

VOTE YES ON HB 1004

Passed the House 114-0-0

Senate Sponsors: J. Cullerton – Jones – Biss – Collins – Van Pelt

COMMON SENSE LEGISLATION THAT WILL MAKE TESTING MORE ROUTINE AND CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO FIGHT HIV/AIDS BY THE HARDEST HIT COMMUNITY

HB 1004 amends the *AIDS Confidentiality Act* to make testing more routine and the *African-American HIV/AIDS Response Act Fund* (AAARAF) to extend the expiration date (sunset) until 2026. These changes would be critical in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Key Components

- Makes it easier for health care providers to conduct routine HIV screening in health care facilities
- Clarifies that a staff person can obtain informed consent for HIV testing
- Allows facilities to designate appropriately knowledgeable individuals to provide pre-test information and answer questions about HIV testing
- Promotes opt-out HIV testing by clarifying that health care providers only have to document when a patient declines HIV testing
- Extends the African American HIV/AIDS Response Act Fund to 2026

HB 1004 protects patients from being tested for HIV without their knowledge and complete information and strikes a solid balance between protecting the public health, improving individual health outcomes, and guarding individual rights.

HIV/AIDS is Still a Serious Health Problem in Illinois and in Particular the African-American Community

- HIV is a communicable disease, an estimated 43,500 Illinoisans are living with HIV/AIDS
- Every 9 ½ minutes someone in the U.S. is infected with HIV.
- There are nearly 1,800 new HIV infections each year in Illinois
- Of new HIV cases, **1 in 2** are among African Americans
- 40% of new HIV cases are amongst young people aged 20 – 29
- Of all newly diagnosed women, **4 of 5** are African American women
- A report released by the National Institutes of Health, demonstrates that treatment is critical to preventing new HIV/AIDS infections in the community. HIV-positive persons receiving treatment reduce by **96%** HIV transmission to others. Put another way, providing robust, sustained HIV treatment **will prevent new HIV cases in the community**.

Organizational Support

**AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS Legal Counsel
Affinity Community Services
Brother's Health Collective
Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus
Chicago Recovery Alliance
Chicago Women's AIDS Caucus
Community Health & Education, Inc.
Family & Children's AIDS Network
Illinois Department of Public Health
Men & Women in Prison Ministries
Proactive Community Services
Project VIDA
South Side Health Center
Westside HIV/AIDS Resource Providers**