



ILLINOIS ALLIANCE TO
**PROMOTE
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR HEALTH**

Illinois Alliance to Promote Opportunities for Health

2026 Policy Agenda



2026 Legislative Priorities

- SNAP Emergency Assistance (SB 3277 / HB 4730): Advocate for emergency assistance for those newly ineligible for SNAP.
- SNAP Response Task Force (SB 3276 / HB 5062): Advocate for a task force that creates visibility and accountability in the general assembly on addressing the coming changes to SNAP.
- Paid Family and Medical Leave (HB 3483 / SB 2413): Support proposals that offer paid time off to care for family and medical needs.
- Transportation Choices Act: Aligns state transportation spending with climate and safety goals by setting targets to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions for the transportation sector by 2050. This will help unlock dollars typically spent on roadway expansions for other mobility options, including bike lanes, bus lanes, and pedestrian connections.
- Low-Speed Electric Bicycle (SB 3336): Distinguish electric motor-driven cycles from E-bikes to improve safety.
- Support for establishing a program to provide short-term universal newborn home visiting services to all families with newborns residing in the State.
- VTTC Food (SB 3167 / HB 4831): Expand an existing state-funded program to provide ongoing food assistance to up to 16,000 lawfully present immigrants losing SNAP.
- [OPPOSE] SNAP Restrictions (SB 2908): Oppose restrictions on SNAP purchases in Illinois.

FY 2027 State Budget Appropriations Priorities

- Healthy School Meals for All appropriation (HB2365/SB1419): Appropriations for a program which would reimburse eligible schools to provide a free breakfast and a free lunch to all students, regardless of their ability to pay.
- Farm to Food Bank appropriation: Appropriations for a program which purchases food from Illinois farmers and distributes it to Illinois communities via the charitable food system.
- Local Food Infrastructure grants appropriation (SB 2386): Appropriations for a grant program that helps rebuild local food infrastructure (e.g., mills, food hubs) to move food from Illinois farms to Illinois communities, particularly those who have been underserved.
- Emerging and Socially Disadvantaged Farmer Grant Fund appropriation (HB 4922): Supports a \$2 million appropriation for a grant program which provides funding to socially disadvantaged farmers for startup capital and costs associated with farming operations and equipment.
- \$10 million Local Health Protection Grant appropriation: Support funding reform to ensure local health departments have the resources they need to protect and promote health.

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Policy Implementation Priorities

- Support implementation of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Service's Medicaid 1115 waiver that supports coverage of health-related social needs for those most at risk, including access to food and nutrition benefits.
- Support rollout of new Medicaid benefits for lactation support, doulas, home visitors. Likely involves shared communications activities and connections to training/TA for providers.
- Support the adoption of the American Medical Association's prediabetes quality measures in Illinois' Medicaid program.
- Support advancement of the Good Food Purchasing Policy (GFPP) at the state level. GFPP would ensure that state agencies and facilities prioritize local economies, environmental sustainability, workforce rights, animal welfare, and nutrition in their food purchasing practices.

Inform and Monitor

- Monitor any legislation related to reducing the default speed limit to 25 mph for communities across the state to ensure health and justice considerations are included.

Contact

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The Illinois Alliance to Promote Opportunities for Health (IAPOH) is convened by Illinois Public Health Institute (IPHI).