



News from State Senator Karen McConnaughay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 12, 2014

Contact: Karen McConnaughay
(847) 214-8245

Sen. McConnaughay Encourages Citizen Testimony for SB16 Subject Matter Hearing on November 18

WEST DUNDEE.....– Residents concerned about the impact passage Senate Bill 16 would have on suburban school districts and property taxpayers are encouraged by State Sen. Karen McConnaughay (R-St. Charles) to submit written testimony stating their opposition to the measure.

“I know that it is impossible for many suburban residents to travel to Springfield, but I encourage everyone to make their opposition known in other ways,” McConnaughay said. “Illinois residents who are concerned about this legislation—which would strip millions of dollars in state support away from suburban schools—can submit their testimony online, through email, fax and U.S. mail.”

According to McConnaughay, the school districts located within the boundaries of the 33rd legislative Senate district would lose the following amounts of GSA if SB16 is passed as written and approved in the Illinois Senate:

McConnaughay noted that 73 percent of Kane County Schools would lose \$31.5 million in funding if Senate Bill 16, as it is currently drafted, is signed into law.

- \$3.9 million Cut for Geneva 304
- \$3.9 million Cut for Batavia 101
- \$7.9 million Cut for St. Charles 303
- \$2.2 million Cut for Huntley 158
- \$2 million Cut for Dundee 300

Citizens may provide testimony by following these steps:

1. Go to www.ilga.gov
2. Scroll down the page and click on GA Dashboard (in red ink along the left side of the page)
3. Click on the Register icon and fill in your information (registration is recommended but not required)
4. Click on House, Committee Hearings, and then on the “Month” tab
5. Click on the piece of paper icon to the right of the listed hearing (November 18th, Appropriations-Elementary & Secondary Education)

6. Click on Create witness slip
7. Fill out the form
8. In the “subject matter” portion click “opponent”
9. Under “Testimony” you can have your written comments supplied to all board members. This is optional. Interestingly, they do not accept emailed testimony. You may fax your written statement to 217-557-2165 or you may mail it to Illinois State House, Room 426, 401 S. Second Street, Springfield, IL 62706. Make sure that your written testimony is clearly marked at the top of the page: SB16 Testimony, and your name.
10. Fill in verification code
11. Click the box to accept the terms
12. Click Submit

A “Frequently Asked Questions” document is available for those who have additional questions about the process. That document is available at: <http://my.ilga.gov/Home/FAQ> .

“As a collective voice, you do have the ability to shape public policy in Springfield,” McConnaughay said. “I’ve heard from hundreds of administrators, teachers, parents, employers and residents from throughout the suburbs, who are concerned about the impact this legislation will have on our schools. I encourage each and every one of these individuals to take steps to make their opposition to Senate Bill 16 part of the record.”