



News From  
State Representative Dennis Reboletti

For Immediate Release  
Nov. 17, 2011

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

## Reboletti: Pension Measure passes and Medicaid Reform Stalls

Springfield, IL... In light of a *Chicago Tribune* investigation of union leaders exploiting loopholes in the state's pension laws and reaping six figure pensions, State Representative Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) supported House Bill 3813 aimed at reforming public pensions in the State of Illinois.

A Tribune/WGN-TV probe unveiled 23 retired union officials from Chicago who will collect about \$56 million from two city pension funds. In one instance it was found that two Illinois Federation of Teachers lobbyists became substitute teachers for one day. Based on that one day of service, they were allowed to receive nearly \$108,000 public pensions, more than double the salary of the average Illinois teacher.

"The abuse of the pension system has been an ongoing and growing issue for the state for several years," Reboletti said. "It is essential to implement reforms in order to put the state back on the right fiscal track and this bill is just the starting point."

Additionally, Reboletti was frustrated to see House Resolution 593 on Medicaid reform voted down in a committee hearing last week as Democrats refused to release it to the House floor for full consideration.

HR593 would have asked the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to repeal the Medicaid Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements in the Affordable Care Act, which limit the ability of the state to contain Medicaid costs and the burden of these escalating costs that are passed on to medical providers.

Last year more stringent income and residency verification laws were passed but the federal government has denied the right to implement them. The failed resolution would have requested a waiver from the federal government to implement some of these changes and help eliminate waste, fraud and abuse.

"The Super Committee must grant us the flexibility to implement these reforms in order to begin curbing costs," Reboletti said.

###