



News From State Representative Dennis Reboletti

For Immediate Release
July 16, 2009

Contact: Rep. Dennis Reboletti
(630) 530-2730

Reboletti: Borrowing More Money Escalates Financial Problems for State

Springfield, IL ... State Representative Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) voted against the state's budget Wednesday night stating Illinois cannot continue to operate government on borrowed money.

"I voted against the \$26 billion budget, not because I want critical state service agencies to crumble, but because this deal consists of another unbalanced budget, one that borrows more money to pay for the current deficit. It's like opening another credit card to pay off the credit card debt you have already accrued," said Reboletti.

Late Wednesday, the House and Senate passed a \$26 billion budget deal that allows the state to borrow \$3.5 billion to make required pension payments and restore funding to local social service agencies. The state will also refinance debt and raid special accounts to fund the general fund.

Reboletti said the budget is vague and does not include enough details for state agencies.

"Governor Quinn stated there will be cuts however the budget does not spell out specifically where they will be made. It also does not clearly show which state agencies will be funded and at what level. There are no guarantees in this budget, which makes it hard for departments and social service providers to continue to operate when they don't know their financial picture for the next year," said Reboletti.

While the budget is not the most ideal, Reboletti said he is happy a cost-saving measure such as unpaid furlough days for lawmakers was included.

"Times are tough right now for everyone. Businesses around the state and country have implemented salary freezes and unpaid days, it's only fair that state government do the same," he said.

As the state moves forward, Reboletti said he will continue to push for stronger reforms in state government such as Medicaid and pension reforms, prioritizing and streamlining spending, placing a moratorium on new programs and building stronger ethics reforms.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.ReinventIllinois.com to provide Reboletti and the House Republican caucus with ideas on how to fix state government.

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

###