Tidbits - June 1, 2026

On Tuesday, May 19, the Oak Park Village Board passed a resolution requesting approval of legislation by the Illinois General Assembly clarifying the Village of Oak Park's Authority to implement a Ranked Choice Voting System. Our League's Voter Service Chair spoke in favor of this resolution. Fair Vote Illinois will be out in the community at A Day In Our Village and the Farmer's Market talking with residents about RCV to increase awareness of the current legislation.

Kilmar Abrego García, a Salvadoran man living in Maryland, had previously received a 2019 immigration court order preventing deportation to El Salvador because of danger from gangs there. Despite that protection, he was deported to El Salvador in 2025 in what the government later described as an administrative error. Courts ordered the U.S. government to facilitate his return, and he was eventually brought back to the U.S. After his return, federal prosecutors charged him with human smuggling based on a 2022 traffic stop investigation that had previously not moved forward. In May a federal judge dismissed those charges, ruling the prosecution appeared retaliatory ("vindictive prosecution") connected to his challenge of the deportation.

The NAACP launched its **"Out of Bounds"**campaign urging Black athletes, fans, and alumni to boycott major public university sports programs in eight Southern states. The group says recent redistricting changes weaken Black voting representation and is encouraging support for historically black colleges and universities.

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear drug companies' appeals challenging the Medicare drug price negotiation program created under the Biden administration's 2022 Inflation Reduction Act. The decision lets the program continue, allowing Medicare to negotiate prices for certain high-cost prescription drugs.

Massachusetts' **"Millionaires Tax"** (a 4% surtax on income over $1 million, approved in 2022) is generally viewed as financially successful so far.

1. It has raised more revenue than expected-over5.7 billion in two years, about $3 billion above projections.

2. Funds are dedicated to education and transportation, including transit, bridge repairs, schools, childcare, and literacy programs.
3. Predictions that wealthy residents would leave the state have not shown major evidence so far: the number of millionaire households continue to rise.