



**ILLINOIS SHERIFFS'
ASSOCIATION**

Protecting Our Communities,
HONOR • SAFETY • SERVICE



JUNE 2026

The inside stories for you! **SHERIFFS, LAW ENFORCEMENT & MEMBERS NEWS & UPDATES**



2026 marks the 23rd Anniversary of the Dunkin' partnership with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois. This partnership has been a huge success over the years. Each May, Illinois LETR officers team up to collect donations and rally support for Special Olympics Illinois athletes at Dunkin' locations across the state. The event raised \$1.25 million this year!

#CopOnARooftop - Check out a few of your local Sheriff Offices participating below.



DeKalb County Sheriff's Office



Boone County Sheriff's Office



Peoria County Sheriff's Office

Stephenson County Sheriff's Office



DuPage County Sheriff's Office



Woodford County Sheriff's Office

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



2026 END OF SESSION REPORT



ISA Executive Director: Jim Kaitschuk



The final days of session were a brutal marathon, with several bills not being finalized until in the last moments of the session. Legislators ultimately approved the FY 27 operating and capital budgets, the FY 26 supplemental and omnibus packages on revenue and Medicaid. The General Assembly also approved some AI and social media regulations, insurance reforms, a measure to ban cell phones in schools, cannabis and hemp policies, efforts to unionize ride share drivers and changes to the 340B prescription drug program.

Several big-ticket items did not cross the finish line. The General Assembly did not pass legislation authorizing mega projects incentives (including efforts to move the Chicago Bears to Arlington Heights), Governor Pritzker's BUILD affordable housing plan, an overhaul of public university funding, community college baccalaureate degree authorization, a Tier 2 pension overhaul, or regulations on data centers. Those items could be considered in the Fall Veto session or during next year's spring session.

In total, 395 bills passed both chambers this year, including 229 House bills and 166 Senate bills. The General Assembly has 30 days to send legislation to the Governor's desk after its passage. Upon its receipt, the Governor has 60 days to take action on it. If he does not act within that time frame, the legislation automatically becomes law.



BILLS PASSED: ISA SUPPORTED

BILLS PASSED THAT IMPACT LAW ENFORCEMENT

BILLS ISA OPPOSED: THAT WE DEFEATED

BILLS THAT WERE AMENDED TO MAKE ISA NEUTRAL/SUPPORT



[The FY 27 Budget](#) contained in HB 111 (Welch/Sims) appropriates \$55.880 billion in General Revenue Funds and assumes revenue of \$55.950 billion. [HB 2949](#) (Guzzardi/Sims) provides the budget framework; see below. [SB 3019](#) (Tarver/Villanueva) lays out the omnibus revenue package, expected to generate roughly \$800 million next year through various efforts including: enacting a social media platform fee (\$200 million); phasing in the Net Operating Loss Deduction Cap (\$300 million); creating a Digital Asset Excise Tax and taxing fantasy sports (\$65 million); enacting a remote cigar retailer tax (\$3.8 million); and redirecting surplus sales tax on motor fuel to GRF (\$150 million).

HB 111 passed the Senate by a vote of 37-21. The House concurred by a vote of 76-39. The legislation now heads to the Governor's desk. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

Revenue: [SB 3019](#) (Villanueva/Tarver) represents the 2026 revenue omnibus which enacts the revenue changes necessary to implement the FY 27 budget as well as other revenue related changes. The bill passed the House by a vote of 73-41. The Senate concurred 36-19 and the measure heads to the Governor's desk. The legislation does the following:

- Creates a new fee for social media platforms. Precludes local governments from imposing their own fees or taxes.
- Creates a framework for a tax on targeted advertising services. The budget does not rely on any revenue from this new stream because lawmakers believe it will face a constitutional challenge. Their goal is to have the framework in place to institute the tax when and if it is found constitutional. This tax was supported by the progressive caucus and the Revenue Alliance.
- Creates sales tax exemption for middle housing.
- Creates a progressive tax on sports wagers placed on prediction market platforms.
- Creates a privilege tax for operators of fantasy contests.
- Creates an excise tax on digital assets.
- Enacts phase-out of net operating loss deductions.
- Enacts a 6-month pause on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment for the motor fuel tax.

