



## **Black Caucus Legislative Priorities**

### **Week of 3/2/22**

**Please support the following bills:**

### **Improving Education**

[HB 4126](#) (Rep. Tarver) – Clarifies in statute the original intent of the Invest in Kids Act which is that students who currently earn a scholarship to be able to have priority for their scholarship the following year.

[HB 4580](#) (Rep. Tarver) – Requires redrafting school boundaries trailing the census every 10 years.

[HB 4933](#) (Rep. Ford) – Increases the criteria and qualifications necessary to serve as principal. Requires the Board to establish due process protections for candidates for the position of principal and grievance procedures for those no longer eligible.

[HB 5107](#) (Rep. Davis) – Restores collective bargaining for Chicago school administrators

[HB 5405](#) (Rep. Davis) – Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the School Code's construction.

[HB 5488](#) (Rep. Harper) – School Absence for Civic Events - allows an excused absence for public school students attending a civic event.

[HR 684](#) (Rep. Harper) – Establishes Caribbean American Heritage Month to honor the contributions Caribbean Americans make to our state and nation.

### **Environmental Justice**

[HB 2381](#) (Rep. Harper) – EPA Air Quality Fund - provides grants to organization in communities suffering from air pollution for outreach and mitigation

[HB 4093](#) (Rep. Harper) – Environmental Justice Air Permits - defines Environmental Justice communities and makes sure people are made part of the permitting application process

[HB 4358](#) (Rep. Mayfield) / SB 3073 (Sen. Johnson) – EPA-Coal Ash Protection – Provides that all CCR generated by the electric generating industry located in a municipality bordering Lake

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Michigan with greater than 75,000 inhabitants but fewer than 150,000 inhabitants shall be removed from the site.

## **Food & Agriculture Equity**

[HB 5201](#) (Rep. Harper) – Agriculture Equity Commission - creates a commission to advise the general assembly on ways to support socially disadvantaged farmers - black, latino, asian and others who have historically experienced discrimination.

[HB 2382](#) (Rep. Harper) – Healthy Food Access Program - increases healthy food options in food desert communities across the state, assistance for grocery stores and small food retailers.

[HB 3089](#) (Rep. Harper) – Local Farm & Food Products - provides that the state shall have a goal that 20 percent of food used by state institutions come from socially disadvantaged farmers.

[HB 3501](#) (Rep. Harper) – Black Farmer Restoration Act - creates a land grant program, farmer training program and equity commission for socially disadvantaged farmers.

[HB 5219](#) (Rep. Harper) – Medicaid Prescription Produce — allows cancer patients who are otherwise eligible for Medicaid to receive coverage for fresh produce as they undergo cancer treatment.

## **Cannabis Equity**

[HB 4309](#) (Rep. Harper) – Cannabis Ancillary Contracts - Requires that dispensing organizations and cultivation centers have 40% of ancillary services contracted by entities under the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with Disabilities Act.

[HB 312](#) (Rep. Harper) – Cannabis Delivery Licenses - Requires the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation to issue cannabis delivery organization licenses, applicants must qualify as social equity applicants in order to be awarded a cannabis delivery organization license. Requires applicants to submit to a background check and pay \$2,500 application fee and prorated fee of \$5,000.

[HB 715](#) (Rep. Harper) – Bring Your Own Cannabis - Provides that county or municipality may license or regulate businesses that permit the consumption of cannabis on the business premises.

[HB 4799](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Amends the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. Provides that an Illinois resident 21 years of age or older is permitted to grow cannabis at home with the same restrictions currently placed on medical patients.

HR 707 (Rep Harper) - Resolves that

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## Housing & Economic Development

[HB 5052](#) (Rep. Harper) – State Treasurer Loan Guarantee - Establishes a Loan Guarantee Program allowing the State Treasurer to create Loan Guarantee Accounts at approved financial institutions.

[HR 672](#) (Rep. Harper) – Combat & Study Gentrification - Commits to further studying the causes and solutions of gentrification and displacement of native communities. Increases investment in repairs and rehabs, homeownership opportunities, introduces safeguards for predatory rent increases, and provides tax burden alleviation.

[HJR 69](#) (Rep. Harper) – Heirs' Property Task Force - Creates the Heirs' Property Study Task Force to examine current and prospective methods to address heirs' property issues in Illinois.

