

## **End of Session Legislative Report & Budget Overview**

The AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) led and partnered on the following bills during the 2018 Illinois General Assembly regular session. The bills are described below.

### **Substantive Legislation**

#### **HOUSE BILL 4096 – “Medicaid Preferred Drug List”**

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Greg Harris](#) (D-Chicago) & [Sen. Heather Steans](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** September 15, 2017

**AFC Policy Position:** Championed by AFC, this legislation bars the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) from setting a single Medicaid preferred drug list (PDL) that all Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) must adhere to, mandates that MCOs must list as preferred at least the same number of drugs per class as HFS’s Fee For Service (FFS) PDL, mandates the establishment of a single format for all Medicaid PDLs, and reforms the committee that makes recommendations to HFS on what drugs to list on their PDL by opening it to the Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act, and setting membership representation. This change aligns Illinois’ committee with every other state in the country and allows for two clinicians who represent community advocacy organizations. AFC will be working to place a representative on the Board. This legislation was prompted by provisions in MCO contracts, due to go into effect January 1, 2019, that would mandate that MCOs must adhere to a single PDL, set by the state. The current FFS PDL, which would be the PDL imposed upon the MCOs, is much more restrictive in its HIV drug coverage than MCOs currently offer their members.

**Status:** HB 4096 passed the House 70-37 on April 26, 2018 and the Senate 47-9 on May 23, 2018. It has yet to be sent to the Governor for his signature or veto. [Read the Bill](#)

#### **HOUSE BILL 4146 – “Patient’s Rights for Medication Switching”**

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Laura Fine](#) (D-Glenview) & [Sen. Heather Steans](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** November 2, 2017

**AFC Policy Position:** Supported by AFC as part of a broad coalition led by the Illinois Medical Society, establishes network adequacy standards for insurance companies operating in Illinois, requires continuity of care at in-network rates for people who are undergoing treatment for serious illness should their doctor, hospital or pharmacy be dropped from an insurance company network in the middle of the policy year, and requires greater accuracy of provider information on insurance company websites. Additionally, this bill requires a specific list of specialty providers, one of which is an HIV provider.

**Status:** HB 4146 passed the Senate on May 25, 2018 49-0 and the House 109-0 on May 31, 2018. It has yet to be sent to the Governor for his signature or veto. [Read the Bill](#)

#### **HOUSE BILL 4165 – “Do No Harm Healthcare Act”**

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Greg Harris](#) (D-Chicago) & [Sen. Dave Koehler](#) (D-Peoria)

**Introduced:** November 16, 2017

**AFC Policy Position:** This bill was championed by AFC, EverThrive IL, Shriver Center on Poverty Law, Legal Counsel for Health Justice, Heartland Alliance, and the Protect Our Care Coalition. HB 4165 requires the House and Senate to approve by a Joint Resolution any Medicaid waiver that the Governor submits to the federal government that would impede or diminish an existing benefit, such as a work requirement for Medicaid eligibility, co-pay requirements for Medicaid services, or any other such provision sought through a waiver which would result in many losing access to affordable health care. **Status:** HB 4165 passed the House 67-48 on May 29, 2018 and the Senate 35-20 on May 31, 2018. It has yet to be sent to the Governor for his signature or veto. [Read the Bill](#)

**HOUSE BILL 2624** – “Short Term Insurance Reform”

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Laura Fine](#) (D-Glenview) & [Sen. Heather Steans](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** May 9, 2018

**AFC Policy Position:** Championed by AFC, EverThrive IL, Shriver Center on Poverty Law, Legal Counsel for Health Justice, Heartland Alliance, and the Protect Our Care Coalition, HB 2624 defines and regulates the sale of short term insurance plans in the state of Illinois, sometimes referred to as “junk insurance.” Plans must have a disclaimer stating they are not comprehensive insurance, requires the plans to be regulated by the Illinois Department of Insurance (DOI), and makes these plans only available for up to 6 months, should the federal government implement rules to allow the plans to be available for a longer period of time. The federal government has been seeking to allow these plans to be available for 364 days (an increase from the current 90 days), which would cause mass disruption of the health care marketplace and ensure that many Americans lack suitable and comprehensive health care coverage. **Status:** HB 2624 passed the Senate 50-0 on May 25, 2018 and the House 62-45 on May 31, 2018. It has yet to be sent to the Governor for his signature or veto. [Read the Bill](#)

