

# Illinois

August 21, 2018



## Contact Us

(Required)

Name

First  Last

Email(Required)

Request(Required)

Δ

## Successfully Advocated For:

- New \$100M scholarship tax credit program, scholarships up to approx. \$13,000 per student
- New \$250 teacher tax credit for classroom supplies.
- Increase in education expense tax credit from \$500 to \$750, saving Jewish parents over \$750,000
- Secured \$1.2 M school transportation grant
- Helped draft law that ensures that all Jewish decedents will receive a proper burial



**Meeting with Governor JB Pritzker**



**Meeting with Governor Rauner**



**with Chicago Mayor  
Rahm Emanuel**

## **Latest News**





## **Agudath Israel Dismayed by Congresswoman Schakowsky's Letter on Scholarship Program**

Agudath Israel of Illinois is disappointed by United States Representative Jan Schakowsky's (D-IL) efforts to end Invest in Kids, an Illinois state scholarship program. Since 2018, Invest in Kids has provided scholarship funds to thousands of economically disadvantaged students in Illinois, including hundreds of Orthodox Jewish students. Agudath Israel of Illinois and its coalition partners are working to extend the program past the January 1, 2024 deadline. Representative Schakowsky, however, decided to rally fellow members of Congress against extending the program, and released a joint letter calling on Illinois' state legislators to end it.

Contrary to the claims made by Congresswoman Schakowsky, the Invest in Kids funding has no adverse impact on public school funding. Ending the program would only cause harm to the 9,600 scholarship students, most of whom are minorities, who rely on the program. By supporting the termination of the Invest in Kids program, Representative Schakowsky is effectively advocating for the interruption of children's educational experience, which can have lifelong consequences. Her district has more students on scholarship than any other in the state.

"We are deeply disappointed with Representative Schakowsky for leading an effort that could adversely impact more than 9,600 school children, hundreds of whom are her constituents," said Rabbi Shlomo Soroka, director of government affairs at Agudath Israel of Illinois. "Her rhetoric on this issue is both harmful and painful to our community and we hope that she takes a more thoughtful and sensitive approach in the future."

[Agudath Israel Dismayed by Congresswoman Schakowsky's Letter on Scholarship Program](#)

# **Agudath Israel Dismayed by Congresswoman Schakowsky's Letter on Scholarship Program**

November 8th, 2023|

Agudath Israel of Illinois is disappointed by United States Representative [...]

[Read More](#)



**Agudath Israel of Illinois was horrified to hear of a deadly stabbing that took place in Plainfield Township this weekend**

Joseph Czuba attempted to kill Hanaan Shahin and Wadea Al-Fayoume, a mother and her six-year-old son, solely because they were Muslims. Shahin was seriously wounded, while Wadea's wounds were fatal.

Agudath Israel condemns this heinous crime and sends its sincere condolences to the bereaved family members and their entire community.

[Agudath Israel of Illinois Horrified by Deadly Stabbing](#)

## **Agudath Israel of Illinois Horrified by Deadly Stabbing**

October 16th, 2023|

Agudath Israel of Illinois was horrified to hear of a [\[...\]](#)

[Read More](#)





AUGUST 15, 2023

### STATEMENT OF AGUDATH ISRAEL OF ILLINOIS ON THE GOVERNOR'S VETO OF FAITH BY THE PLATE

Agudath Israel of Illinois (AIOI) is disappointed with Governor Pritzker's veto of legislation that would have paved the way for students, hospital patients, and incarcerated individuals to access meals that comply with their religious dietary restrictions. House Bill 3643 would have made Illinois the first state in the country to mandate such accommodations and had the potential to demonstrate the state's commitment to embracing diversity and inclusion in all its forms. AIOI has worked closely with stakeholders to ensure all faith-based communities have access to food that complies with their religious convictions and remains committed to achieving that goal.

[Statement of Agudath Israel of Illinois on the Governor's Veto of Faith by the Plate](#)

## Statement of Agudath Israel of Illinois on the Governor's Veto of Faith by the Plate

August 15th, 2023|

Agudath Israel of Illinois (AIOI) is disappointed with Governor Pritzker's [\[...\]](#)

[Read More](#)

Load More Posts

# Stay in the Loop



**Rabbi Shlomo Soroka**

**773.279.8400**

**[SSoroka@agudahil.org](mailto:SSoroka@agudahil.org)**

**Protecting Your Freedoms | Advocating Your  
Interests | Serving Your Community**

Agudath Israel of Illinois

- 3434 W. Peterson Ave  
Chicago, IL 60659

- 773.279.8400



▪ [info@agudahil.org](mailto:info@agudahil.org)