 Legislative Update – May 9, 2023

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Summary Key Bill List (of bills still moving through the legislative process):

Support:
HB 2431 (Kelly, D-Chicago/Cervantes, D-Chicago) Prohibits use of video conferencing while operating a motor vehicle
HB 2811 (Johnson, D-East Moline) Establishes a Central Receiving Center Grant Pilot Program
HB 3230 (LaPointe, D-Chicago/Fine, D-Glenview) Statewide Continuum of Behavioral Health Crisis/response services
HB 3236 (Carroll, D-Northbrook/Holmes, D-Aurora) Prohibits installment loans of pet sales
HB 3878 (Rashid, D-Berwyn) Establishes an IDHA Matching Funds program/affordable housing tax credit
HB 3899 (Syed, D-Palatine) Provides Medicaid coverage of applied behavior analysis treatment (autism)
HB 3900 (LaPointe, D-Chicago) Establishes Medicaid (hospital) presumptive eligibility for individuals in psychiatric crisis
HB 3940 (Guerrero-Cuellar, D-Chicago/Cunningham, D-Chicago) Extension of the Emergency Telephone System Act
SB 724 (Feigenholtz, D-Chicago/LaPointe, D-Chicago) Establishes the Interagency Children’s Behavioral Health Services Act
SB 836 (Holmes, D-Aurora/Welch, D-Westchester) Creates the Paint Stewardship Act
SB 1499 (Villa, D-West Chicago/Hirschauer, D-West Chicago) Companion Animal Forfeiture Act – enhanced penalties
SB 1555 (Koehler, D-Peoria) Creates the Packaging and Paper Products Stewardship Act
SB 1882 (Holmes, D-Aurora/Moeller, D-Elgin) Establishes Dog and Cat Testing Restrictions
SB 1883 (Holmes, D-Aurora/Mason, D-Gurnee) Establishes the Wild Animal Public Safety Act

(see page 2)
**Other Issues:**

**Central Receiving Center – Capital Request**
Building an ideal behavioral health crisis system comprises an organized set of structures, processes, and services to meet all types of urgent and emergent behavioral health crisis needs of our population including “Someone to Call,” “Someone to Respond,” and “Somewhere to Go.”

A Central Receiving Center (CRC) is a single point of entry for individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. The purpose of the CRC is to stabilize the individual, properly assess, and transition to the appropriate level of care. The CRC will serve county residents in need of immediate mental health or substance use intervention in one location.

DuPage County is currently in the process of finalizing design plans to construct a CRC adjacent to the Health Department on the County Farm Road Wheaton Campus. Although the county has secured some initial funding, the county is seeking additional state funding for this model statewide initiative (please see attached fact sheet).

**Restore LGDF Funding**
Monies allocated under the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF), established in 1969 when the State of Illinois enacted an income tax, does not represent a “grant” from the State but rather a small share of income taxes paid by county residents that are returned on a per capita basis to support critical local services.

Under the original agreement with the State, units of local government were to receive 10% of total state income tax revenues which continued until 2011, when the State instituted a temporary income tax increase but failed to share the corresponding (increased) portion with local governments. In 2017, the General Assembly further reduced LGDF payments to local governments by 10% of state income tax revenues received, and in 2018, by another 5% of revenues received (to help balance the state budget).

As part of the Fiscal Year 2023 budget package, the General Assembly approved a modest one-year increase in local government’s total share of income tax proceeds, raising the amount distributed from the previous 6.06% of individual income tax collections to 6.16%, (for state fiscal year 2023 only), which translated into an annual increase of $133,632 for DuPage County.

DuPage County, together with our municipal partners and the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo), urge the Illinois General Assembly to restore the distribution of LGDF dollars to the agreed upon 10% share of income tax proceeds to local governments.

**Expand Tourism/Economic Development Opportunities**
Tourism is a major driver of economic activity, contributing billions of dollars to the State’s economy that welcomed over 110 million visitors last year. The Illinois Office of Tourism (under the Illinois
Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, DCEO) works with the (38) certified Convention and Visitors Bureaus statewide, including the DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau (DCVB), to promote Illinois as a travel destination for meetings, conventions, domestic and international visitors as well as leisure travelers. In 2021, the tourism and hospitality industry employed nearly 400,000 people statewide.

DuPage County has 16,000 hotel rooms and last year, sent $22 million in state hotel/motel tax receipts to Springfield yet the DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau (as a capped bureau), received only $1.5 million in return from the State Local Tourism Convention Bureau grant (that also required a $750,000 local match). These dollars are critical to the success of local bureaus to attract meetings, conventions, tour groups and sporting events.

DuPage County supports two requests submitted to the Illinois General Assembly by the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau:

1. Establish a Chicago Plus $5 million grant program for (4) state-certified convention and visitor bureaus adjacent to the City of Chicago (Chicago Southland, Chicago North Shore, Meet Chicago Northwest, and the DuPage County Convention & Visitor Bureaus) to market and sell their service areas to generate increased hotel/motel occupancy and travel throughout the region. All four of these bureaus have experienced three consecutive years of decreased hotel tax collections.

2. **Extend for one more year the 25% local match requirement** for state-certified convention and visitor bureaus (previously 50%) of state tourism dollars received. This will free up much needed revenues for bureaus still recovering from losses due to the pandemic.
CRITICAL STEP | CENTRAL RECEIVING CENTER

A Behavioral Health Crisis System is more than a single crisis program. It is an organized set of structures, processes, and services that are in place to meet all types of urgent and emergent behavioral health crisis needs in a defined population or community, effectively and efficiently.

A CONTINUOUS JOURNEY

DuPage County Health Department has been on a continuous journey building an infrastructure to support key components of an ideal crisis system, “someone to call, someone to respond, and somewhere to go”.

The Central Receiving Center completes the next critical step in this journey by ensuring individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis have somewhere to go that is safe, medically appropriate, and always available.

WHAT IS A CENTRAL RECEIVING CENTER?

Single Point of Entry
A single point of entry for individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis.

Easy Access
Easily accessible location for law enforcement, emergency personnel, and families to have a timely drop off for evaluation.

Rapid Assessment and Stabilization
Needs are evaluated and individuals are treated or transitioned to an appropriate level of care within 24 hours.
BUILDING AN IDEAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS SYSTEM

Every person receives the right service, in the right place, every time.

Provide a single point of access for law enforcement officers, EMS, and family members to drop-off individuals experiencing a MH/SU crisis.

Destigmatize individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

Provide a safe alternative to law enforcement and individuals experiencing a MH/SU crisis.

Appropriately detox or transport individuals who are experiencing acute withdrawal from a substance use disorder to an ER.

Reduce the inappropriate utilization of hospital emergency departments by diverting individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

Provide an efficient and effective use of existing resources.

The Central Receiving Center will be located at 115 County Farm Road in Wheaton on the DuPage County Health Department campus. This location is centrally located within the county and in close proximity to discharge locations (correctional center, crisis residential services, acute hospital needs).

Capital Investment: Estimated to be $25 Million

DCHD secured $5M in funding through State capital resources by Former State Representative Deb Conroy.

DCHD secured $1M in federal funding through Congressman Sean Casten.

DCHD and DuPage County are working to identify funding to invest in Crisis services expansion.

DCHD is working to identify funding to support operations.

It is anticipated construction/renovation work could begin in 2023 with a potential opening of this facility in late 2024 or early 2025.