

# Support SB108: Make the Cook County Traffic Fee Waiver Program Permanent

Prevent the sunset of key statewide data collection provisions and the successful traffic fee waiver program in Cook County!

**Sen. Javier Cervantes**

## Traffic Fee Waivers in Cook County are Working.

In 2021, SB626 (Public Act 102-620) created a traffic fee waiver program in Cook County as part of the Criminal Traffic Assessment Act (CTAA). For more than three years, judges in Cook County have evaluated applications to grant fee waivers under the law. Now, some confusing language suggests the waivers may have sunset. This bill removes the unclear language and makes the Cook County traffic fee waiver program permanent. No other counties are affected, and the amount of waivers and income eligibility are unchanged in the statutes.

*This bill will help hundreds of people per year who do not have the ability to pay these fees and ensure we aren't imposing uncollectible assessments on people in poverty.*

## Remove the Sunset and Make the Program Permanent!

Making the waiver process permanent for traffic cases in Cook County contributes to a safer, more economically secure Cook County. Unaffordable court assessments are largely uncollectable, causing the County to waste resources chasing uncollectable debt. Further, uncollected debt damages credit scores and eventually reduces access to housing, creating instability in vulnerable households. Making this successful program permanent supports a strong and safe Cook County.



**Shriver  
Center on  
Poverty  
Law**

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*See reverse for a full list of supporting organizations.*

# Supporting Organizations

ACLU of Illinois  
Ascend Justice  
Cabrini Green Legal Aid  
Cannabis Equity Coalition Illinois  
Chicago Appleseed Center for Fair Courts  
Chicago Council of Lawyers  
Chicago Jobs Council  
Citizen Action Illinois  
Cook County Justice Advisory Council  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
Fines and Fees Justice Center  
Illinois Fines & Fees Coalition  
Illinois Prison Project  
Impact for Equity  
John Howard Association  
Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender  
Legal Action Chicago  
Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court Cook County  
Office of the Cook County Board President  
Restore Justice  
Safer Foundation  
Shriver Center on Poverty Law  
TASC  
Women's Justice Institute