[HB 5202](#) (Rep. Harper) – Public Convenience - Provides that no landowners property will be taken or infringed on for the purpose of natural gas infrastructure. Illinois Commerce Commission shall cancel any contract that was fraudulently imposed. Requires that the Commission make any pending complaints concerning public safety, health, or the environment regarding natural pipelines readily available. Requires natural gas utility to provide proof of compliance prior to construction.

[HB 5225](#) (Rep. Harper) – Apprentice Assistance Program - Creates the Apprentice Assistance and Support Services Pilot Program Act. Specifies that individuals in qualified programs are eligible to receive transportation and child care assistance. At year 5 the program will be evaluated, provides for the adoption of rules, and the Act will be repealed Jan 1, 2029.

## Criminal Justice Reform

[HB 4392](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Amends the Criminal Identification Act. This bill HB4392 would allow formerly incarcerated citizens to petition for the expungement or sealing of their records regardless of whether they test positive for cannabis.

[HB 4767](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Incentivizes businesses to hire citizens returning from incarceration by establishing the Returning Citizen Grant Program, which awards eligible small businesses with a grant of \$5,000 per new qualifying returning citizen hired.

[HB 3953](#) (Rep. Tarver) – Establishes a process for the public disclosure of records of a private university campus police department. Any information in the possession of a private university

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campus police department must be open to inspection or copying if such information relates to the exercise of municipal police power.

[\*\*HB 4109\*\*](#) (Rep. Buckner) – Provides that a person currently serving a sentence of incarceration for one or more felonies who was sentenced to an extended term may petition the court to be resentenced and that a person who is resentenced shall be given credit for time served.

[\*\*HR 0611\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Urges Governor Pritzker to express written support for the destruction of the National Archives and Record Administration's immorally obtained surveillance tapes on Dr. Martin Luther King. Urges Governor Pritzker to work with the Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation that will prevent similar abuses of power from being perpetrated for immoral and defamatory reasons.

[\*\*HB 3215\*\*](#) (Rep. Slaughter) – Creates the Securing All Futures for Equitable Reinvestment Tax Credit Pilot Program Act. Provides that an applicant that hires certain formerly incarcerated individuals during the incentive period may apply for a tax credit against the applicant's withholding tax liability.

## **Uplifting Children and Families**

[\*\*HB 4299\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to establish a pilot program in 3 counties for the purpose of addressing racial disproportionality in the child welfare system. HB4299 would require participating counties to utilize a blind removal strategy when deciding whether a child should be removed from their parents' home.

[\*\*HB 5178\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Amends the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. This bill would reform ANCRA to make mandated reporters aware of the consequences that can come from making a hotline call, as well as the extent to which Black children are disproportionately represented in the child welfare system.

[\*\*HR 0615\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Among other provisions related to improving childhood nutrition programs, this resolution expresses support for the enactment of a federal Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act.

[\*\*HB 4849\*\*](#) (Rep. Williams) Driving Safe with Pets - Provides that a person shall not hold an animal in the person's lap while operating a motor vehicle.

[\*\*HB 4848\*\*](#) (Rep. Williams) Provides Opioid antagonists at live events with more than 800 people

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## Supporting Workers

[\*\*SB 2912\*\*](#) (Sen. Johnson) – Clarifies qualifications of a superintendent of a department of public works.

[\*\*HB 3530\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Creates the Illinois Employee Security Act. Protects Illinois workers from being fired without just cause, as well as limits the use of electronic monitoring for assessing employee performance.

[\*\*HB 4920\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Expands the earned income tax credit to people ages 18-25 and 65+, reducing the amount of tax owed for over 500,000 households and providing a refund for the lowest-earning families in Illinois.

[\*\*HB 4920 / SB 3774\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Provides that the earned income tax credit shall be: (i) 20% of the federal tax credit for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and prior to January 1, 2024.

[\*\*HR 0640\*\*](#) (Rep. Ammons) – Urges State and federal policymakers to remove barriers to treatment for people with sickle cell disease, as well as ensure that all medications and forms of treatment for sickle cell disease are eligible for coverage under Medicare and Medicaid.

[\*\*HB 3749\*\*](#) (Rep. Williams) - Labor - Unfair Practices - Prohibits labor organization or their agents from requiring a job applicant to have a driver's license and that any state issued id shall be sufficient