



## ILLINOIS FERTILIZER & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MARCH 31, 2026

*David Ramirez, On Concurrence Government Solutions LLC*

IFCA Members – Friday, March 27, was the House Committee deadline. There were 284 bills that moved out of House and Senate Committees during the week, with over 250 of those bills being in the House. This was also the first time the House and Senate were in Springfield at the same time since the Governor's budget address.

Your lobbying team worked successfully to stop several bills that were going to be detrimental to the industry. Below is the legislation we are tracking with some updates.

### PESTICIDE & SEED 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. The House bill has been assigned to the House Energy and Environment Committee. The Senate bill did not move out of committee before the Senate committee deadline on Friday, March 13. **IFCA is opposed to this legislation. It did not move by the House Committee deadline.**

**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. This bill passed out of the House Energy and Environment Committee last Spring but did not move out of the House Chamber. A third amendment has not been filed yet but is expected to be filed any day. That amendment does not change our position and the bill remains on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the House. **IFCA is opposed to this legislation – watch for more grassroots “call to action” requests on this bill if the sponsor tries to move the bill or the amendment.**

**HB 4610/SB 3227** (Hoffman/D. Turner) - Creates the Nitrogen Reduction Program Act. Provides that the Department of Agriculture shall, in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources and soil and water conservation districts in the State, develop a nitrogen reduction incentive program by January 1, 2027 which allows for a per acre payment of at least \$5 if the farmer reduces their nitrogen rate by 15% or 30 lbs and purchases an “innovative biological product.” **IFCA is opposed, and this legislation did not move out of either 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. **IFCA is opposed and we successfully stopped this legislation from moving by the committee deadline.**

**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. **IFCA is opposed and we successfully stopped this legislation from moving by the Senate Committee deadline and it's March 27 extension deadline.**

**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. **IFCA is opposed. This bill was assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee with another amendment. We successfully stopped this legislation from moving by the committee and its extension deadline.**

**HB 1847** (Cabello) - Amends the Garden Act. Provides that a person may save the seeds grown in a vegetable garden for personal consumption or non-commercial sharing. Provides that a unit of local government may not adopt a regulation or ordinance that precludes saving seeds grown in vegetable gardens. **IFCA and the ISTA opposed this bill and successfully stopped it from moving forward.**

## **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

**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. This legislation has been amended three times. It has passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee with bipartisan support. IFCA continues to monitor this legislation.

**New Rule** - The Illinois Secretary of State adopted a rule proposal that implements Public Acts 104-260 and 104-278. The rulemaking extends the duration of Seasonal Restricted Commercial Driver's Licenses from 180 days to 210 days and adds Administrative Law Judges, as defined in Section 1-15 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, to the definition of a judicial officer who may change their residential or mailing address on record with SOS to a business address in accordance with the Judicial Privacy Act.

## **WORKPLACE AND EMPLOYMENT**

**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. Sets forth temporary excessive heat and excessive cold standards. Provides that the Director of Labor shall establish by rule an occupational temperature-related illness and injury prevention plan. This legislation passed on Thursday in the House Labor and Commerce Committee. **Business groups and Agribusiness are strongly opposed to this legislation.** As written, this bill is unlikely to move beyond the Committee.