



News From  
**State Representative Randy Ramey**

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**Ramey: Legislation to Require State Police Notification**

Springfield...Legislation requiring the Illinois State Police to be notified when a patient leaves without authorization from certain mental or developmental disability facilities was approved unanimously by the Illinois House on Wednesday, March 10, according to state Rep. Randy Ramey (R-Carol Stream), chief sponsor of the bill.

The legislation, House Bill 5861 requires the Department of Public Health to immediately notify the Illinois State Police when a person who is receiving or has received mental health or developmental disabilities services is on an unauthorized absence or has left a facility operated by the Department of Public Health without being discharged.

“This is a common sense piece of legislation that ensures there is a system in place to inform all law enforcement agencies of a person who has left a mental health or developmental disability facility without authorization,” said Ramey. “Current law only requires the department to notify local law enforcement agencies, which left a large gap as to who was notified under the law. It’s important to have all law enforcement agencies involved so that patients that leave without authorization can be returned quickly, to avoid injury to themselves or others.”

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