State Policy & Budget Priorities

Illinois Action for Children

February 22, 2017
IAFC Policy Priorities & Budget Updates

- FY17 Budget
- FY18 Budget
- Restore Access to CCAP
- Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings
- Support Early Childhood and K-12 Partnerships
- Maintain Investments in School Readiness Initiatives
FY2017 State Budget

• Illinois has been without a full state budget for 20 months
  – $11.9 billion backlog of bills (Office of the Comptroller, 2/17/17)

• FY16-17 stopgap expired December 31
  – IDHS Home Visiting programs are among several vital services without funding

• Governor Rauner did not mention the FY17 budget in his budget address
FY2018 State Budget

In Governor Rauner’s budget address, he proposed a budget that prioritizes many services for children and families, while also eliminating other critical programs

- Increases in child care and other early childhood services
- Eliminates funding for Teen REACH, Autism Project, and more

Governor’s budget is between $4.6 - $7.2 billion out of balance

- Estimated revenue between $32.4 and $32.7 billion

- Governor’s recommended budget spends $37.3 billion
  - $4.6 billion shortfall
  - Recommended budget is based on estimated savings that would have to be passed by General Assembly

- If GA does not enact those changes, FY18 spending would actually be $39.7 billion
  - $7.2 billion out of balance
## FY18 Proposed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY16 Actual (GRF)</th>
<th>FY17 Estimated (GRF)</th>
<th>FY18 Proposed (GRF)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
<td>$328.1M</td>
<td>$400.0M</td>
<td>$548.3M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Intervention</td>
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<td>$92.7M</td>
<td>$96.7M</td>
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<td>Home Visiting</td>
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<td>$16.9M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Block Grant</td>
<td>$318.8M</td>
<td>$393.7M</td>
<td>$443.7M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bilingual Education</td>
<td>$63.7M</td>
<td>$63.7M</td>
<td>$102.1M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System
Child Care Assistance Program

IAFC Request: $151.3 million increase in GRF

FY18 Budget Proposal:
• $548.3 million GRF
• Restores eligibility to June 2015 guidelines
• Implementation of CCDBG requirements, including 12-month eligibility
• IDHS anticipates average caseloads to be 140,000
• Aligns with IAFC request
Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System
Early Intervention

IAFC Request: $96.7 million GRF

FY18 Budget Proposal:
• $96.7 million GRF
• $4 million increase to meet growing needs of children
• Aligns with IAFC request

Early Intervention Funding

Data Source: Governor’s Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018
Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System

Home Visiting

IDHS Home Visiting programs have been paid on and off over the past 2 years, despite having contracts and continuing to deliver services

- Not included in court order or consent decree
- Received payments through FY17 stopgap measure

IAFC Request: $16.9 million GRF

FY18 Budget Proposal:
- $16.9 million GRF
- Funding remains flat from last appropriation
- Aligns with IAFC request
Illinois Action for Children is a catalyst for organizing, developing and supporting strong families and powerful communities where children matter most.

Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System
Early Childhood Block Grant

**IAFC Request:** $50 million increase in GRF

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**
- $443.7 million GRF
- Meets our federal Preschool Development Grant obligations
- Governor reports anticipated additional 6,630 pre-k slots
- Aligns with IAFC request

**ECBG Funding**

Data Source: Governor’s Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018

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Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System
Bilingual Education

IAFC Request: $102.1 million GRF

FY18 Budget Proposal:
• $102.1 million GRF
• $38 million increase after years of decreased and flat funding
• Aligns with IAFC request

Data Source: Governor’s Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018
Revenue

• Governor’s proposed budget will not be possible without additional revenue
  – $4-7 billion shortfall
• We must continue to advocate for revenue
• State has many revenue options to explore
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Policy Priorities
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**Restore Access to CCAP**