- Creates a tax on distributors or remote retail sellers for tobacco products sold.
- Enacts a partial redirect of the sales tax on motor fuels to the Department of Revenue Fund and the Road Fund.
- Creates a sales tax holiday from August 7th to August 16th for back-to-school shopping.
- Enacts various technical changes and cleanup of statutes across multiple acts.
- Authorizes an extension of nine sunset provisions for various tax credits and programs.

CANNABIS

Mega Projects/Chicago Bears

A last-minute effort to pass legislation to help the Chicago Bear's efforts to remain in Illinois fell flat. The House passed a larger mega projects bill earlier in the month, but that measure stalled in the Senate. A late lobbying effort by Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson, who wants the Bears to stay in the City, further complicated matters. In the final moments of the Spring Session, the Senate offered a much smaller package targeted solely at the stadium efforts, disregarding any other large scale development projects.

HB 958 (Avelar/Cunningham) creates the Municipal Stadium Authority Act. It provides that any home-rule municipality with a population of 70,000 or more residents that is located in a county with a population of more than 3,000,000 residents may establish a municipal stadium authority as a political subdivision and unit of local government for the purpose of financing, acquiring, constructing, or improving any facility or complex of facilities that is used to hold professional sporting events.. It further creates a deduction related to bonds issued under the Municipal Stadium Authority Act. Facilities used for professional sporting events, and related capital improvements, that are owned by or leased to a municipal stadium authority are exempt from property taxation under the proposal. It further requires IDOT to conduct certain traffic studies. The measure passed the Senate 37-17. The House adjourned without taking up the proposal.

The omnibus cannabis package, [SB 3222](#) (Lightford/Guzzardi), was finalized in the final hours of the Spring Session. The legislation makes six broad categories of changes. It removes a wide range of regulatory barriers, including the requirement for third-party security, expands the canopy space for craft growers, creates enforcement measures against "bad actors", prohibits financial collusion and bid rigging, and revises the definition of principal officer. The legislation also increases cannabis possession limits.

The bill raises the limit from 30 grams to 60 grams of flower, with corresponding increases for infused products and cannabis concentrate. The language also makes a change regarding "accessibility", this was intended to address the allowance of drive throughs. Specifically, it indicates that the requirement that cannabis be inaccessible not apply to adult-use cannabis lawfully purchased from a licensed dispensing organization if the cannabis is transported in a secured, sealed, odor-proof, child-resistant cannabis container this is in its original packaging.

The omnibus also addresses intoxicating hemp in several ways. First, the bill takes effect immediately to prohibit the sale of intoxicating THC to anyone under 21 and bans deceptive marketing practices aimed at minors. It also allows businesses that sell CBD and hemp-derived CBD products to register with the state, register their products, and continue selling them safely. In addition, the legislation creates new infuser licenses and encourages operators in the hemp space to join the legal, regulated cannabis industry.

The legislation also makes several reforms to the medical cannabis program. It allows medical patients to purchase their medicine at any dispensary in the state, not just designated medical dispensaries. This change will also allow social equity dispensaries to benefit from federal 280E tax treatment changes resulting from the rescheduling of medical cannabis. Changes are being made for social equity transporters by creating a new endorsement for cannabis transfer sites, allowing operators to store cannabis for up to 7 days and effectively establish a warehousing process. The bill also includes a wide range of other regulatory and technical updates. The legislation passed the House 77-31. The Senate concurred 47-10 and it now heads to the Governor's desk.

Artificial Intelligence

The General Assembly approved [SB 315](#) (Edly-Allen/Didech), which requires large frontier developers – like ChatGPT and Claude – to provide an independent, third-party annual report explaining what mechanisms they have in place to mitigate catastrophic risks, provide transparency reports, and report critical safety incidents to IEMA and the Attorney General. It further requires companies to undergo annual third-party audits and extends whistleblower protections to employees raising safety concerns. This particular bill was a priority for Governor Pritzker, and he noted he is eager to sign the legislation. The measure passed the House unanimously and now heads to the Governor's desk.

Social Media Protections

HB 5511 (Gong-Gershowitz/Preston) creates the Children's Social Media Safety Act, establishing new rules for social media platforms, apps, and connected devices when children or teens use them. Key provisions include age verification requirements, special protections for minors, nighttime notification restrictions, and autoplay restrictions. The measure also allows platforms to refuse to service minors and enacts privacy rules for age data. Violations would constitute violations of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, giving the Attorney General the authority to investigate companies for violations of the Act. An initiative of the Governor, the legislation passed the Senate as amended 57-0, and the House concurred 113-0. It now heads to the Governor's desk.

