

**JB Pritzker, Governor**  
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**TO:** Illinois Department on Aging  
Aging Network

**FROM:** Katherine Ostrowski – Legislative Affairs

**DATE:** Sept. 1, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Legislative Wrap-Up: 2021 Spring Session

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Please see the below summary of legislation signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker relating to Illinois' aging population and/or the Department on Aging.

**House Bill 32**

House Bill 32 provides that each recipient of home-delivered meals shall receive an annual fact sheet developed by the Department on Aging with a current list of toll-free numbers to access information on various health conditions, elder abuse and programs and resources available to persons 60 years of age and older. The fact sheets should be printed in a language that the client understands, and each recipient of home-delivered meals shall receive updates on any new program for which persons 60 years of age and older may be eligible.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=32&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=127843&SessionID=110>

**House Bill 158**

As the health care pillar of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus' legislative agenda, House Bill 158 creates various Acts to address health disparities and systemic racism within our health care system. The legislation also creates the Health and Human Services Task Force and Study Act to review health and human service departments and programs and adds a dental association member to the MCO Oversight Commission, in addition to various initiatives.

Under this legislation, the Department on Aging was also required to develop a dementia training course for Adult Protective Services workers. The Department on Aging engaged with the Alzheimer's Association to develop the dementia training program required by this legislation. The training has two parts, including a general overview of dementia and how to recognize the 10 warning signs of cognitive decline.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=158&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=127994&SessionID=110>

### **House Bill 679**

House Bill 679 amends the Illinois Power of Attorney Act to allow an individual to elect a 30-day delay of revocation when granting power of attorney for health care.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=679&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=129177&SessionID=110>

### **House Bill 3849**

To provide an alternative to guardianship for adults with disabilities, House Bill 3849 creates the Supported Decision-Making Agreement Act to allow those whose decision-making autonomy may be limited due to disability to be able to make and communicate decisions with the help of relatives, caregivers and others close to the individual.

Effective Date: Effective six months after becoming law (February 2022).

Link to Legislation:

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=3849&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=132930&SessionID=110>

### **House Bill 3914**

House Bill 3914 creates the Positive Action Act, which changes any reference to the term “affirmative action” with “positive action,” and requires state agencies to take positive action to rectify instances of discrimination. In addition, the measure also requires agencies to develop a policy to eliminate discrimination while advancing equality.

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=3914&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=133001&SessionID=110>

### **House Resolution 298**

Urges Illinois long-term care facilities to uphold and adhere to federal and state laws, rules, regulations and guidance on residents’ standards of care, protections, rights and especially their inalienable right to be treated with respect, dignity and quality care.

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=298&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=HR&LegID=136235&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 701**

Senate Bill 701 expands Adult Protective Services to include reports of abandonment. In addition, the legislation requires the Department on Aging to offer an annual training program on the impact of trauma on caseworkers and other APS workers, and to implement a demonstration project to allow for the use of a risk assessment tool in identifying older adults who may be victims of various forms of abuse. Further, the measure provides for a penalty enhancement for crimes of theft by deception.

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=701&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=133323&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 1697**

Senate Bill 1697 amends the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act by removing language that requires awards made to public colleges and universities by a state agency to be subject to GATA requirements.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=1697&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134333&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 1970**

Senate Bill 1970 amends the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act to allow for the limited disclosure of mental health records of mental health facility patients to certain individuals who are related and/or involved in the patient's mental health care or who are involved with payments related to the care provided. The measure provides eligibility factors for those seeking the disclosure of such information.

Effective Date: No effective date

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=1970&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134626&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 1977**

Senate Bill 1977 requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to apply for all available federal funding to promote community inclusion and integration for older adults and those with disabilities so that they have the option to transition out of institutions and receive long-term care services and supports in the settings of their choice.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=1977&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134633&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2137**

To prevent social isolation of long-term care facility residents, Senate Bill 2137 requires each long-term care facility in Illinois to develop policies that allow for and facilitate virtual visitations. The implementation of such policies will be a condition for licensure.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2137&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134788&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2153**

Senate Bill 2153 makes changes to the Hospital Licensing Act regarding violations of nursing staffing levels. The legislation also allows the Department of Public Health to impose fines for such violations.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2153&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134804&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2244**

Senate Bill 2244 aims to expand property tax relief by increasing the income limitation for the senior citizens homestead exemption from \$65,000 to \$75,000 for counties with a population of 3 million or more residents. In addition, the measure increases the income limitation for the senior real estate tax deferral program from \$55,000 to \$65,000 and increases the amount deferrable from \$5,000 to \$7,500.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2244&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134897&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2265**

Senate Bill 2265 amends the Nursing Home Care Act regarding psychotropic medication prescriptions for long-term care facility residents. Specifically, the legislation expands the types of medical professionals who are allowed to discuss the effects and consent of taking a medication with residents, omits the existing rulemaking date for informed consent protocols, changes the criteria for the length of consent for which a patient will take the medication and makes consent forms available on a website other than that of the Department of Public Health's.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2265&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134919&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2270**

Senate Bill 2270 amends the Nursing Home Care Act to direct the Department of Public Health to file rules (or amendments to existing rules) through the Secretary of State's Office, rather than JCAR, to certify nursing homes for the management of patients who have a higher risk of aggression. This does not include

patients who have a serious mental illness and who are eligible for services under the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2270&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134924&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2290**

In addition to allowing the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to establish the Illinois Innovation Voucher Program for businesses, Senate Bill 2290 also creates the Broadband Adoption Program Act and the Broadband Adoption Fund to increase internet access and support digital skills training for Illinois residents. Under this legislation, the Department of Human Services is tasked with managing the fund and determining qualifications for broadband providers. Eligible individuals include those who are receiving benefits under SNAP, TANF or Medicaid, or if someone in their household is receiving these benefits.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2290&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134944&SessionID=110>

### **Senate Bill 2325**

Senate Bill 2325 allows an ambulance service provider to appeal Medicaid reimbursement denials that occurred on or after Dec. 15, 2012 with only a patient care report to establish medical necessity of transportation. The legislation provides that denied claims must be submitted by Dec. 31, 2021 and that the Department of Healthcare and Family Services must determine which claims were medically necessary by May 31, 2022.

Effective Date: Immediately

Link to Legislation:

<https://ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2325&GAID=16&GA=102&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=134979&SessionID=110>