

Actions Taken by Governor Pat Quinn to Reform State Government

Giving Voters the Power of Recall – Governor Quinn pushed for a constitutional amendment that gives Illinois voters the power to recall a governor who has grossly betrayed the trust of the people.

Capping Campaign Transfers – Governor Quinn negotiated legislation to cap how much money legislative leaders and political parties can transfer to candidates. This reform will increase the likelihood of fair and competitive primaries.

Reforming State Purchasing Rules – Governor Quinn took action to remove politics and increase transparency and accountability in how the state buys goods and services. The Governor pushed for legislation that requires disclosure of how companies get subcontracts and dramatically strengthens oversight of how contracts are awarded.

Requiring Disclosure and Increasing Investigations – Governor Quinn worked with legislators to pass legislation that requires reports of state worker wrongdoing be disclosed, allows probes to start on anonymous tips and authorizes inspectors to review state hiring practices.

Lobbyist Oversight and Regulation – Governor Quinn stood up to lobbyists and pushed for legislation that requires they submit comprehensive expense reports and undergo annual ethics training, and authorizes the inspector general to probe for violations.

Increase Government Transparency - Governor Quinn took action to make state government more open, transparent and accountable by directing state agencies to fully and quickly respond to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The Governor also worked with Attorney General Lisa Madigan and the legislature to pass robust FOIA reform to narrow exemptions, increase oversight and strengthen penalties for public officials who violate FOIA law.

Restoring Ethics to State Government – In his first official act, Governor Quinn signed an executive order establishing the Illinois Reform Commission. Headed by former U.S. Attorney Pat Collins, the independent advisory board has closely examined government's ethics rules and practices. On April 27, the commission issued its 100-day report, which is serving as a blueprint for much-needed reforms.

Fundamental Pension Board Reform – Governor Quinn signed legislation to overhaul Illinois' major state pension boards by implementing necessary structural reforms and making the boards transparent and accountable.

Repairing State Boards and Commissions – Governor Quinn launched Appointments.Illinois.gov, a website that allows Illinois citizens to access information about members and vacancies in the state's 300 boards and commissions. The website was created under an executive order issued to ensure appointments to Illinois boards and commissions are open, fair and transparent.