

Press Release ...



...from State Representative Sara Feigenholtz

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

773-296-4141

Feigenholtz Legislation Expanding Access to Physician Assistants in Illinois Becomes Law

Springfield, Ill. – Legislation sponsored by state Representative Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, improving access to healthcare by increasing access to physician assistants (PAs) became law on Friday.

“Under current law, only five physician assistants are permitted to practice in collaboration with one doctor, which restricts access to health care,” said Feigenholtz. “This arbitrary ratio is now gone, and the new law will enable highly trained medical professionals to work in our hospitals and improve healthcare in regions where staffing shortages exist.”

About half of the counties in Illinois are marked as “Health Professional Shortage Areas” and are particularly vulnerable due to lack of medical professionals. This legislation exempts physician assistants from the ratio in these regions to meet the needs of these hospitals. In other counties, the ratio improves from 5-to-1 to 7-to-1.

“This new law represents sweeping reform and addresses the needs of patients, hospitals and healthcare providers across the state,” said Feigenholtz. “Illinoisans are one step closer to receiving the health care they deserve no matter where they live.”

This legislation has broad support from health coalitions in Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants, Illinois Primary Health Care Association, and the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

For full text of SB2904, [click here](#). For more information, contact Feigenholtz’s Chicago office at 773-296-4141 or robert@staterepsara.com.

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