

2018

Illinois Policy and Advocacy Priorities

Approve a responsible budget and continue fiscal reforms:

- Ensure budget and obligations are fully funded.
- Increase school funding to reach targets set by the Evidence-Based model.
- Fully fund higher education and tuition aid.
- Ensure adequate funding for road and transportation maintenance.
- Pass a capital bill and continue funding for priority projects:

New Funding

- Western Illinois University Phase 3
- I-74, John Deere Rd. Intersection
- I-80, Colona Exit
- Rock Island County Courthouse Renovation

Continue Funding

- I-74 Bridge
- QC-Chicago Passenger Rail
- I-80 Bridge

Improve Illinois Business Climate and foster economic growth, including:

- Renewal of Enterprise Zones in the Quad Cities
- Creation of economic development tools including a state or county wide state Historic Tax Credit program or Quad Cities River Edge Redevelopment Zone.
- Improvement of the Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) Tax Credit by making it less cumbersome and reforming proof requirements.

Continue Workers' Compensation reform by identifying and addressing the causes of high rates.

Lower the Home Rule threshold from 25,000 to 5,000 to allow more communities to control public resources and investments.

Pass strong pension reforms to ensure Illinois is able to fund its budget and obligations:

- Reduce required funding from the current 90% to federally mandated 70%.
- Consider reforming the automatic COLA.
- Consider reforming the pensionable salary.
- Consider moving from defined benefit to defined contribution system.
- Examine retirement age requirements and tiers for positions across the state.