



# IL State Senator Karina Villa



IL 25TH DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

JUNE 3, 2021

Hello friends & neighbors,  
It's hard to believe, but the spring legislative session is behind us. I'm proud of all we accomplished in Springfield in service of the people of our community, and of Illinois as a whole.

As we take our first steps into summer, I wanted to give you an update on the legislation I championed on behalf of the 25<sup>th</sup> District: Read on to learn more about measures to end period poverty, create a prescription drug donation program and provide services to undocumented college students.

But the work doesn't stop when I leave Springfield. Already, I've started engaging community members, talking with advocates and gathering information to inform next year's legislative agenda. I invite you to contact my office to discuss the issues most important to you—give us a call at 630-326-9319 (English), 630-326-9419 (Spanish) or email us at [constituentservices@senatorvilla.com](mailto:constituentservices@senatorvilla.com) to share your ideas.



## Legislation Passed

I was the senate sponsor to 23 bills that passed this session! Among them are:

[HB119 \(I-DROP\)](#), a program which allows Illinoisans who are unable to afford medications to be dispensed unused pharmaceuticals.

[HB155](#), which would allow feminine hygiene products to be purchased with federal and state food stamps, making these products more accessible for low income women.

[HB64](#), which fights period poverty on Illinois college campuses by giving college students access to menstrual hygiene products at no cost!

And [HB3438](#), which designates an undocumented student resource liaison to public universities and community colleges in Illinois.

For a full list of the bills I sponsored that passed check out [ilga](#).

## Restoring Trust in Government

Illinoisans deserve to trust their elected officials to serve the people—not their pocketbooks. I'm proud to announce the General Assembly passed [Senate Bill 539](#), which tightens existing ethics laws and introduces new regulations to prioritize integrity, honesty and trust in our state government. The bill passed on a vote of 56-0 and now heads to the governor's desk to be signed into law.



### My Take on the Budget

I know firsthand how crucial it is for our students to have the necessary resources at school to prepare them for a bright academic future. I'm pleased to see a fully funded evidence-based [school funding formula](#) in this budget to support our schools as they recover from the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### In-District

Don't forget the official opening of our West Chicago office! Saturday, June 5th from 11am-1pm State Representative Maura Hirschauer and I will be co-hosting an open house.



Feel free to bring friends and stop by to familiarize yourself with my staff and our services. Our office address is 946 N Neltnor Blvd. Suite 108. West Chicago, IL 60185.

### Rental Assistance

A reminder - applications for the Illinois Rental Payment Program are now open. If you or someone you know are unable to pay rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you could benefit from the Emergency Rental Assistance.

*The application process must be initiated by the housing provider by June 6th!*

Applications are available at:

<https://www.ihda.org/about-ihda/illinois-rental-payment-program/>

### What's Next?

Don't miss next week's senior advisory committee meeting Friday June 11th at 10 am. For the meeting link email: [seniors.49th@gmail.com](mailto:seniors.49th@gmail.com).

As always, it's been an honor to represent you in the Illinois Senate. I wish you and your family a safe, healthy and happy summer!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karina Villa".

Karina Villa, MSW  
State Senator, 25th District