



**Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (CCH)  
2012 Substantive Legislative Agenda**

**Bills that CCH Supports:**

**HB 5278: End Demand Illinois legislation** that would amend the Human Trafficking statute, expanding how trafficking is defined to include more of the coercive tactics by which people are recruited and maintained in the sex trade. This would enable more effective prosecutions of traffickers, but also would expand the pool of individuals considered trafficking victims. This would entitle more individuals to receive special sex trafficking victim services and potentially have their prostitution convictions vacated. The bill also better channels vehicle impoundment fees to victim services.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cassidy
- Partner organizations: CAASE, Polaris Project, Protestants for the Common Good, Project IRENE, Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Cook County State's Attorney's office
- Status: Passed unanimously in House Judiciary II committee on 2/8/12.

**SB 1565: Raising the state minimum wage** would increase the hourly rate by 50 cents, plus inflation. This would continue each year until it reaches the 1968 minimum wage level, adjusted for inflation. Includes an automatic cost of living adjustment every year thereafter.

- Sponsor: Sen. Lightford
- Partner organizations: Action Now, Women Employed, Protestants for the Common Good, SEIU, Chicago Teachers Union, many more.
- Status: Has an extended deadline to get out of committee

**SB 3488: Amendment to IL Human Rights Act that would make it a civil rights violation to discriminate in housing** based on a person's arrest record or expunged and sealed records.

- Sponsor: Sen. Raoul
- Partner organizations: Heartland Alliance, Cabrini Green Legal Aid
- Status: Failed to receive vote to pass out of committee on 3/7/12.

**HB 5628: Ensuring Success in School Act** would create support services for students who have been victims of sexual or domestic violence so that they can stay in school.

- Sponsor: Rep. Yarbrough
- Partner organizations: Shriver Center
- Status: Failed to receive vote to pass out of Elementary & Secondary Education Committee. Re-referred to Rules.

**HB 5290: Anti-bullying bill** provides that the State Board of Education will develop a template for a model bullying prevention policy and sets forth requirements concerning the template. Also, provides that school social worker interventions (instead of social worker interventions) are a disciplinary intervention that can be taken to stop bullying, and adds school psychological services as another disciplinary intervention.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cassidy
- Partners: Safe Schools Alliance, ACLU, AIDS Foundation of Chicago, etc.
- Status: Passed House Elementary & Secondary Education Committee by 13-9 vote on 3/7/12.

**HB 5723: Expansion of record-sealing bill** to include more non-violent felony convictions (class 2, 3 and 4), such as theft, forgery, and retail theft – would not include sex offenses, DUI, or violating an order of protection.

- Sponsor: Rep. Ford
- Partners: Shriver Center, Cabrini Green Legal Aid, many more
- Status: Passed Judiciary II committee 3/8/12, but with promise to come to agreement with opposition

**HB 5482: Human Trafficking Contracts** bill would nullify or void any type of contract between a trafficker and his/her victim, and would create a civil cause of action. Bill needs to be fixed.

- Sponsor: Rep. Morthland
- Status: Bill was introduced by Rep. Morthland and discovered by CCH. The bill is poorly placed in the statute and may have some redundancies in the law. Bill passed Judiciary I on 3/7/12 with sponsor's promise to hold it on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and come up with something that he and CCH (and possibly the EDI coalition, CCSAO or other parties) agree upon.

**SB 3239: Moratorium on school closings**, consolidations, and phase-outs and clearer criteria for school actions

- Sponsor: Sen. Martinez
- Partners: Blocks Together, Designs for Change, Chicago Teacher's Union, Chicago Principals Association, Parents for Teachers, Grand Boulevard, Kenwood Oakland Community Organization
- Status: Postponed in Education committee, with a deadline set of 3/30/12.

**HB 5592: Creates services to support post-permanency contact between siblings in DCFS care**

- Sponsor: Rep. Feigenholtz
- Status: Passed out of committee on 3/1/12, but a proposed amendment was not called for a vote.

**HB 4615: Clarifies language about the percentage of administrative fees that local administering agencies of the Rental Housing Support Program can receive.**

- Sponsor: Rep. Lilly
- Partner: Housing Action Illinois
- Status: Passed out of the Housing Committee unanimously on 3/8/12.

**HB 5252: Protects the Rental Housing Support Program funding in case parts of the fee collection process are not feasible under Illinois law.**

- Sponsor: Rep. Saviano
- Partners: Housing Action Illinois, Chicago Low Income Housing Trust Fund
- Status: The bill did not get out of rules, but we are still working on some revised language.

#### **Opposed:**

**HB 4655: Would allow the incarceration of "chronic truants"**

- Sponsor: Rep. Cavaletto
- Status: Bill did not get called for a vote. Re-referred to Rules.

**HB 3806: Reduces the number of school absences needed to become a "chronic truant"**

- Sponsors: Rep. Cavaletto, Rep. Mitchell
  - Senate Sponsor: Sen. Luechtefeld
- Status: Passed the House on 2/29/12. Now in the Senate.

#### **Opposed, but now neutral:**

**HB 5363: Bill would move most of the former Division of Community Health and Prevention out of the Illinois Department of Human Services and into the Department of Public Health.** (CCH removed formal opposition when Homeless Youth Programs were carved out of the bill.)

- Sponsor: Rep. Gabel
- Status: Bill was never called for a vote. Re-referred to Rules.