The General Assembly also approved [SB 318](#) (Stadelman/Syed), which prevents the use of bots to purchase tickets in excess and prohibits a reseller from falsely representing that it is affiliated with an artist, team, or venue. The bill passed both chambers unanimously. The bill now heads to the Governor's desk.



Health Data Privacy

Representative Canty, on behalf on the ACLU, filed HFA # 1 to [SB 3222](#) (Lightford), which creates the Protect Health Data Privacy Act, requiring regulated entities to adopt and implement a health data privacy policy and to obtain consent before processing or selling an individual's health data. It specifies that processing precise location information or health data to provide transportation services by private entities regulated under the Transportation Network Providers Act is strictly necessary. Also, it establishes individual rights related to health data; sets requirements for processors before they handle health data; permits reasonable identity-verification measures when a person requests confirmation or deletion of health data; restricts access to health data; prohibits certain geofencing practices; limits government and law enforcement access to personal health information; creates a private right of action; authorizes enforcement by the Attorney General; and addresses conflicts of law and exemptions. The bill also amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, making it unlawful to violate certain provisions of the Protect Health Data Privacy Act. The language also caused some issues regarding implied consent. ISA opposed based on this.



The amendment passed the House Executive Committee 8 – 4. The committee asked the sponsor to continue working on the issue and bring it back for further consideration. On the last night of the session, Representative Guzzardi filed HFA #2, which gutted the bill and it became the vehicle for omnibus cannabis package. Representative Canty then quickly refiled the language on [SB 93](#) (Preston/Canty). That amendment was not considered prior to adjournment.

Two FOIA items were discussed during the last week of the session. The House approved [SB 2715](#) (Porfiro/Didech), which represents a FOIA omnibus addressing the privacy of certain K – 12 records and law enforcement investigations, among other matters. The bill passed the House unanimously. The measure now heads to the Senate for concurrence.



[SB 1796](#) (Morrison/Slaughter) addresses the excessive volume of FOIA requests for police-worn body camera footage and the practice of social media producers requesting it and then publishing it online for profit. The law enforcement community was split on whether they believe the current language will truly solve the problem. The bill passed the House Executive Committee 8-4 but was not called for a final vote prior to adjournment.

ISA and all the other LE groups (except the Chiefs) opposed this language as it created increased exemptions for those seeking the information. We fought til the wee hours to try to get comprehensive changes made, but it was left out of the final package. This effort must continue and be sought in Veto Session. The changes included:

1. Change 5 business day response to 10 days and the same change for the extension 5 business days to 10
2. Change fees from 15 cents after the first 50 pages to \$.50/page Also include change from being able to charge up to \$10/hr for each hour spent by personnel to reflecting its actual cost up to \$40/hour
3. Define "credentialed" media- For a definition of media, this would be the most narrow: "Newspapers as defined in 715 ILCS 5/5 and FCC licensed broadcasters"
4. Body Cam footage limitation under HB 3380-if the request is made by: (A) court order; (B) a person involved in the encounter that resulted in the recording being

- flagged (C) a legal representative of a person involved in the encounter that resulted in the recording being flagged; (D) a witness of the encounter that resulted in the recording being flagged; (E) a legal representative of a witness of the encounter that resulted in the recording being flagged; or (F) a representative of news media, as defined in subsection (f) of Section 2 of the Freedom of Information Act; and
5. **Strike this provision requiring reporting under BWC grant program:** (5) for each recording used in prosecutions of conservation, criminal, or traffic offenses or municipal ordinance violations: (A) the time, date, and location of the incident; and (B) the offenses charged and the date charges were filed; (6) (blank); and for a recording used in a civil proceeding or internal affairs investigation: (A) the number of pending civil proceedings and internal investigations; (B) in resolved civil proceedings and pending investigations: (i) the nature of the complaint or allegations; (ii) the disposition, if known; and (iii) the date, time and location of the incident; and
 6. **Commercial Requesters-Repeated requests for commercial purposes shall be deemed unduly burdensome under this provision and under Section 3.1 if the requests are from the same person and seek similar or updated records. (HB 4682)**
 7. **Require challenges to be exhausted through the PAC before filing a law suit.**

Election Omnibus

Omnibus election legislation emerged as amendments to [HB 1832](#) (Smith/Cunningham) the night before adjournment. The package makes numerous changes to election law. Highlights include, imposing new disclosure requirements on AI generated political ads; allowing election authorities to start counting vote-by-mail ballots seven days before the election (although results could not be released until the polls close); creating a statewide tracking system allowing voters to monitor their ballots and learn if they were accepted or rejected; allowing counties to develop universal vote centers starting in 2027; establishing contingency provisions regarding when vote-by-mail ballots mailed and counted depending on the outcome of the pending US Supreme Court case; enacting a fix for the CTU regarding petition circulation. The legislation was not acted upon prior to adjournment.

