

# NEWS...

*... from the Illinois House of Representatives*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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## **Fine Supports Measure to Reduce Medicaid Fraud, Save Taxpayer Money**

**GLENVIEW, IL** –To reduce waste and fraud in the Medicaid system, state Rep. Laura Fine (D-Glenview) recently helped advance legislation to increase penalties for people who commit Medicaid fraud. The proposal was recently passed by the General Assembly and will next head to the governor’s desk for further consideration.

“When people commit fraud in the Medicaid system, they are taking money from Illinois taxpayers,” Fine said. “This legislation puts in place penalties that will make people think twice before trying to abuse the Medicaid system. Stealing money from the state and its taxpayers is a serious crime and should have serious consequences.”

Senate Bill 1330 broadens civil penalties for Medicaid providers and others who knowingly receive benefits when they are ineligible. Under current law, civil penalties are limited to three times the amount of the benefits received and 5% annually in interest. This proposal creates penalties that can range for \$10,000 to \$50,000 for each false claim for goods or services provided by Medicaid.

“This measure takes important steps toward stopping people from abusing the Medicaid system,” Fine said. “In addition to punishing dishonest Medicaid providers, this proposal will protect Illinoisans who are playing by the rules. I urge the governor to quickly sign this bill into law.”

For more information, please contact Rep. Fine’s constituent services office by calling (847) 998-1717 or by emailing [RepFine@gmail.com](mailto:RepFine@gmail.com).

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