

Support HB2584: Enable Illinois Families to Manage Debt

Representative Welch - Cassidy, Golar, Fine, D. Burke, Martwick

Too Many Illinois Families are Struggling with Debt



1 in 3 Illinois residents have a credit card, medical or utility bill that is 180 days past due, and are now in the **debt collection process**.



About **40% of Illinois households** are considered **liquid asset poor**, meaning they lack sufficient savings to live above the federal poverty level for at least three months if they experience a significant disruption in their income.



Garnishment for consumer debt is on the rise. Working-class individuals and families in the Midwest, especially those in the manufacturing sector, face the highest rates of wage garnishment in the nation.

Exemption laws are intended to prevent creditors from pushing consumers and their families into poverty. Illinois law misses the mark.

HB2584 Will:

- **Protect a larger percentage of a worker's wages from garnishment** – allowing workers to provide for their families while paying down their debt.
- **Protect a portion of a family's savings** – allowing them access to the minimal funds needed to stay housed, continue to work, and meet the basic needs of their family.
- **Exempt college savings accounts** from the debt collection process.
- **Creates a clearer wage assignment notice** – guaranteeing that all workers know their rights.

Questions:

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The following Organizations & Businesses Support HB2584

AFL-CIO

Arise Chicago

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council

Center for Economic Progress

Center for Changing Lives

Champaign-Urbana Area Project

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Citizen Action

Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI)

Community Renewal Society

Chesser Financial

The Dayton Wedgewood Neighborhood Incorporated

East St. Louis Business Development Chamber of Commerce

Englewood Community Connection Outreach

Habitat for Humanity Champaign

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights

Illinois Asset Building Group (IABG)

Illinois People's Action (IPA)

Kingdom Community, Inc.

Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House

Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois

Martin Luther King Junior Community Services

METEC Housing Counseling Resource Center

Metro East Communities for Empowerment

Parents Organized to Win, Educate and Renew – Policy Action Council (POWER-PAC)

POAH Communities

Project Irene

United Way of Kankakee County

Urban Corps Recycling

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

SEIU Healthcare Illinois Indiana

Women Employed

Woodstock Institute

Urban Corps Recycling