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# Just the Facts

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Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Louridine Florek, Owner

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## States' Attorney Lacy, FOP President Cade blast proposed criminal justice reform bill

Proposed changes to Illinois laws have local law officials concerned about public safety both because criminals would face lesser punishment and few people would want to become police officers.

Law enforcement groups and Illinois attorneys gen-

eral are pushing back against House Bill 163, an omnibus criminal justice reform bill.

Locally, State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy and Ron Cade, president of Hoopeston Police Department's Fraternal Order of Police, are speaking out against the

proposed changes and are asking residents to act.

In a press release Thursday, Lacy said the 611-page HB 163 was introduced Wednesday. "The extensive bill is poorly drafted, presents various reactionary requirements with longstanding and sound jurisprudence of our Country and State, and its timing provides no reasonable opportunity for proper debate on the House floor."

The bill proposes that all defendants charged with criminal acts be released from custody without posting any monetary bail. Lacy said this provision "denies crime victims their constitutional rights," as the Illinois Constitution states victims have the right to have their safety and that of their family considered in denying or fixing the amount of bail.

Cade said under the provision, "if someone is arrested and jailed for murder, they would be released after an initial appearance and free to wander about until their court date. This obviously makes communities less safe as violent criminals would be out and running free."

Additionally, he said, criminals would have no incentive to return to court for subsequent hearings as "there would be very limited consequences for ignoring the court. Protections for victims would be gone."

Lacy said other provisions of the bill include:

See REFORM on other side



Photo by Mark Wagoner

### On top of things

High above the Hoopeston Pool House, Matt Stock disassembles a Christmas decoration at McFerren Park. Stock and other volunteers took advantage of mild weather Saturday to take down the lighted displays.

**New Year's Special**  
**20% off Full Service Oil Change**  
10W30, 5W30 or 5W20 w/coupon. Expires 1/30/21  
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283-5373 [www.quicklube4u.com](http://www.quicklube4u.com)

**Teresa's Tips:**  
**Don't get SCAMMED!**  
**Microsoft will not call you!**  
Don't let someone take control  
of your computer!  
the **Computer Works** 217-283-9552  
Teresa Sollars - Owner

**The PIT STOP at FAST LANES**  
**Monday:** Meatloaf, Taco Salad or grilled and breaded Tenderloins  
**Tuesday:** Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles  
**Wednesday:** Rib eye sandwich and Prime Rib sandwich  
**Thursday:** Closed. Happy Thanksgiving to all! We will reopen for breakfast at 7 a.m. Friday.  
**Friday:** Cod and Rib eye steak dinners  
**Saturday:** Prime Rib and Rib eye steak dinners  
**Start your day off right!**  
Breakfast 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri.,  
6:30-11 Sat., 6:30-noon Sun.  
**Breakfast Buffet**  
Saturdays, 7-11 a.m. Sundays 7 a.m. - Noon

**DEPRESSION SUPPORT GROUP**  
6 p.m. Mondays  
**Hoopeston Multi Agency**  
Support for depression, anxiety and other mental illness.  
Call (217) 283-9330 for information

## Reform continued from other side

● Requiring those in police custody to, within one hour, be given the ability to retrieve contact phone numbers from their cell phone before the phone is placed in inventory. Phones often contain explicit contraband or evidence of other crimes, which a person in custody could destroy.

● Eliminating the charge of felony murder, when someone kills another person and in performing the acts causing the victim's death, the suspect committed or was attempting to commit a forcible felony.

“As the Chief Legal Officer in Vermilion County, I am compelled to inform those that I have sworn to protect that the proposals set forth (in the bill) pose a serious threat to public safety, specifically to victims and witnesses of violent crimes in our community,” Lacy said.

From the police side, HB 163 would:

● Eliminate qualified immunity for officers, making them civilly liable.

● Eliminate officers' right to collective bargaining.

● Eliminate impartial arbitration over residency requirements.

● Prohibit the use of force and include a ban on chokeholds or action above the shoulders under any circumstance.

● Allow officers to be disciplined based on anonymous or unverifiable complaints.

● Mandate the use of body cameras by every officer in every department and implement new training requirements, without assurance that the courses will be offered. The bill contains no provision to pay for either.

● Eliminate funding for law enforcement agencies and defunds municipalities by removing funding sources and interrupting as much as 40% of the total Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) money.

Departments failing to implement the new standards would be defunded.

Cade said the changes would put the onus on communities, like Hoopeston, to find ways to pay for the new mandates. With state money reduced or eliminated, Hoopeston would become responsible for funding its police department to maintain a basic-level force, he said. “Other services and priorities would need to be eliminated or greatly reduced without the government funding, grants, or money departments currently receive,” he added.

Cade, along with other police representative around Illinois, say the proposed measures will end law enforcement as a career as “Officers would have no protection for doing their jobs, could not be a part of

a union and bargain for essentials, would be subject to discipline and termination based on anonymous and unsubstantiated complaints, would allow anyone - again, anonymous and without any evidence - to

## From the Blotter

A **55-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 2:18 p.m. Thursday that someone damaged her property in the 100 block of Savannah Court. Police are investigating.