There was a provision included that would have limited law enforcement at polling places whether on or off duty (SB 1726). This was opposed by the majority of law enforcement, including the ISA.

[SB 3484](#) (Villivalam/B. Hernandez) addresses micromobility, defining devices, preserving the current **electric bike** framework, bringing high-powered vehicles in line with motor vehicles (titles, registration, insurance, and drivers' licenses), and applying DUI laws. It further prevents manufacturers from engaging in deceptive marketing. Passed the House as amended 84-16, the Senate concurred 48-7. Read more [here](#).

*** ISA will provide more info on this issue in the future.**

[SB 3777](#) (Johnson/Slaughter) codifies the use of **disparate impact standards** under the Illinois Human Rights Act, ensuring that policies that appear neutral on their face but disproportionately harm protected communities can still be challenged under state law. The sponsor believes the measure would reinforce Illinois' authority to provide stronger protections than the federal minimum by safeguarding residents from systemic discrimination in employment, housing, education, financial credit, and public accommodations. Republicans objected, saying the bill does not "codify" and instead sets a new standard in Illinois. Passed the House 72-38.



Other Legislative News

Republican Senator Dale Fowler announced that he will retire after the 2026 Spring Legislative Session. Fowler was not running for reelection. Local Republicans will have 30 days from Fowler's retirement to select his replacement. While no official replacement has been announced, State Representative Paul Jacobs is running to replace Fowler and is considered a leading Republican contender to fill his seat.



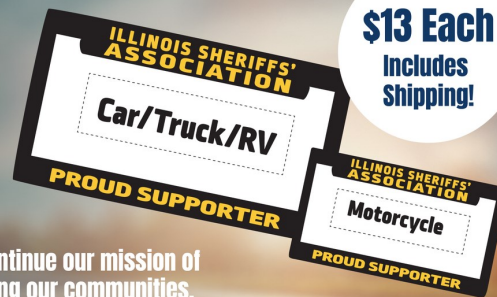
Looking Ahead

Legislators will now turn their attention to the campaign trail. All six Constitutional offices are up for election, as well as one US Senate seat and all 17 Congressional seats. Of the state's 59 Senate seats, 37 are up for election, and the same is true for all 118 House seats. Tuesday, November 3, 2026, is the General Election.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH AN ISA PLATE FRAME!

Display your support for law enforcement with an Illinois Sheriffs' Association license plate frame. Your purchase helps support the Association's programs and initiatives across the state.

Every contribution makes a difference in helping us continue our mission of supporting Sheriffs, promoting public safety, and serving our communities.



ORDER YOURS TODAY!

22ND ANNUAL CYCLE ACROSS ILLINOIS



JULY 9-12, 2026

HONORING POLICE HEROES
AND SUPPORTING THEIR SURVIVORS

www.ILCOPS.org

Support ILCOPS Through ISA's 2026 Cycle Across Illinois Fundraisers

The Illinois Sheriffs' Association is proud to once again support the Illinois Concerns of Police Survivors (ILCOPS) through participation in the 22nd Annual Cycle Across Illinois Event, taking place this July. As part of our 2026 fundraising efforts, we are offering two special donation items to help support this meaningful cause.

This year, supporters can donate and receive a 2026 Cycle Across Illinois commemorative T-shirt or a limited-edition commemorative coin to show their support of ILCOPS and the law enforcement families they serve.

2026 T-shirt: Prices include shipping, and once payment is processed, shirts will be mailed directly to you. All proceeds, minus shipping costs, go directly to ILCOPS.

2026 Cycle Across Illinois Commemorative Coins: These unique coins are only available this season and make great keepsakes or gifts. The donation cost is \$20 per coin, with an additional \$2 shipping and handling fee. Orders will be collected and fulfilled directly to supporters, with proceeds benefiting ILCOPS.

