



## News From State Representative Dennis Reboletti

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### **Reboletti Calls on Governor to Help Restore MAP Grants**

Addison, IL ... As college students face the possibility of not receiving crucial Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants during the Spring 2010 semester, State Representative Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) supports legislation that will partially restore the funding. To help fill the MAP grant funding gap, Reboletti also urges Governor Quinn to spend \$100 million of his own discretionary money.

“I have heard from many college students in the district who currently receive MAP grants and are worried about how they will pay for the spring semester. I have co-sponsored a bill that will restore this funding and help ease the financial burden it places on these students and their families,” said Reboletti of the legislation that he will push to be called for a vote in Veto Session later this month.

Reboletti’s solution to the grant funding problem is to take \$100 million from the House Republican tax amnesty program and \$100 million from Governor Quinn’s discretionary money to fully fund the program. As part of the state budget, the governor was given discretionary money to help fill holes in state agencies budgets.

“Governor Quinn was allotted millions of dollars in a rainy day-type fund to use during emergency situations. I urge the governor to use \$100 million of this money to help restore MAP grants to help these college students continue their education into the spring semester,” said Reboletti.

The House Republican Caucus, with Reboletti’s support, filed House Bill 4622 that creates an amnesty program for individuals and corporations that are delinquent on back taxes. Delinquent taxpayers would be able to pay what they owe in income and sales taxes to the state during a month and a half period in early 2010 with **NO** interest or penalty. The revenue would be used to help pay for college scholarships in the spring semester that were eliminated from the FY2010 state budget.

It is estimated that this amnesty program for individuals and corporations that didn't pay their taxes on time between June 20, 2002, and January 15, 2010, could bring in approximately \$104.9 million in revenue. The money would be deposited into the Illinois Student Assistance Commission Monetary Award Program fund according to the legislation.

According to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, almost 140,000 students receive assistance through the MAP program. Grants are awarded based upon financial need and can total up to \$4,968 per year.

Elmhurst College President S. Alan Ray said hundreds of students at Elmhurst College will be affected if the MAP funding is not restored.

“We at Elmhurst College are very grateful to Representative Reboletti for co-sponsoring legislation that would fund MAP for the spring semester 2010. Over 800 of our students stand to lose this crucial funding without immediate action by the legislature and governor. This would be a disaster for these students and the people of Illinois. I applaud Representative Reboletti for his leadership and look forward to a permanent solution to the MAP funding problem,” said Ray.

For more information, contact Rep. Reboletti's district office at (630) 530-2730.

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