

January 13, 2021

**Statement From  
A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO  
Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA)**

**Re: Hospital and Healthcare Transformation – Senate Bill 1510**

“The Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) and the Illinois hospital community want to thank Representative Greg Harris, Senator Heather Steans, and Healthcare and Family Services Director Theresa Eagleson for their steadfast leadership in moving this legislation forward, as well as the members of the Illinois General Assembly who passed the bill unanimously. This transformation funding will enhance care delivery through provider partnerships that improve access and outcomes – and reduce health disparities and inequities that have been exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in communities of color. IHA and the hospital community are committed to reducing health disparities, and this transformation legislation will help achieve this shared goal of the many policymakers and stakeholders who have been involved in this work for the past several years.”

**Background**

The General Assembly this morning overwhelmingly passed IHA supported legislation to authorize the Hospital and Healthcare Transformation program (*Senate Bill 1510*), which passed the House 112-0 and the Senate 57-0. The Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) will administer the Transformation program which is supported by an annual transformation funding pool of \$150 million. The Governor is expected to sign the bill and HFS is expected to issue information and guidance on implementation in the near future, which is likely to be substantially similar to the *HFS Transformation Program Proposal*.

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**About IHA**

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois’ more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services, not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see [www.team-iha.org](http://www.team-iha.org). Like IHA on [Facebook](#). Follow IHA on [Twitter](#).

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