



COUNTY OF WILL  
ILLINOIS

# STATE AGENDA FY22

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MARCH  
2022



**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

***Establishing FY2022 State Legislative Agenda & Priorities***

WHEREAS, the Will County Board Legislative & Judicial Committee has been diligently monitoring legislation affecting Will County and has prepared the Will County 2022 State Legislative Agenda; and

WHEREAS, the 102nd Illinois General Assembly Spring Session is ongoing, the Legislative & Judicial Committee has summarized Will County's main legislative priorities and concerns; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of Will County Elected Officials and department heads, the Legislative & Judicial Committee has recommended the attached list of priorities for inclusion in the Will County 2022 State Legislative Agenda.

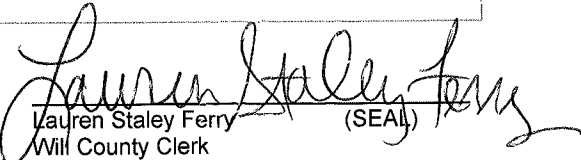
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Will County Board hereby establishes the list of priorities set forth as the Will County 2022 State Legislative Agenda, to move forward to the spring session of the Illinois General Assembly in substantially the same form as attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Preamble of this Resolution is hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein; and this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval as provided by law.

Adopted by the Will County Board this 25th day of February, 2022.

<b>AYES:</b>	Newquist, Ogalla, Koch, Mitchell, Tyson, Traynere, Fritz, Mueller, Gould, VanDuyne, Balich, Fricilone, Brooks Jr., Winfrey, Parker, Ventura, Coleman, Marcum, Berkowicz, Cowan, Pretzel, Weigel, Freeman
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Moustis, Kraulidis

Result: Approved as Amended - [Unanimous]

  
Lauren Staley Ferry (SEAL)  
Will County Clerk

Approved this 8 day of March, 2022.

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Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant  
Will County Executive

## **Will County Board Leadership**

Mimi Cowan, Speaker  
Meta Mueller, Majority Leader  
Mike Fricilone, Minority Leader

## **Will County Board Legislative Committee**

Denise Winfrey, Chair  
Natalie Coleman, Vice-Chair  
Julie Berkowicz  
Amanda Koch  
Debbie Kraulidis  
Tyler Marcum  
Sherry Newquist  
Judy Ogalla  
Tom Weigel

## **Will County Board Committee Chairs**

Capital Improvements – Herb Brooks  
Diversity & Inclusion – Margaret Tyson  
Executive – Mimi Cowan  
Finance – Jackie Traynere  
Land Use – Tyler Marcum  
Legislative – Denise Winfrey  
Public Health – Rachel Ventura  
Public Works – Joe VanDuyne

## **Will County Core Principles**

The Will County Board is the legislative branch of County government and is charged with reviewing legislative proposals that may affect the County. The Board's Legislative & Judicial Committee works with other elected officials to develop legislative proposals that enhance the ability of Will County Government to service our community.

It is the County Board's policy to support legislation granting additional authority to counties. We also may support legislation that allows counties to expand non-property tax revenue sources.

In general, we ask the Governor and all legislators to adhere to the following principles:

- Opposed unfunded mandates imposed by the State and Federal governments, and fund programs as mandated by state law
- Oppose legislation that reduces Counties existing authority
- Oppose legislation that erodes Counties existing revenue base
- Honor all of the State's financial obligations
- Do not divert dedicated revenues including, but not limited to: sales, gasoline, income and RTA taxes that should come directly to the County

## **Legislative Issues in 2022**

### **Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF)**

Counties have suffered the same economic hardships as the State of Illinois over the past several years and continue to be forced into making difficult decisions to pass balanced budgets and provide critical services. Monies allocated under the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) are not a state “grant” but rather a small share of the state income taxes paid by taxpayers from Will County, which are then used to support critical local services.

We support legislation that would restore LGDF to 8% with automatic appropriations to Counties of these revenues. This would allow movement toward a return to the long-standing practice of 10% of these funds returning to local governments. It also helps local government to address our overall financial obligations, compliance with SAFE-T Act requirements, and other mandates. We support HB 4169 (DeLuca) and SB 3010 (Murphy & DeWitte) to increase LGDF to 8 percent with the automatic appropriation of these funds.

### **County Executive legislation**

Will County and Champaign County are the two counties in Illinois that have a County Executive form of government. Will County voters approved a referendum in 1988 to choose this style of operating County government and it has served our residents fairly well through the years. However, there remain some discrepancies in the County Executive statutes that have become an issue such as replacement appointments for elected official vacancies and the process for hiring staff. We ask that you work with both the County Executive and the County Board to determine the best path forward to address concerns through legislative actions that will best serve our residents.

The Will County Board opposes SB 1015 (Hastings) with amendment 1 as presented. The Board does support the concept of HB 4787 (Ammons)

### **Procurement law proposals**

Will County is a member of the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACO) and works with our peers on critical pieces of legislation. One concept we hope to work with you on is clarifying that non-home rule counties may establish certain procurement criteria that could favor contracting with women and minorities, small disadvantaged, veteran or persons with disabilities-owned

businesses and the use of business enterprise programs. The goal of any such legislation is to create better opportunities for individuals who have had barriers in the past to their upward economic mobility. We acknowledge that this is not a simple fix, but with a County growing in diversity we believe it is something to work towards to make sure we are more inclusive in the future.

### **Design Build Procurement Authority for all Illinois Counties**

Will County works with our peers in the Collar Counties and Lake County has proposed legislation that recommends amending (30 ILCS 537) Design-Build Procurement Act to allow all Illinois counties to use design-build delivery methods for public projects if it is shown to be in the County's best interests for that particular project.

This procurement method places total accountability on a single contractor, removing the procurement agency from being the arbitrator between the design and construction agents. As a result, Counties face unnecessary duplication of effort and excessive overhead costs associated with multiple procurements.