



DUPAGE COUNTY



2025 STATE END-OF-SESSION REPORT

2025 End of Session Report

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Overview

The 104th Illinois General Assembly adjourned in the early morning hours of Sunday, June 1st. During the session, the legislature passed a balanced budget and addressed many major issues, while leaving some work for the veto session. Typically, veto session takes place in the fall, but given the need to address Transit and uncertainty in Washington surrounding the Federal Budget, the legislature may convene during the summer. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

In total, 432 bills passed both chambers this year, including 228 House Bills and 202 Senate Bills.

Included in this end-of-session report is a summary of the FY26 budget, substantive legislation we are tracking that we are monitoring, and passed legislation inline with our 2025 Legislative Priorities.

Budget

Four bills comprise the FY26 budget: the FY26 Budget (SB 2510), Budget Implementation (HB 1075), Revenue Omnibus (HB 2755), and Bond Authorization (HB 3374). The budget is balanced with \$55.2 billion in spending and \$55.4 billion in revenue. All four bills passed before midnight on May 31st, and the Governor is expected to sign them. For DuPage County, all our reappropriations were included in FY26 to complete work at the Crisis Recovery Center, the Care Center, and the Woodridge Water Treatment Facility.

The FY26 Budget faced significant challenges, including a nearly \$1 billion shortfall, a slowing economy, and deep federal funding cuts. Despite this, the budget avoided major cuts to health and human services, education, and vital infrastructure. Revenue increases were achieved through changes to tobacco, gaming, and hotel taxes, as well as adjustments to sales tax applicability. A more detailed explanation is included in our lobbyist Chip Humes' end-of-session report.



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Substantive Pending Legislation

Transit

With a looming fiscal cliff for the RTA and service boards, Transit Reform was a priority for DuPage this session. Early proposals threatened DuPage's share of the RTA sales tax—this was successfully defeated and was not included in HB 3438 as it passed the Senate. The bill stalled in the House, but DuPage continues to engage in negotiations, and updates will be shared with the Board.

As written, HB 3438 would create the Northern Illinois Transit Authority while retaining the existing service boards. Governance reforms include regional board-service board overlap, protected collar county representation, and voting reforms to promote regional decision-making. Authority is shifted to the regional board to enhance system-wide service. The bill also includes a \$1.5 billion revenue package, with statewide delivery taxes and a real estate transfer tax in the service area, along with \$50 million in fare increases and \$113 million in system efficiencies to address the fiscal cliff.

Pensions

The 2025 pension omnibus bill (HB 3193), led by Rep. Kifowit and Sen. Martwick, consolidates over a dozen bills and reflects input from legislators, labor groups, and pension systems. It includes reforms for TRS, SERS, CPF, and IMRF, covering service credit fairness, benefit timing, and disability definitions. Key provisions include prorated benefit reductions for returning retired teachers, equitable credit for part-time Chicago teachers, expanded firefighter disability coverage, and modernized trustee elections. The bill passed both chambers with bipartisan support and carries minimal or no cost.

Tier 2 pension reform saw partial progress. While a broader fix stalled, lawmakers approved a \$75 million allocation to meet federal minimums and passed HB 3657 to enhance Chicago police and fire pensions. A more comprehensive proposal (SB 1937), supported by unions, sought to improve salary calculations, COLAs, and retirement age without increasing liabilities. However, it faced opposition over fiscal concerns and was not called for a vote.

Energy Omnibus

We are closely monitoring the Energy Omnibus bill due to its potential impact on economic development in DuPage County. With the rapid growth of data centers, evolving regulations on development, and new EV infrastructure requirements, the bill could significantly shape the future energy landscape for both the county and the state. We will continue to track this legislation and provide updates as needed.



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Legislation sent to the Governor in line with our 2025 Legislative Priorities

1. Develop a Statewide Mental Health Care System

Expand access to mental health care and substance abuse disorder services, with a focus on youth. Ensure adequate reimbursement through Medicaid and private health insurance, provide incentives to encourage more individuals to enter the behavioral health workforce, and fund innovative programs at the local level.

Legislation Passed

HB2387: The Circuit Court can make decisions about people who need to stay in a mental health hospital and who need mental health treatment outside the hospital, regardless of whether the individual has been charged with a felony.

