

ILLINOIS FERTILIZER & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE UPDATE JUNE 3, 2026

David Ramirez, On Concurrence Government Solutions LLC & Jean Payne, IFCA retired President

The Illinois Legislature adjourned in the early morning hours of May 31, 2026, having passed the largest budget in Illinois history (\$55.9 billion), including \$800 million in new tax increases.

Despite the aggressive attempts of activists to hurt our industry, we successfully stopped many onerous bills from advancing. Your lobbying team worked diligently with industry partners and legislators to reinforce how valuable IFCA members are to this economy. We appreciate your hard work, outreach to your local legislators and your involvement with the Association.

Here is a final wrap on legislation we worked on and how it ended. Agriculture did not take any direct hits, but there were several last-minute changes in businesses taxes and deductions in the budget bill, which are expected to raise the overall tax burden on Illinois businesses, including on IFCA members. We recommend you consult with your accountant and tax advisor for guidance on how these changes may affect you.

PESTICIDE ISSUES

Summary – we stopped all these bills, but they will likely be back in 2027

HB 4523/SB 3400 (Blair-Sherlock/Martwick) - A full ban on pesticides containing active or inert PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 1596 (Rep. Laura Faver Dias) - Requires applicators to provide 72-hour written or email notice before pesticide applications in the vicinity of a school, daycare or park. This bill was a high priority for the environmental groups. **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 4610/SB 3227 (Hoffman/D. Turner) - Creates the Nitrogen Reduction Program Act incentivizing farmers to use "innovative biological" products to replace applied nitrogen. **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 1645 (Rep. Michelle Mussman) - Bans the sale and use of ester formulations of 2,4-D under the Illinois Pesticide Act. **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 3803 (Rep. Joyce Mason) - Bans glyphosate. **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 5305 (Moeller) - Bans neonicotinoids seed treatments. **IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

SB 3161 (Ellman) - Bans paraquat pesticides. **IFCA participated in a subject matter hearing opposing the legislation and it did not advance.**

SB 3200 (Morrison) - Bans the use of neonicotinoid pesticides on ornamental plants, including plants grown in other states and brought into Illinois. **IFCA and our stakeholder opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

HB 1847 (Cabello) - Provides that a person may save the seeds grown in a vegetable garden for personal consumption or non-commercial sharing. **IFCA and the Illinois Seed Trade opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

SB 3208 (Joyce) - Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code and changes the definition of "implement of husbandry" to allow 44,000 pounds on any 2 axles or 24,000 pounds on any single axle. Previously the weight rating was 36,000 pounds for implements of husbandry. **This bill passed both Houses and will be sent to the Governor's Desk. It provides an opportunity in the future to amend other sections of the Vehicle Code to allow increased weights for floaters and pesticide applicators up to 44,000 pounds instead of 36,000 lbs.**

WORKPLACE ISSUES

HB 3762 (Gonzalez) - Creates the Workplace Extreme Temperature Safety Act. Provides that the Director of Labor shall adopt rules to establish excessive heat and excessive cold standards. **Business groups including IFCA opposed this legislation and it did not advance.**

TAXES

Fund Sweeps: The budget bill includes \$185 million "fund sweeps" including \$150 million from the road fund into the state's general revenue fund. There is also a \$300 million increase in corporate taxes from capping net-operating-loss deductions.

The Illinois Policy Institute has a good overview of the tax increases so please read here for more information: [Illinois budget: \\$55.9B passed with tax hikes](#)

And we still don't know if the Chicago Bears will stay in Chicago, move to the suburbs or go to Indiana.

Have a safe summer and thank you for your support for IFCA.