**July 2015 restrictions to CCAP created lasting effects**
Serving 30,000 fewer children almost 2 years later

**CCAP Caseload**

- **157,715 children**
  - June 2015 (just before cuts)
- **101,726 children**
  - Nov 9, 2015 (partial restoration)
- **127,490 children**
  - May 2016
- **80,000 children**
  - December 2016

Source: IL Department of Human Services
Restore Access to CCAP

• Two populations remain ineligible for CCAP
  – Families earning between 162-185% FPL
  – Parents enrolled full-time in non-TANF education or training program

• Governor Rauner has previously committed to restoring income eligibility back to 185% FPL when the state has a budget
  – IAFC advocacy for this piece of restoration will continue to take shape in our persistent advocacy for a responsible budget
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## Restore Access to CCAP

**HB3213 (Wallace) – SB1705 (Hutchinson)**

- Adds parents enrolled in non-TANF education and training programs to priority populations
- Restores access to CCAP for around 4,000 children (2,700 families)
- Protects these families against similar restrictions in the future
Support Early Childhood & K-12 Alignment and Partnerships

HJR24 (Willis)

- Creates Kindergarten Transition Advisory Committee
- Committee will develop legislative framework to encourage alignment between early childhood and K-12
- Encourage best practices for supporting transitions, such as:
  - Shared professional development opportunities
  - Data collection and data sharing
  - Family engagement
Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

• National research shows preschool children are expelled at more than 3 times the rate of K-12 students (Department of Education, 2014)
  – Children expelled during preschool years are more likely to be expelled in later grades

• Boys 3.5 times more likely to be expelled than girls (Gilliam, 2005)

• African American children 2 times more likely to be expelled than white and Latino peers (Gilliam, 2005)

• 2002 Unmet Needs study in Chicago found high rate of expulsion in infant toddler programs, with 40% of child care providers asking children to leave for social-emotional and behavioral issues
Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

HB2663 (Stratton) – SB1557 (Lightford)

• Amended 2016 language based on provider feedback

• The goal of HB2663/SB1557 is to ensure early childhood programs engage in best practices in their disciplinary actions by prohibiting the use of expulsions
  – Planned transitions after documenting attempts at intervention are not considered expulsions

• The bill also puts in place a system to track transitions due to child behavior, providing data to better understand the issue and identify the need for additional resources
Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

HB2663/SB1557 would apply to:

- School- and community-based early childhood programs receiving Early Childhood Block Grant funds from ISBE
- Licensed child care centers and homes serving children birth to five
  - DCFS would adopt rules aligned with requirements outlined in bill

When a child exhibits consistently challenging behaviors, the bill asks ECE providers to make (and document) adequate attempts to address child's needs:

- Communication with and participation of family
- Intervention plan and strategies, including the use of or attempts to access available external resources
- Instances where child is ultimately transitioned out of program
Maintain Investments in School Readiness Initiatives

• Illinois has invested in several systems aimed at improving school readiness
  – Many were enhanced by federal Race to the Top grant
• State should maintain investments in quality supports
  – ExceleRate Illinois
  – Gateways to Opportunity
  – Community systems development initiatives
Advocacy & Action Steps

• Call your legislators and Governor Rauner
  – We need a solution for FY17 budget
  – We need a responsible FY18 budget
  – We need revenue

• IAFC Upcoming Events
  – Spring into Action (March 28-29)
  – Early Childhood Advocacy Day (May 9)
  – Statewide Policy Caucus (June 22)
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Advocacy & Action Steps

- Illinois Action for Children
  - Twitter: https://twitter.com/iafc_cares
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ILaction4children

- Ounce of Prevention Fund
  - Twitter: https://twitter.com/theOunce
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ounceofpreventionfund

- Voices for Illinois Children
  - Twitter: https://twitter.com/Voices4ILKids
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/voices4kids

- Responsible Budget Coalition (RBC)
  - Twitter: https://twitter.com/RespBudgetIL
  - Facebook: https://t.co/irdHN3UVsD
Questions?