

## Vote Yes on HB3840 (Sponsored by Sen. Mattie Hunter)

**Issue:** *House Bill 3840* is the Senate version of the General Assembly Black Caucus' Health Care Pillar legislation, sponsored by Senator Mattie Hunter (D-Chicago).

**IHA Position:** IHA commends the bill's sponsors for their efforts to address important healthcare issues and for including many of IHA's recommendations in HB3840; we especially appreciate the willingness and collaboration of Senator Mattie Hunter to hear and address the hospital community's concerns, especially modifications to the provision related to hospital and service line closures. We urge a Yes vote on HB3840.

### Background

Initially, there were several provisions of the introduced legislation that IHA supported, some that we wished to modify, and some that we opposed. After meeting with the bill's sponsors, our concerns have been addressed in the bill as amended.

Original language that would have imposed a three-year moratorium on hospital and service line closures, which would have been unworkable and burdensome and could have put patient safety at risk, has been removed and replaced. The amended language, which would allow the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to delay action on Certificate of Need closure applications for up to 60 days from the effective date of this legislation, is acceptable to IHA and the hospital community.

Other key provisions have been modified to address the hospital community's concerns, including:

- Credentialing of physicians, residents and interns
- N-95 mask requirement
- Reporting of COVID-19 data
- Posting of charity care information in the Emergency Department
- Health disparities impact statement as part of the CON process
- FQHCs in hospitals
- Legionella testing
- Implicit bias continuing education
- Health Facilities and Services Review Board members

IHA and the hospital community are strongly committed to continue working with the General Assembly on developing solutions to reduce the disparities in health and healthcare experienced by people and communities of color. HB3840 is an important step toward meeting those critical goals.

## Vote Yes on HB3840