



## **SB 3295—Simplifying Affidavits in Court Proceedings (Sens. Collins, Hastings, Sims; Rep. Breen)**

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**This legislation simplifies court proceedings by allowing documents filed in court to be sworn to without the need for additional notarization.**

- This legislation modernizes and clarifies what is required for a legally sufficient affidavit in Illinois courts.
- Allowing a litigant to certify an affidavit as though they were under oath, without the need for an additional notary, is in line with the current requirements for proof of service in Illinois for self-represented litigants.

**Removing this barrier to access for court users will make the courts more fair, accessible, and efficient for everyone.**

- This barrier is especially significant for the increasing number of litigants navigating the courts on their own, as well as for those with limited resources.
- Just as is the case currently, if there is any reason to suspect that an affidavit is not truthful, notarization or not, a judge can place the litigant under oath and ask the litigant to testify to the contents of the submitted affidavit.

**This legislation is one small but important way that the General Assembly can make the justice system more user-friendly and accessible for all Illinoisans.**

- Illinois would join the federal courts, as well as 20+ additional states, in simplifying this court process.
- With all the tough calls and difficult decisions to be made in Springfield these days, this is an easy way to make a positive impact on everyday people navigating critically important systems.