments, county health departments, other boards of health, private or public hospitals, and not-for-profit entities to provide public health services outside of a board of health's own jurisdiction in order to protect the public health. Passage of this legislation will enable county health departments to reduce costs and share services by entering into agreements with other entities to deliver services beyond its boundaries.

Status: The bill was adopted by the House by a vote of 115-0 and is on the Order of Third Reading in the Senate.

SB 2227 – Unfunded Mandates (Holmes, D-Aurora/Kifowit, D-Aurora): Provides that the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity shall compile a report on all effective state mandates. Specifies information that may be included in the report.

Status: The bill is on the Order of Second Reading in the Senate (deadline extended to May 27).

Oppose:

HB 6328 – Waiver of Court Fees (Turner, D-Chicago/Collins, D-Chicago): Amends the Criminal Identification Act to provide for the expungement of certain arrest records but **also waives all court fees associated** with these expungements. DuPage County does not oppose the expungement of records but does oppose the automatic waiver of all court fees. Currently, individuals unable to pay the required fees may ask the court for a waiver of fees if indigent, therefore it is unnecessary to automatically waive the required fees for all parties. According to the DuPage Circuit Court Clerk's Office, if adopted, this legislation will result in the loss of \$136,000 annually in revenues necessary to perform this mandated work. DuPage County urges the sponsors to amend the legislation to return the appropriate payment of fees.

Status: The bill was adopted by the House by a vote of 69-42 and is on the Order of Second Reading in the Senate.

SB 2816 – Municipal Adjudication of Speeding Tickets (Harmon, D-Oak Park): As introduced, the bill amends the Illinois Municipal Code to permit that a municipality may adjudicate speeding tickets of up to 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit through its administrative adjudication system (permitting a municipality to keep all revenues received from violations instead of allocating traffic fines through the current statutory distribution formula: 44.5% to the municipality (or entity writing the ticket), 38.675% to the county and 16.8% to the state).

DuPage County spends over \$45 million annually to support the operations of the 18th Judicial Circuit, the second largest court system in the state. Revenues received from traffic violations currently help to support the offices of the State's Attorney, Circuit Court Clerk, the Judiciary, Court Security personnel (Sheriff), Jury



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(Oppose Continued):

Commission, Crime Lab, Children's Center, Drug and Mental Health Courts, Probation, and Public Defender. As a significant percentage of traffic violations include speeding, enactment of this legislation **would cost the county's court system millions of dollars in lost revenues needed to support these vital agencies. The State of Illinois (State Police) would also lose tens of millions of dollars in traffic fine revenues received by the state. In addition, the Secretary of State's Office would not receive reports of these speeding violations causing significant public safety concerns.** The bill was shelved in committee.

Status: The bill (as a shell) was adopted by the Senate Local Government Committee by a vote of 7-1-1 and is on the Order of Third Reading in the Senate (deadline extended to May 27).

Appropriation Issues

Support:

- **SB 2966 – Annual Funding of CMAP** (Biss, D-Skokie): Provides a continuing appropriation of \$5 million annually to support the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) including \$3.5 million to fund CMAP – the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. CMAP provides valuable technical assistance and support to Cook and the Collar Counties as well as critical grant dollars to support county programs.
- **DuPage Convalescent Center:** As one of 21 remaining county nursing homes in the state, the DuPage Convalescent Center is a "safety-net" for hundreds of Medicaid recipients. Consequently, the facility also receives an enhanced/county nursing home rate that generates a higher (federal) Medicaid match for the state.

In order to balance the state's FY 2015 budget however, long-term care facilities received a 12.6% (Medicaid) cut for the remaining two months of that fiscal year (a total reduction of \$234,000). Should current budget negotiations for FY 16/17 utilize the end of fiscal year 2015 Medicaid rate/numbers as a starting point, the DuPage Convalescent Center would receive an automatic reduction of \$1.4 million in addition to any other proposed Medicaid cuts (the FY 2015 two month reduction annualized over a 12 month period).

DuPage County urges the General Assembly to maintain the enhanced rate for county owned nursing homes and to also utilize as the starting point for Medicaid budget discussions the original/appropriated levels for long-term care facilities for FY 2015.