




Newsletter

End of Session Recap with Some Community Highlights

Dear Friend,

As I've just wrapped up a busy session, I am excited to share a recap of the work that was all accomplished in an effort to provide the best representation to the communities, and district that I serve as a whole. I'm grateful for the opportunity to now share all of this work with you and to get back to my roots in connecting in and around the district. If you have any questions regarding my work in session or you want to schedule a tour or meeting with me back in the district please call (630)326-9319 or email info@senatorvilla.com. I look forward to all the opportunities we'll have to connect in the community this summer!

End of Session Recap



I'm happy to be able to give you an update on all the bills I was able to pass this legislative session. The total came to 21 bills that successfully passed both houses and are off to be signed by the Governor. Here are some highlights of the bills I'm proud to have gotten through both chambers. For a full list of the bills I passed [click here](#), and any marked as "Passed Both Houses" are just waiting to be sent to the Governor for signing:

- [SB0203](#): Ensures proper penalties are in place for workplaces when they cause humans to be exposed to pesticides.
- [SB2034](#): Provides up to 6-12 weeks of unpaid bereavement time depending on the size of the workplace (ranging from 250-500+ employees) for parents to grieve the loss of a child due to suicide or homicide.
- [SB2197](#): Expands the Juvenile Justice Ombudsman's jurisdiction to county-operated jails as well to ensure the rights of youth are being maintained in these systems.

- [SB1497](#): Further enshrines the rights of nursing home residents to be free from unnecessary chemical and physical restraints.

I'd also be remiss for not giving an update on the budget. I secured \$3 million between each of the Caucuses I am a part of to go towards local community nonprofits doing the work in securing services for our residents in categories such as immigration, mental/ behavioral health, housing, healthcare, childcare, education, food, and legal services. Overall, I was proud to see education, health care, and housing wins in this budget. Millions will be going to hire more teachers and address the massive strain on the educational workforce. Also, money for education will go towards computer science investments to promote equitable access to coursework. Finally, I am eager to share that \$7.5 million has been awarded to the Home Modification Program I introduced to the Senate with Senate Bill 120. The program will offer financial assistance so people with disabilities may pay for home modifications to improve their living situations to assist them in day-to-day life, such as a stair lift. This program will benefit seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities.

A Reminder of Our Upcoming Events

Medicaid Redetermination Assistance Event

Those on Medicaid who need assistance in filling out their Redetermination paperwork are encouraged to join us on June 13th from 3-5 pm at West Chicago Public Library (118 W Washington St, West Chicago, IL, 60185). For questions regarding this process or to book your appointment at the event call (331)465-9690 or book your appointment online by visiting [our online registration here](#).

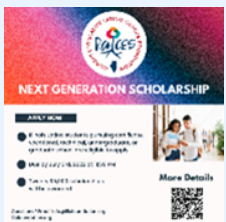


Know Your Labor Rights

Join us at the Aurora Santori Library (101 S River St, Aurora, IL, 60506) on June 16th from 2:30-4:30 pm for a presentation on your rights as a worker. Following the presentation Q&A will be available with a bilingual workers rights lawyer. Questions can be answered on injuries, pay, and other rights you may have questions about. Light refreshments will be served. For any questions regarding the event please call us at (331)465-9690 or (630)326-9319.



Illinois Latino Caucus Scholarship Fund



The Illinois Latino Caucus Scholarship is open for applications until July 3rd, 2023 by 11:59pm, and is open to all Latinos who are pursuing a certificate, vocational, technical, undergraduate or graduate school are all eligible to apply. A total of 20 scholarships will be awarded of \$5,000 each. For more information and to apply [please click here](#).

IDHS Housing Is Recovery Pilot Project Grant

The Illinois Department of Human Services currently has an open grant application to provide a rental subsidy for organizations to offer to those that have a severe mental health issue and are at risk of becoming institutionalized or to those that are struggling with substance use disorder and are at risk of overdose. Eligible applicants include Public Housing Organizations, Nonprofits, Community Mental Health Providers, Substance Abuse Treatment Providers, Supportive Housing Providers, and more. For more information and specifics on the grant [please visit the full posting here](#). The deadline to apply is June 13th, 2023 at 12pm.



State Senator Karina Villa District Offices ♦ 946 N. Elstnor Blvd., #108, West Chicago ♦ 1177 N Highland Ave Ste. 101 Aurora
info@senatorvilla.com ♦ 630.326.9319 (English) 630.326.9419 (Spanish) ♦ (331) 465 9690 (Aurora)
SenatorVilla.com

Dupage Small Nonprofit Grants



Dupage County has released an opportunity for County-Based Nonprofits with revenue under \$300,000 to apply for individual grants of up to \$25,000 which will be awarded by the County district. The specific target areas are agencies that support programs and services for economic development (including job readiness and literacy), education and mentoring, housing and shelter, behavioral health services, substance use disorder treatment, and food assistance. Agencies that have already received CARES or ARPA funding are not eligible. The deadline to apply is July 22nd, 2023. More information and the application can be found on [Dupage County's website here](#).

West Chicago Paper Shredding Event

The City of West Chicago is offering a free paper shred and medical disposal event this Saturday, June 3rd from 9 am-12 pm at the West Chicago METRA parking lot (508 Main St, West Chicago, IL, 60185). Residents and businesses can bring up to 10 standard office-sized boxes of documents to be destroyed or any medications or medical sharps to be disposed of via the Dupage Sheriff's Department. For more information [click here](#), and any questions regarding disposables can be directed to SCARCE at (630)545-9710.



Stay in Touch! Follow us on Social Media:



Facebook: [@StateSenatorKVilla](#)



Instagram: [@SenatorKarinaVilla](#)

Our office partners with State Representative Maura Hirschauer and co-runs four advisory committees: Environmental and Agriculture, Mental Health, Seniors, and Education. These committees are a limited public forum led by volunteer chairs and seek to create compassionate conversation among the voices of the 25th/49th districts in order to give effective representation. To join these committees you can email the following for more information and meeting information:

- Environment/ 4th Thursday at 7pm / environment.49th@gmail.com
- Mental Health / 3rd Tuesday at 6pm / mentalhealth.25th@gmail.com
- Seniors / 2nd Friday at 10am / seniors.25th@gmail.com
- Education / 2nd Thursday at 7pm / education.49th@gmail.com

My staff and I look forward to hearing from you. I encourage you to reach out to us at 630-326-9319 (English), 630-326-9419 (Spanish) or (331)465-9690 constituentservices@senatorvilla.com.

Be well!

Karina Villa, MSW
State Senator, 25th District