

## Political Organizations

### Engaging with Political Organizations with a Focus on Criminal Justice Issues

Law Enforcement Leaders To Reduce Crime and Incarceration - <http://lawenforcementleaders.org/>

The People's Lobby - <https://www.thepeopleslobbyusa.org/>

Critical Resistance – <http://criticalresistance.org/>

Responsible Budget Coalition - <http://www.responsiblebudget.org/>

Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression - <http://naarpr.org/>

## Issue Advocacy in Illinois

### With Sheriff Tom Dart

Writing and calling Sheriff Dart to demand that he obey the law and stop refusing to release accused people that the courts have ordered to be released pending trial:

at (312) 603-6444, [sheriff.dart@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:sheriff.dart@cookcountyil.gov) or 50 W. Washington St. Chicago 60602

See: *Dart's Misguided Approach to Jail Reform* at:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/ct-perspec-dart-misguided-jail-reform-toni-preckwinkle-0313-story.html>

and *No need for Tom Dart to be gun-shy on bail reform* at

<http://www.chicagoreporter.com/no-need-for-tom-dart-to-be-gun-shy-on-bail-reform/>

### With the Illinois State Legislature:

*Find your state rep's contact info here.*

2018 Legislative Calendar:

April 13, 2018 - Deadline to Report Substantive House Bills from House Committees and Substantive Senate Bills from Senate Committees

April 27, 2018 - Third Reading Deadline for House Bills and Senate Bills

May 11, 2018 - Deadline to Report Substantive House Bills from Senate Committees

May 18, 2018 - Deadline to Report Substantive Senate Bills from House Committees

May 25, 2018 - Third Reading Deadline for Senate Bills in the House and House Bills in the Senate

May 31, 2018 - Scheduled Adjournment

Legislative Update: <http://www.saferfoundation.org/Safer-Policy-Institute/Policy-News/Articles/illinois-legislative-update-mar-30-2018>

Filing witness slips remotely:

IT IS IMPORTANT TO FILE COMMENTS REMOTELY ON BILLS PENDING BEFORE THE STATE LEGISLATURE BY FILING "WITNESS SLIPS" AFTER REGISTERING AND CREATING A PROFILE ON THE INTERNET DASHBOARD OF THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Instructions on how to register and how to file a witness slip on any bill are available at:

[http://www.ihsccdea.org/documents/electronic\\_witness\\_slip\\_instructions.pdf](http://www.ihsccdea.org/documents/electronic_witness_slip_instructions.pdf) and

<http://illinoiscarry.com/forum/index.php?showtopic=32865>

See also Frequently Asked Questions for Filing Witness Slips at:

<http://my.ilga.gov/Home/FAQ>

Conviction of Felony By Presumption, Without Proof That a Felony Has Been Convicted

Opposing House Bill 4729 and Senate Bill 2825 and House approval of Senate Bill 2339 by contacting Mayor Rahm Emmanuel, your Representatives and Senators, and the representatives listed below

- This bad legislation is now on the House floor, having been approved in committee
- It is being promoted by the Mayor as an anti-carjacking measure.
- But carjacking is already completely covered and is dealt with severely by existing law
- Instead the bill would presume that someone driving a stolen car knows that it is stolen, even if he

or she has no knowledge that it was stolen, so that the person could be charged and convicted of a felony, sent to jail pending trial, and suffer the life-long restrictions and lack of opportunity upon release from prison without any proof that he or she has committed a felony.

- For a full discussion see: <https://chicago.suntimes.com/columnists/rahms-anti-carjacking-bill-is-unfair-being-falsely-sold-and-wont-work/>

*Find your state rep's contact info here.*

Also contact the following representatives to oppose Senate Bill 2339

- Litesa Wallace - (217) 782-3167
- Jehan Gordon-Booth - (217) 782-3186
- Carol Ammons - (217) 558-1009
- Mary E. Flowers - (217) 782-4207
- Sonya Harper - (217) 782-5971
- Art Turner Jr. - (217) 782-8116 (a cosponsor of Senate Bill 2339)
- Marcus Evans - (217) 782-8272 (a cosponsor of Senate Bill 2339)
- Camille Lilly - (217) 782-6400 (a cosponsor of Senate Bill 2339)

#### "License to Work Act"

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 2411, a practical proposal of great value that would eliminate an existing law that allows drivers licenses to be suspended for non-driving offenses, thereby depriving people of the ability to keep a job and driving many poor (mostly black and brown) citizens further into poverty and often into a life of crime.

Action needed to encourage your state Senator to support this legislation

*For more information see the Action alert of the Safer Foundation at:*

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1102405162255&ca=bf4df71b-7cff-4171-a582-a2b8103bbaeb>

#### Diversion from Incarceration:

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 3023 - to authorize police to establish "diversion programs," guiding those suffering from drug addiction, mental illness, and extreme poverty to drug treatment programs, rather than arresting them

*For more information see: <https://mailchi.mp/3c4e66161d21/take-action-now-on-senate-bill-3023?e=42d7e31bc3> or contact Rev. Al Sharp at [revaesharp@gmail.com](mailto:revaesharp@gmail.com)*

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 3388 - to expand eligibility for Adult Redeploy Illinois (community-based alternatives to the Illinois Department of Corrections that operates in 45 Illinois counties) to allow local discretion to include all probation-eligible offenses in the program .