SB2500: Mobile mental health response teams must help people get to the safest and least restrictive place for treatment, so long as person getting help agrees. Teams must be trained to understand and work with people with neurodivergent and developmental disabilities and know how to get people more help after the emergency.

2. Economic Stability for All of DuPage

DuPage County boasts a robust economy and is an excellent place to raise a family, start a business, and enjoy cultural landmarks. However, we are not immune to broader economic challenges. Issues such as affordable housing for our diverse workforce, food insecurity affecting 1 in 10 DuPage families, and homelessness still persist. We support legislative efforts to address these challenges and enhance economic stability for our residents.

Legislation Passed

HB1575: County recorders can no longer charge a fee to file paperwork that removes restrictive covenants – illegal or discriminatory rules – from property documents. Counties cannot charge for copies of records needed to file this paperwork.

HB2419: Environmental impacts may be considered during the local siting review for a new facility in a county or city. Impacts include air pollution from vehicles, the combined pollution from new and existing sites, and how certain communities could be unfairly affected more than others.

HB3616: Directs the Illinois Housing Development Authority to collect housing data for each municipality by counting the number of affordable homes for people who earn less than 80% of the average income in the area, and for those earning between 80% and 140% and counting affordable rental units for people earning less than 60% of the average income, and for those earning between 80% and 140%.

SB1523: Anyone filing a false or fraudulent property document or attempting to wrongfully claim someone's property may be sued by the rightful owner in court. Every county must set up a property fraud alert system to residents if something is filed against their property.



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3. Reimagine Our Public Transit System

Modernize our public transit delivery system to expand and provide equitable access to transit services across the collar counties. These improvements aim to meet the needs of employers, job seekers, and aging and disabled populations while supporting a governance structure that strengthens the RTA and expands suburban representation.

Legislation Passed

HB2675: Agencies in charge of maintaining public, paved bike trails must create permanent warning signs to alert trail users when a trail crosses a highway, unless there's already an official traffic signal or sign at the crossing. If the agency knows there's a dangerous emergency or safety problem on the trail, they must take reasonable steps to warn people, including putting up temporary signs, cones, barricades, or other markers. Local governments must put up signs or road markings warning drivers that a bike trail crossing is coming up, unless there are already official traffic signals there.

SB1941: Local governments can install flashing lights at crosswalks near schools. These lights flash when someone presses a button, warning drivers that a person is using the crosswalk.

Note: see substantive pending legislation.

4. Protect Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Dollars

The state's push for accelerated electrification of vehicles is negatively impacting a key funding source for maintaining and constructing county highways. As local and state MFT revenues diminish due to vehicle and fleet electrification, state leaders must consider a replacement revenue source.

Legislation Passed

The FY26 Budget protected these funds, there was no movement on addressing electric vehicles, however that work continues.

5. Property Tax Modernization

DuPage County is a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars, particularly regarding property taxes. We advocate for modernizing property tax administration rules to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the use of taxpayer money.

Legislation Passed

No legislation was passed, but the Property Tax working group is continuing to work on solutions.

6. Allocate a Fair Share of Income Tax Revenues

Provide counties and municipalities with their fair share of income tax proceeds through the



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Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) to support the delivery of critical local government services to residents.

Legislation Passed

The FY26 budget maintained LGDF for local governments.

7. Keeping Our Communities Safe

Protect our residents, especially children, from injury and death through a public education and awareness campaign on gun safety. Additionally, we need to implement stronger tools to ensure people who violate gun laws are held accountable. We also need to give judges more discretion in detaining those who are a threat to our communities.

Legislation Passed

HB1226: People aged 79 or older must renew their driver's license in person. People who are 87 or older, or 75 or older with a commercial license, must show they can safely drive during the renewal process.

HB2548: Bans the sale or advertising of self-use sexual assault evidence kits in Illinois. People harmed by these kits may be able to take legal action, and the law includes rules for enforcement.

HB2774: Requires the Illinois Department of Human Services to provide an easy-to-use phone number for people to call and get help with domestic violence. The 24/7 statewide hotline will be free, private, multilingual, and help both victims and people calling on behalf of victims, including family or police.

