

2022 Session Recap

Dear

This session was a huge success! Earlier in April was another indication that Illinois is heading in the right direction with the **third Credit Upgrade for Illinois Bonds in less than a year**. I know that I am excited to report this because it shows that Illinois is fiscally responsible as we balanced the budget, cut spending, made extra pension payments and the state finally has money in our rainy-day fund. This is all excellent news. I have included more information on our budget below, which will show you where the state spends its money and includes the \$1.83 Billion Tax Relief for Working Families plan.

Now that our session has ended, and the General Assembly has passed 410 bills to the Governor, the bills now get signed or vetoed. The bills have to be sent to the Governor within 30 days after they have passed both branches of the legislature (House and Senate) and the Governor has 60 days to either sign, veto or issue an amendatory Veto. So far, the Governor has signed 22 bills into law.

This session included over 10 bills that passed which will help the lives of Veterans and their families. I was honored to be the Chief Sponsor or Chief Co-Sponsor on many of them. In addition to that, I am looking forward to the formation of the Taskforce to provide mental health suggestions for our children under DCFS care, and seeing the other pieces of legislation I passed signed into law. A summary of these bills I personally passed are included in this email.

While we are not in Springfield, I am already working on proposals for this year's Veto session and our full session next year. Please email me any ideas or issues you would like me to research.

Take note of our Upcoming Events:

- Facebook Live at 9am on May 9th
- Senior Food Drive on May 9th and 23rd
- Shred and Recycle Day on June 18th

Please contact my office with any questions or visit our website at www.ILDistrict84.com.

Take care and be well,



P.S. Our Youth Advisory Council is seeking new members! All high school students are encouraged to participate if you are interested in state government!

P.P.S. ICash, also known as unclaimed property, is one of the state's oldest consumer protection initiatives. Our State Treasurer, Michael Frerichs, is tasked with safeguarding unclaimed property such as unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts, and unused rebate cards. Currently, Illinois holds more than \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property with 1 in 4 people who search the Treasurer's public database finding out that they are entitled to some of these funds. You can search here to see if you may be eligible to claim some of these funds.

Balanced Budget for all Illinoisans Tax Relief Plan for Families

The State Budget

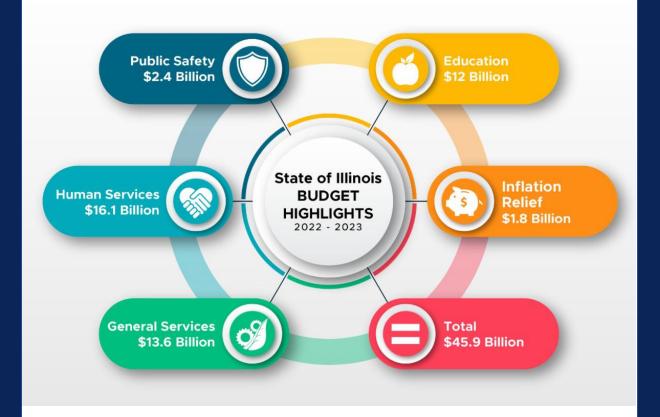
We passed an historic and fiscally smart/responsible budget in the state capitol that will not only offer relief to families and people in need, but also helps funds important state initiatives. Some highlights include:

- \$1.8 Billion in Tax Relief
- \$12 Billion for education
- \$8.8 Billion for Human Services
- \$1 Billion in our Rainy-Day Fund (first time in 18 years!)
- \$9.6 Billion for the Annual Pension Payment

The one time infusion of \$1.8 Billion in Tax Relief will help all Illinoisans and help combat inflation in the state. Some key elements include:

- Doubled property tax rebates to save up to \$300 per household
- Freezing Gas Taxes for 6 months which will save consumers \$70 million
- To assist working-class parents as they manage the pressures of inflation, we are giving EIC tax filers additional one-time direct checks for \$50 per adult filer and \$100 for each of their children.
- Cutting state grocery taxes to 0% for a year which will save consumers \$400 million
- Expanding the earned income tax credit
- Doubling the teachers tax credit for buying classroom supplies

We are continuing to take fiscally responsible steps to raise Illinois' credit rating. In doing so, Illinois will save on future interest payments that would otherwise have continued to eat into our state budget. This extra money can now be invested into essential services for the people of Illinois. See below for our graphic highlights!



Moody's Credit Rating Upgrade 3rd Credit Upgrade in Less than a Year!!

Moody's has upgraded the Illinois's rating for general obligation bonds and Build Illinois sales tax bonds to BAA1 stable outlook. "Higher bond ratings can help states borrow money at a lower interest rate, saving taxpayers millions of dollars."

Though there is plenty of work left to do, I'm happy to see Illinois eliminating wasteful spending and using our resources for services that will assist the people of Illinois. Click on the image below to read more on the continued improvement of Illinois' financial picture.



Legislation Passed this Session

At the end of each session, I like to highlight some of the important legislation that passed Springfield. This session I was happy to pass 5 House Bills, 3 Senate Bills, and 4 House Joint Resolutions. These are pieces of legislation that will help many people, and I'm excited to get even more done next year. Click on the bill numbers below for additional information on specific bills.

House Bills

HB4271 provides coverage for necessary breast reduction surgery

<u>HB4306</u> creates a mental health task force for youth under DCFS supervision

<u>HB5184</u> updates the law to provide more efficiency and support to the local county Veteran Assistance Commissions, these vital community liaisons help Veterans and Veteran families.