**Gail Savage**, 62, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 2:30 p.m. Thursday to the 200 block of South First Ave., for someone causing problems. He was charged with trespassing and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

**Kevin Fink**, 62, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 4:18 p.m. Thursday for an ongoing issue in the 300 block of West Washington. He was charged with trespassing and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

## Obituaries

**LANGELLIER** - Delmar Dean Langellier, 83, of Hoopeston, died at 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at home. He will be cremated and a service held at a later date. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements.. Condolences may be left at [www.anderson-funeral-home.com](http://www.anderson-funeral-home.com).

## Lunch Menus

### Hoopeston Area Grade School menu

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, corn, applesauce, cucumber slices, milk

TUESDAY: Pizza rolls, baby carrots, salad, peaches, milk

WEDNESDAY: Mini corn dog, baked beans, celery, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Pancake & sausage, hash brown, baby carrots, mandarin orange, milk

FRIDAY: BBQ/bun, fries, mixed fruit, Cherry Star juice, milk

## Weather

Decreasing clouds today. High 29. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 21. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 36, low 26.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit [justthefacts.net/weather/](http://justthefacts.net/weather/).

make a compliant and that complaint would stay in an officers personnel file forever creating an issue in their careers and hampering their ability for promotions, transfers, etc.,” he said. “While there are reforms that are needed to correct issues within the profession, Bill 163 goes too far and was created without input from anyone in law enforcement.”

Between fewer people wanting to become officers and communities being able to afford fewer officers, Cade said a statewide shortage of trained police officers would ensue.

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Hiring for general labor for assembly line work. Apply at Dave's Electronic Service, 105 E. Penn, Hoopeston. Phone 217-283-5010.

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare has an opening for a full time cook. Requirements: Must be 19 years old, must be able to follow recipes and successfully cook/bake according to the recipe, must be able to pass a background check, must be willing to obtain Food Service Manager License, must be available from 6:30am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday, must be able to lift objects up to 20lbs and stand for most of the shift. Application information can be requested by emailing Terri Bush at [mustardseed.kitchenstaff@gmail.com](mailto:mustardseed.kitchenstaff@gmail.com).

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. Interested candidates can apply online at [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/11205/0](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/11205/0)

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL, is offering many job opportunities for full-time, with a full benefit package, and part-time positions. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shifts available. Choose the schedule that fits your lifestyle - work 1, 2, or 3 days a week. Candidates must be 18 years old, and you can pick your shift. Machine Operators are needed for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> shift.

We offer a part-time flexible work schedule for Moms & Dads who want to earn extra cash during school hours, with an 8 am - 4:30 pm schedule to fit the needs of your family.

Please apply on-line at [www.full-fill.com](http://www.full-fill.com) go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

Driver w/CDL needed. Home every night. Trips within 100 miles of Hoopeston. (217) 304-1943.

Autumn Fields of Hoopeston is looking for CNAs part time hours, every other weekend and shared holidays. Please call Autumn Fields @ 217-283-2222

KS in Cissna Park is seeking a qualified Controls Technician for project site startups and in-field customer training for controls systems. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication, electrical, technical, and troubleshooting skills.

HB 163, introduced by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, is being discussed during the lame duck session, which ends when newly-elected representatives are sworn in Wednesday.

Residents and municipal officials are asked to call their legislators to vote against the bill.

In the Hoopeston/Watseka area, Rep. Tom Bennett can be reached by email at [bennett@ilhousegop.org](mailto:bennett@ilhousegop.org) or by phone, 217-558-1039 (Springfield) or 815-432-0106 (Watseka). An online petition is available at [ilfop.org](http://ilfop.org).

An understanding of PLCs and HMI applications is preferred. Travel is required. Apply online at [www.ksiedge.com](http://www.ksiedge.com) or send resume to [hr@ksiedge.com](mailto:hr@ksiedge.com).

Dogtown Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email [brad.dogtown@gmail.com](mailto:brad.dogtown@gmail.com)

Cade's Heating and Air HVAC installer/ service tech. must have valid IL drivers license and EPA freon license. Please send resume to [ramcade@frontier.com](mailto:ramcade@frontier.com) or 101 E Penn St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking full time and seasonal help. Requirements include at least a Class B CDL and ability to pass a drug test. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Teasdale Latin Foods has immediate openings on 2nd shift in both Distribution and Manufacturing. Pay to be determined based on experience level. Stop by the Human Resources office at 215 W. Washington Street, Hoopeston, for more detail. Please no phone calls.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

### HOUSES FOR RENT

710 E. Main., Hoopeston. 3 BR, 1 bath bungalow. \$650/mo. Plus sec. dep. References required. No pets, please. Call (217) 304-3477 for application. Owner - licensed real estate agent.

### SERVICES WANTED

Part time caregiver for elderly man with early dementia. Send resume to P.O. Box 85, East Lynn IL 60932 or email to [publish@justthefacts.net](mailto:publish@justthefacts.net).