



ILLINOIS FERTILIZER & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION REPORT FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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The IFCA team is working hard in Springfield lobbying on your behalf to stop onerous legislation and educate legislators about the crop production supply and service industry, and its importance to the local, state and national economies. I have been working closely with the IFCA staff on these issues. Both legislative chambers have been trying to move legislation before the upcoming committee deadlines. Below are the bills we are working on, their status, and IFCA's current position.

PESTICIDE & NUTRIENT ISSUES

HB 4523/SB 3400 (Blair-Sherlock/Martwick) - Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act and is looking to fully ban PFAS (active and inert ingredients) in pesticides. This bill has not yet been assigned to a committee.

Status: The bill is assigned to the House Energy and Environment Committee but has not moved. **IFCA is opposed to this legislation.**

HB 1596 (Rep. Laura Faver Dias) - Requires 72-hour written or email notice before certain pesticide applications, including notice to schools and parks within a half mile of the application site.

Status: This bill passed out of the House Energy and Environment Committee last Spring but did not move out of the House Chamber. **IFCA is opposed to this legislation.**

HB 1156 (Guzzardi) - Prohibits producing ethanol using seeds that have been treated with a pesticide.

Status: This bill has not been assigned to a committee. **IFCA is opposed.**

HB 1645 (Mussman) - Prohibits the sale and use of ester formulations of 2,4-D under the Illinois Pesticide Act.

Status: This bill has not been assigned to a committee. **IFCA is opposed.**

HB 3803 (Mason) - Prohibits the distribution, sale, offer for sale or use of glyphosate and products containing glyphosate in Illinois.

Status: This bill has not been assigned to a committee. **IFCA is opposed.**

HB 4610/SB 3227 (Hoffman/D. Turner) - Creates the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act. Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Department of Agriculture shall work with the Department of Natural Resources and Soil & Water Conservation Districts to incentivize farmers to reduce their nitrogen rate and use "innovative biological products" for the purpose of allegedly addressing water quality issues. Provides that the program will include a per-acre payment rate of not less than \$5 per acre. Provides that crop management records collected from farmers shall be considered confidential.

Status: This legislation has been assigned to the House Agriculture and Environment Committee but has not moved. **IFCA is opposed to this legislation.** It sets a precedent that requires taxpayers to incentivize the use of specific, proprietary ag input products and could result in reduced yields for participating farmers due to the requirement that they apply N rates below the MRTN to receive the per acre payment. Research performed in Illinois concludes that these products are not capable of replacing applied N, but research does show that N rates below the MRTN result in yield loss.

HB 3844/SB 1574 (Olickal; Joyce) - Creates separate "large-scale" and "small-scale" licensed operator categories and requires separate certification tests under the Illinois Pesticide Act.

Status: Last year this legislation passed out of the House; it is now in the Senate but has not been assigned to a committee. IFCA is monitoring. This appears to be an effort to appease certain applicators in the suburbs performing small acreage pesticide applications and possibly creating another category in the Pesticide Act to change their licensing/testing requirements. The Senate sponsor is a friend of agriculture so we will work closely with him to determine any impact on IFCA members if this bill is assigned to a Senate committee.

HB 5305 (Moeller) - Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Provides that, beginning January 1, 2029, it is unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, use, or distribute within this State any corn, soybean, or wheat seed coated or treated with a pesticide containing neonicotinoids, unless a valid waiver is issued by the Department of Agriculture. Lists requirements for the waiver. Directs the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and annually report to the General Assembly regarding the waivers.

Status: This bill remains in House Rules and has not been assigned to a committee. **IFCA is opposed.**

SB 3161 (Ellman) - Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Provides that, except as expressly authorized under specific provisions of the Act, no person shall distribute, sell, offer for sale, or use in the State any herbicide product containing paraquat dichloride or any other chemical form of paraquat. Requires all persons that use, distribute, or sell paraquat in this State to report certain information to the Department of Agriculture. Directs the Department of Agriculture to adopt any rules necessary to implement and administer these provisions.

Status: This bill has been assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee but has not moved. There continues to be conversations surrounding possible changes to this legislation. **IFCA is opposed.**

SB 3200 (Morrison) - Amends the Illinois Pesticide Act. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2027, a pesticide containing a neonicotinoid may not be used on an ornamental plant, except in accordance with specified restrictions. Specifies that 'restricted use pesticide' includes any pesticide that contains a neonicotinoid unless applied by a licensed applicator or certified technician working in structural pest control. Defines 'neonicotinoid', 'ornamental plant', and 'zoophilous species'. Grants rulemaking powers to the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Effective immediately.

Status: This bill has been assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee. **IFCA is opposed.**

TRANSPORTATION

SB 3208 (Joyce) - Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Changes the definition of "implement of husbandry" to exclude any farm wagon, wagon trailer, or similar vehicle having a gross weight of more than 80,000 (rather than 36,000) pounds.

Status: This legislation has been amended several times. IFCA is evaluating if there is opportunity here to raise the weight limit on floaters and pesticide applicators above the current 36,000 lb weight limit for purposes of vehicle registration.

NOTE: We may need IFCA members to contact their legislators on these bills if they are scheduled for a hearing and possible committee vote in the coming weeks. We will contact you and provide talking points for any grassroots contacts that we request you make on behalf of your company and our industry.