*Learn more from: Lindsey LaPointe – [llapointe@bpichicago.org](mailto:llapointe@bpichicago.org)*

#### Sentencing Reform:

Supporting Illinois House Bill 3355 – To Implement Recommendations of the Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform

*Learn more from: Ben Ruddell - [bruddell@ACLU-il.org](mailto:bruddell@ACLU-il.org)*

#### Controlling the Impact of Court Fees and Fines in Illinois

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 2590, the Criminal and Traffic Assessment Act - to streamline, standardize and reduce court fees and fines in Illinois. streamline, standardize and reduce court fees and fines in Illinois. and to provide an opportunity for individuals to request a full or partial waiver based on their inability to pay

Supporting Illinois House Bill 5341 - to clarify that outstanding legal financial obligations, like fines, fees and costs, cannot be considered when determining whether someone can seal their record.

#### Juvenile Justice:

Opposing Illinois House approval of Illinois Senate Bill 2339 by contacting Mayor Rahm Emmanuel, your Representatives and Senators, and the representatives listed below

This proposed "anti-car jacking" measure (mentioned above) also proposes to roll back major gains in the past few years for juvenile justice and diversion of young offenders from criminal

behavior, by introducing new measures that would channel young black men into a life of crime under the guise of preventing violence.

*Find your state rep's contact info here.*

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- Litesa Wallace - (217) 782-3167
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Supporting Illinois House Bill 531 – to reintroduce parole in Illinois for juveniles

*Learn more from:* Jobi Cates: [jcates@restorejustice.org](mailto:jcates@restorejustice.org)

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4473 - to require that a juvenile be brought before a judge within 24 hours of arrest to determine whether he or she should be further held in pre-trial custody

*Learn more at:* [jjj@jjustice.org](mailto:jjj@jjustice.org)

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4336 - to raise the age of juvenile detention to age 13 from age 10

*Learn more from:* Jennifer Vollen-Katz of the John Howard Association: [jvollen@thejha.org](mailto:jvollen@thejha.org) and from Elizabeth Clarke at [bc@jjustice.org](mailto:bc@jjustice.org)<[bcjuv@aol.com](mailto:bcjuv@aol.com)>

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 1265 - to mandate lawyers for children during interrogation

*Learn more from:* Elizabeth Clarke at [bc@jjustice.org](mailto:bc@jjustice.org)<[bcjuv@aol.com](mailto:bcjuv@aol.com)>

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4543 - to implement youth support services to provide alternatives to detention and to prevent deeper criminal involvement

*Learn more from:* <http://www.uuani.org/>

#### Prisoner Rights and Opportunities:

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4469 - to extend voting rights to people in county jails and establish polling places in the jails

*Learn more from:* [Organization's That Support HB 4469](#)

All Senate contacts can be found here: <http://ima-net.org/senate-contacts/>

Supporting Illinois House Bill 5104 - to abolish the \$5 medical copay that IL inmates must pay to see a doctor

*Learn more from:* Jennifer Vollen-Katz of the John Howard Association: [jvollen@thejha.org](mailto:jvollen@thejha.org)

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4505 - to authorize Illinois to participate in the Federal Prison Industry Enhancement Certification ("PIE") Program, which would provide Federal funds to develop training programs for inmates in Illinois Prisons (details attached here)

*Learn more from:* Patrick Simon [patrick.simon@illinois.gov](mailto:patrick.simon@illinois.gov) or Michael Lane [michael.r.lane@illinois.gov](mailto:michael.r.lane@illinois.gov) at the Illinois Dept. of Corrections

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4741 - to safeguard prison visiting rights

*Learn more from:* Jobi Cates: [jcates@restorejustice.org](mailto:jcates@restorejustice.org)

Supporting House Bill 4888 - to require improvements in conditions, treatment, accountability and communication and structural changes in the operation of the Department of Corrections, and collection and sharing of information and data

*Learn more from:* Jennifer Vollen-Katz: [jvollen@thejha.org](mailto:jvollen@thejha.org)

#### Restrictions on Rights and Opportunities of Former Inmates and those convicted of a crime:

Supporting Illinois Senate "Path To Restoration" Bill 3489 - to allow individuals that are subject to registration after release from prison in the Violent Offender Against Youth Registry to amend incorrect information and appeal their inclusion in the database.

*Learn more at* <https://www.imacentral.org/support-path-restoration/>

Supporting Illinois House Bill 3142 - to prohibit colleges, universities, and trade schools from asking or considering an individual's criminal record for purposes of admissions

*Learn more from:* Samantha Tuttle : [stuttle@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:stuttle@heartlandalliance.org)

Supporting Illinois House Bill 5340, the License to Work Act - to eliminate the practice of restricting

the rights to a driver's license or vehicle registration as a result of things such as failure to satisfy a fine or penalty, failure to pay taxes or civil penalties owed to the Illinois Commerce Commission, or being a convicted sex offender.

Maintenance of records of offenses:

Supporting Illinois Senate Bill 3415 - to permanently continue traffic and pedestrian data stop collection in Illinois

*Learn more from* Chelsea Diaz at [CDiaz@aclu-il.org](mailto:CDiaz@aclu-il.org)

Records of Eviction Proceedings

Supporting Illinois House Bill 4968 - to provide for sealing and impoundment of a court file for an eviction action in which the court does not find that a tenant or an occupant has materially breached the lease

*Learn more from* Bob Palmer at [bob@housingactionil.org](mailto:bob@housingactionil.org)

Availability and Allocation of Resources

Identifying and Supporting: Legislation to redirect budget priorities toward social services and away from incarceration

See: <https://chicago.suntimes.com/opinion/recognition-of-budget-cuts-not-enough-time-to-fund-up/>

Supporting: Legislation to amend the Illinois' Constitution to allow enactment of a progressive income tax:

*Learn more from:* Alex Tindal Weisendanger - [alex@responsiblebudget.org](mailto:alex@responsiblebudget.org)

Gun Control

Supporting override of Governor Rauner's veto this week of SB 1657, the Gun Dealer Licensing Act