HB3363: Creates a new Office of State Public Defender, which will be independent and part of the state court system. The State Public Defender, picked by the Supreme Court, will lead the office. Counties in the same judicial area can share public defenders. Changes how public defenders are hired, paid, and removed from their jobs, ensuring they can only be removed for good reason after a hearing.

HB3662: Requires County jails to provide opioid-reversing medication to any released inmates who were incarcerated for drug-related crimes or had a known drug problem.

SB8: Gun owners must safely store their guns if they know a minor, someone at risk, or someone who isn't allowed to have a gun could get access to it. Guns must be locked up or made unusable unless they are being carried by the owner or someone allowed to use them. Violations would result in increasing fines, depending on the severity of the situation. Fines would go into a Mental Health Fund.

SB1295: 911 operators who handle medical emergencies must be trained in telecommunicator CPR. Training follows the latest national guidelines for helping people during heart-related emergencies over the phone. Updates current rules to ensure all emergency medical dispatchers are trained to give CPR instructions before help arrives.



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SB1380: Allows counties and cities put public safety equipment including like cameras or sensors on utility poles or public roads owned by the government. Fees for using the poles must not exceed the owner's cost. Equipment can't interfere with electric systems or be placed on poles owned by private utilities and must follow safety codes and local rules.

SB1899: Allows people charged with certain first-time weapon offenses and who successfully complete a diversion program to apply for a Firearm Owner's ID card. Upon completion of the program and receipt of a court order, the Illinois State Police must approve or deny the FOID application within 10 business days, if the person is otherwise eligible. The law also says prosecutors can request someone facing low-level weapon charges be sent to diversion programs instead of prison.

SB1922: Drivers must yield the right-of-way to emergency vehicles with flashing lights (even if parked), emergency workers who are working on the road, and any pedestrians involved in the emergency. The Secretary of State can suspend or revoke the license of any driver who breaks this rule and causes injury or damage.

8. Protecting Our Environment

Support legislation that reduces the environmental impact of residents and businesses by promoting waste reduction and diverting materials from landfills.

Legislation Passed

SB2466: Changes the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act to give more funding to park and land projects in distressed communities or locations. Projects in distressed communities and locations can get up to 100% of their costs covered for buying land or making improvements that fit the goals of the Act. Projects in distressed locations that aren't in distressed communities can get up to 75% of costs covered.

Note: Please see Substantive Legislation Pending.

9. Equity for Our Special Needs Population

DuPage County has a longstanding commitment to caring for residents with special needs. We aim to continue this legacy by supporting policies that promote equity and dignity for the special needs community.

Legislation Passed

HB3328: Anyone moving into an assisted living facility must be checked for memory or thinking problems like Alzheimer's or dementia before he or she moves in. The tools used for this must be approved by experts in Alzheimer's and dementia care and proven to be accurate and should be reviewed and updated regularly to keep up with the latest care standards.

SB2194: Improves the statewide 2-1-1 system, which helps people find health and human services.



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10. Caring for Our Animal Population

Advocate for animal welfare by opposing attempts to repeal the current ban on puppy mills, closing the Illinois Department of Agriculture's "dog dealer" licensure loophole, and enacting additional measures to protect animals from inhumane treatment.

Legislation Passed

HB3360: Requires all licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians to hang their license or a copy where they work so it is easily visible. Updates the definition of a vet tech to be someone who graduated from an accredited vet tech program and passed the national vet tech exam.

SB128: If a veterinarian writes a note saying that a rabies shot would harm an animal's health, the pet can be excused from getting the shot for one year. This exemption can be renewed every year with another note from a vet.

Additional noteworthy legislation

HB3725: Local governments must send bills for **utility services** to homes within 12 months and to businesses within 24 months. Exceptions apply if the customer stopped the utility from reading the meter correctly.

SB212: Employers must give nursing mothers 30 minutes of paid break time each time they need to pump breast milk for one year after giving birth. If more time is needed, they can use other paid breaks or mealtime. Employers must provide these breaks unless it causes serious hardship for the business.

SB1827: Relaxes guidelines for counties, cities, and fire protection districts to use design-build contracts.

SB2044: Allows counties, townships, and cities to let people sign documents online using a secure website. Petitions for elections or candidates still must be signed by hand.