**SENATE BILL 1737** – “Short Term Insurance Reform & Other”

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Jay Hoffman](#) (D-Belleville) and [Sen. Antonio Munoz](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** May 31, 2018

**AFC Policy Position:** SB 1737 contains identical provisions to HB 2423 relating to short term insurance reform, and other provisions in which AFC has no position.

**Status:** SB 1737 passed the House 85-28 on May 31, 2018 and the Senate 42-5 on May 31, 2018. It has yet to be sent to the Governor for his signature or veto. [Read the Bill](#)

**HOUSE RESOLUTION 812** – “Viral Load Suppression Importance”

**Chief Sponsor:** [Rep. Greg Harris](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** February 7, 2018

**AFC Policy Position:** Championed by AFC, this resolution put the Illinois House of Representatives on record as recognizing the critical importance that viral load suppression plays in improving health outcomes and reducing HIV transmission.

**Status:** HR 812 passed with unanimous consent on May 17, 2018. [Read the Resolution](#)

**HOUSE RESOLUTION 883** – “African American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day”

**Chief Sponsor:** [Rep. Thaddeus Jones](#) (D-South Holland)

**Introduced:** February 28, 2018

**AFC Policy Position:** Championed by AFC, HR 883 declares February 7, 2018 as National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in Illinois and encourages local residents to strongly support the day and participate in events planned to commemorate the occasion.

**Status:** HR 883 passed with unanimous consent on May 17, 2018. [Read the Resolution](#)

### **THE FY 19 BUDGET**

Each year, May 31 marks the end of the Spring Legislative Session in Illinois. The Illinois General Assembly adjourned after a productive and effective Spring Session, a stark contrast to the past years. This year, the House and Senate passed a bi-partisan budget that received near unanimous support across the aisle and across chambers, which the Governor has already signed. The Governor's proposed cuts to Medicaid and Human Services were overturned. Most importantly, this budget fully funds at Fiscal Year 2018 levels HIV prevention and education services, minority HIV services, Medicaid, and supportive housing.

The "Budgeteers," a bi-partisan, bi-cameral group of legislators, had been meeting frequently and diligently to hammer out this budget deal throughout the Spring Session. The final budget agreement is crafted on \$38.5 billion in revenue, roughly \$600 million more revenue than the Governor's introduced Fiscal Year 19 budget at \$37.9 billion.

The final budget contains level appropriations for the HIV lump sum at \$25.4 million, minority HIV services at \$1.2 million, and supportive housing at \$13.4 million. These budget lines support primary care and HIV prevention, education, housing and treatment services throughout the entire state.

#### **HOUSE BILL 109 – "FY 19 Budget"**

**Chief Sponsors:** [Rep. Greg Harris](#) (D-Chicago) & [Sen. Heather Steans](#) (D-Chicago)

**Introduced:** May 30, 2018

**AFC Policy Position:** AFC strongly supports the FY 19 budget proposal from the General Assembly. In funding all state programs, it makes the following appropriations for programs AFC follows closest and support primary care and HIV prevention, education, housing and treatment services throughout the entire state:

- [HIV Lump Sum](#): \$25.4 million
- [Minority HIV Services](#): \$1.2 million
- [Supportive Housing](#): \$13.4 million
- [Medicaid Program](#): \$6.7 billion

**Status:** HB 109 was passed by the Senate on May 30, 2018 on a vote of 56-2 and by the House the next day 97-18. It was signed into law on June 4 by Governor Rauner to become Public Act 100-0586. [Read the Bill](#)