Supporters are also welcome to make a general donation to Executive Director Jim Kaitschuk's ride as he participates again this year in the Cycle Across Illinois event.

Whether you choose a shirt, commemorative coin, or both, your contribution helps support a worthwhile organization dedicated to assisting surviving families of fallen law enforcement officers.

We thank you in advance for helping the Illinois Sheriffs' Association support such an important cause.

For more information about the ride, go to:
<https://www.mightycause.com/story/IL-Sheriffs2026>



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ORDER YOUR 2026 COIN HERE

Unisex Crew Neck
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It's time to change course, & law enforcement is key.

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- Meetings, seminars & networking events
- News alerts & briefings
- Advocacy at the local, state & federal levels

Scan the QR code or CLICK HERE to join!



Scholarship Feature



Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients! We are pleased to highlight some of the outstanding students selected for the 2026–2027 academic year. Although not all scholarship winners are pictured, we celebrate and recognize every recipient for their accomplishments!

See additional photos and learn more about the scholarship program at www.ilsheriff.org

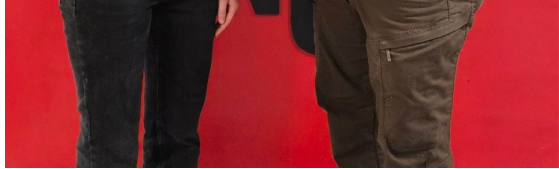


Piatt County: Molly Kinder and Sheriff Mark Vogelzang



Randolph County: Sheriff Jarrod Peters and Connor Brown





Clay County: Sylvia Robey and Sheriff Andy Myers



Brown County: Sheriff Justin Oliver and Alivia Stinebaker



Lawrence County: Sheriff Trenton Masterson and Cohen Trainer



Gallatin County: Jack Ramsey and Sheriff Shannon Bradley



Kendall County: Undersheriff Bobby Richardson, Jonathan Bustos, and Sheriff Dwight Baird



Jasper County: Sheriff Brandon Francis and Tieler Long



501(c)3 raising money for Illinois Law Enforcement Families & members of the Illinois Military.

The 2026-2027 Peacekeepers Scholarship Winners will be announced in late June. Stay tuned and check our website soon!

Each year the Illinois Sheriffs' Association offers special scholarships to dependents of our military and law enforcement community. We believe these scholarships demonstrate honor to the families of those who serve our country and communities.



THE MAIN ATTRACTION

CGTI 2026

JULY 12-16



cgti



CGTI 2026 Scholarship Opportunity

5-day youth leadership conference open to incoming
7th - 12th grade students (2026-2027 school year)



Register for CGTI 2026!

July 12-16, 2026 | Eastern Illinois University

WHAT IS CGTI? The Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute (CGTI) is a *youth leadership program* that empowers middle school and high school students to *use their voices for positive change, develop their skills, and strengthen their substance use prevention education*. Each July, CGTI welcomes 500+ youth and adults from across Illinois to a *week-long camp* to form connections, learn new things and come together with the shared purpose of bettering our communities!



The **Illinois Sheriffs' Association** is sponsoring **50 attendee scholarships** for CGTI 2026!

Scholarships **eliminate financial barriers** for budding youth leaders eager to **make an impact in their school and across their community**, covering room and board for the entire event. At CGTI 2026, youth will see **expert speakers**, take part in **team building activities**, learn more about **goal setting and community advocacy** and more!

Interested in attending CGTI with an **ISA Scholarship**? Email natalie@ilabh.org for more information.

www.cg-ti.org/cgti-summer-conference

Learn more: <https://www.cg-ti.org/cgti-summer-conference>

2026 ISA Conference & Training Schedule



ISA PRESENTS - Law Enforcement Continued Education Opportunities

Together, the Illinois Sheriffs' Association is making progress in the right direction by providing our Peace Officers with the resources they need.

FOIA Training

June 23rd 9:00 a.m.- Noon, Zoom

Sheriffs Summer Training Conference

September 12-15, 2026
Embassy Suites, East Peoria

New Sheriffs Management Institute

November 15-19, 2026
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel,
Springfield

[Visit Our Website](#)

We would not be able to put our training and conferences on without our Preferred Vendors! The Illinois Sheriffs' Association would like to thank your vendors listed below!

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Plan to **LIKE, FOLLOW and SHARE** posts from the ISA to help us spread the word about and educate others on public safety, policing and your rights that the ISA fights for!