<u>HB5175</u> ensures all active duty members stationed in Illinois or Veterans on base in a civilian capacity, receive in-state tuition for college even if they are a resident of another state.

HB5078 updates the law to follow the Department of Defense definition of a Gold Star family and allows all Gold Star families a Gold Star license plates to be issued with no registration fee, instead of the current law which has limitations.



(Rep. Kifowit on the Illinois House Floor)



(Rep. Kifowit speaking in support of SB1975)

Senate Bills

SB0257 is a nationally significant piece of legislation that expands protections for survivors of sexual violence in the military.

SB3174 eliminates red tape for individuals claiming their property from the State Treasurers office under the ICash program.

<u>SB1975</u> eliminates red tape for exemptions on property taxes to help disabled Veterans, seniors and individuals with disabilities, in addition to providing property tax relief for homeowners and holding school districts accountable.

House Joint Resolutions

<u>HJR0079</u> designates a section of Route 30 in Kendall County as "Herschel Luckinbill Road".

<u>HJR0089</u> designates a section of Route 31 in the City of Aurora as the "Dan Dolan Way".

HJR0064 declares June 12, 2022 as "Women's Veterans Day" to commemorate the day women were officially added as regular members of the United States military, recognizing the critical role of women in the military, and to commemorate the sacrifices and valor displayed by Illinois women Veterans.



(The IL House voting board displays unanimous support for HJR0079)

Senior Food Drive May 9th 11 AM-1PM

For the 3rd year we are partnering with Representative Keith Wheeler and Representative Barbara Hernandez to distribute frozen meals to eligible seniors and all Veterans. You must reside in Kane County, be 60 years of age or older, or a Veteran to participate in this program. Additional particulars are on the flyer below. You may call any of our offices for more information.

Senior Meal Distribution Drive-Thru







Rep. Barbara Hernandez

Rep. Stephanie Kifowit

Rep. Keith Wheeler

Mondays from 11am -1pm



- March 14th & 28th
- April 11th & 25th
- May 9th & 23th
- June 13 & 27th
- July 11th & 25th
- Aug 8th & 22nd
- Sept 12th & 26
- Oct 3rd & 24th



St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church, 1855 5th Ave, Aurora, IL 60504

*Only Available Via Registration:

To register, call: 630.585.1308 (Kifowit)

630.270.1848 (Hernandez)

630.345.3464 (Wheeler)

*Registration closes the Friday prior at 12:00pm





Adults who are 60+ and reside in Kane county are eligible for 5 frozen meals. Veterans of all ages, residing in Kane County are eligible. You must call to register to be eligible to participate. You are not eligible if currently enrolled in Meals On Wheels

www.ildistrict84.com - michelle@ildistrict84.com www.StateRepresentativeBarbaraHernandez.com - hailey.repbhernandez@gmail.com www.repkeithwheeler.com - office@repkeithwheeler.org

Meals Provided by the Kane Senior Council. This is a Temporary Service that may conclude at any time. For more information about Kane Senior Council call 630.338.0999 or email info@kaneseniorouncil.org or visit kaneseniorcouncil.com



Shred & Recycle Day June 18th 9 AM-12 PM

Mark your calendars for a late spring cleaning day! On June 18th, come out from 9am-12pm to shred any old documents, papers, and recycle other household items. See below for items that will be accepted at this rain or shine event. Call (630)-585-1308 with any questions.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE STEPHANIE KIFOW



RECYCLE & SHRED DAY



Electronic Recycling

Medication

Paper Shred

Cell phone Eyeglasses & **Used Books**







Accepting computer towers, microwaves, DVD players, VCRs, video game consoles, printers cable receivers. fax machines digital players & recorders

NO TVs or COMPUTER MONITORS

Prescription drug & over-the-counter medication collection provided by Fox Metro No controlled substances Please place all medications in a clear plastic bag

On-site document shredding

Limit of 4 bags per car

Cell phone collection to benefit Mutual Ground domestic violence & sexual assault services

We are also accepting eyeglasses and gently used books

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022 9:00AM - NOON

WHERE: Rain or Shine

Rep. Kifowit constituent service office parking lot 1677 Montgomery Rd Aurora, IL 630.585.1308 Stephanie.kifowit@att.com

Follow us on Facebook & Twitter @ ILDistrict84



STAY IN YOUR CAR

PLEASE

Rep. Kifowit-USMC

Contactless disposal

In Person Coffee with Kifowit Success!

Thank you to everyone who came out this past Monday to grab a cup of coffee, eat a bagel, and chat with me about a variety of topics. It was truly a delight to be back in person and see all of you bright and early on a Monday morning! The conversation was lively, the questions were excellent, and it was a great opportunity to visit with many friends and neighbors.

If you missed the in-person coffee, you could still watch the discussion on my Illinois District 84 Facebook page **here**.

Unfortunately, due to Memorial Day we will not have an in-person coffee in May but look forward to seeing you all in June.



Facebook Live Mondays at 9 AM

I continue to host Monday Morning Coffee live via Facebook at 9:00am-10:00am where you can post your comments and questions.

I realize not everyone has Facebook. The good news is that you can still participate. If you would like to join us on Monday mornings, you can join in via ZOOM! Once connected via ZOOM, you'll be able to interact just as if you were on Facebook. Don't worry you will not be on live - your video feed and mic will be muted.

The ZOOM link will be emailed to everyone separately for Monday morning participation.

If you would like to join us, please email <u>Michelle@ILDistrict84.com</u> or call the office at 630.585.1308.

