



NEWS

From the Illinois Senate

State Senator Dave Koehler

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Further information:
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Koehler votes for passage of hospital assessment

Hospitals in 46th Legislative District to receive over \$18 million in additional funds

SPRINGFIELD – State Senator Dave Koehler (D-Peoria) voted for a bill to give hospitals across Illinois the funds they need to care for patients, upgrade facilities and keep up with the latest in technology. The annual hospital assessment is needed to keep up with the rising cost of health care in Illinois and the nation.

Senate Bill 1863 will allow the state to obtain \$1.2 billion in federal Medicaid dollars. The current hospital assessment plan, which expires on June 30, was a three-year initiative that has provided \$1.8 billion in federal funding to Illinois hospitals and other health care providers.

The hospital assessment plan passed by the Illinois Senate ensures academic medical centers with high Medicaid caseloads, safety net hospitals in underserved communities, and rural hospitals will not suffer financially from the lack of additional federal funding. The new plan is crucial to keeping healthcare accessible and affordable in Illinois.

“By passing this legislation, we are providing our hospitals with the resources necessary to care for patients with a variety of ailments,” said Senator Koehler. “Hospitals in our urban areas, such as Peoria and hospitals in communities that would deal with more rural issues, such as Canton, will see funding increases with this bill.”

The facilities slated to see increased funding in the 46th Legislative District are:

- Children’s Hospital of Illinois in Peoria - \$5,276,406
- Graham Hospital in Canton - \$2,226,790
- Methodist Hospital in Peoria - \$4,188,635
- Pekin Memorial Hospital in Pekin - \$1,438,536
- St. Francis Hospital in Peoria - \$5,296,314

The plan has generated \$2.3 billion in federal funding over the past five years. These efforts have acquired federal money for services, such as rural healthcare at hospitals throughout the state, trauma care, and in-patient psychiatric services. The current plan has also given an additional \$130 million to community services, such as long term care and care for developmentally disabled persons.

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