

AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC)

2020 IL STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

HB5012/SB3788: IL HEALTHY YOUTH ACT

The goal of this bill is to have inclusive and affirming sexual health education that provides youth the full toolbox of knowledge and skills needed to support responsible and informed decisions about their health and overall well-being throughout their entire lives.

The IL Healthy Youth Act removes outdated, stigmatizing language and builds on current standards for health and sexual health education courses. It also expands the current requirement that instruction be medically accurate, developmentally and age appropriate and include instruction that is also culturally and linguistically appropriate and adapted for students with disabilities and non-English speaking students.

HB3493 HA1: PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD (PDAB) BILL

The goal of this bill is to get one step closer to everyone in IL having high quality health care that they can afford, specifically related to the cost of prescription drugs.

This bill creates the IL Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB), an independent, nonpartisan body tasked with reviewing prescription drug prices and supported by staff and community stakeholders.

The PDAB would have authority to review specific high-cost prescriptions and would conduct a full analysis on what price would allow those who need them to afford them. It would then set an upper payment limit for what the state is willing to pay for that medication, putting downward pressure on drug prices throughout the supply chain, for all payers, and for similar classes of drugs. AFC, a member and leading partner organization in the Protect Our Care Illinois (PoC IL) Coalition, is thrilled to work with PoC IL on this important legislation.

HIV DECRIMINALIZATION IN ILLINOIS

AFC will not be moving a bill this state legislative session on HIV Decriminalization; however, in 2020, AFC is working with a Coalition – the Illinois HIV Action Alliance (IHAA) – to outreach, educate and engage priority populations, stakeholders and decision-makers on the need to repeal the HIV Criminalization law in IL. The goal for this work in 2020 is to lay the groundwork necessary to be ready to introduce an HIV Decriminalization bill in IL in 2021.

IL STATE BUDGET: HIV & OTHER STIs FUNDING

As we have done annually, AFC will advocate for the protection and increase of state funding for HIV treatment and prevention services. Illinois' investment in HIV services and programs will lead to the continued reduction of new HIV cases, especially when prioritized in communities where the need is greatest. In addition, AFC will advocate for new STI funding to be prioritized in the state budget, largely to address the growing rates of STI diagnoses (i.e. Chlamydia; Gonorrhea; & Syphilis).

SB3243/HB4826: BRING CHICAGO HOME CAMPAIGN

This bill speaks to two important issues: addressing the city of Chicago's budget deficit and creating dedicated funding to address homelessness. To accomplish these goals, this legislation would increase the city of Chicago's Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) for all properties listed above \$3 million, while extending a tax cut to 96 percent of average annual property sales in the city. The projected revenue from this legislation would be used to address its two stated goals: \$88 million towards the city's deficit and \$79 million to address the city's homelessness problem. AFC, Pride Action Tank (PAT) and the

Center for Housing and Health (CHH) are pleased to partner with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and other organizations through the Bring Chicago Home Campaign to address this important issue.

HB5442/HB5443: HEALTH CARE AFFORDABILITY

This bill, a healthcare initiative from Governor Pritzker's office, requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (DHFS) to conduct a feasibility study to explore options to make health insurance more affordable for Illinois residents. Once completed, a proposal will be submitted to the General Assembly and the Governor concerning the design, costs, benefits, and implementation of a State option for health insurance coverage.

HB4891/SB3703: HEALTHY ILLINOIS FOR ALL

This legislation extends Medicaid eligibility to all low-income Illinois residents aged 19 and older, with household incomes of up to 138% FPL (\$17,236/year for an individual) regardless of their immigration status. This legislation would cover approximately 93,000 residents including 15,000 young adults and an estimated 500 seniors (aged 65 and older).