



**FILED**

**SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

JUN 18 '09 -4 05 PM

SECRETARY OF STATE INDEX DEPT.

**2009-203**

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2009, I took the Constitutional oath of office to become Governor of the State of Illinois, solemnly swearing that I would "support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois," and that I would "faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Governor to the best of my abilities"; and

WHEREAS, my oath of office requires that I serve the people of the State of Illinois by ensuring that government operates responsibly; and

WHEREAS, the same oath imposes on me the equally important duty to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 2(a) of the Illinois Constitution requires the Governor to prepare and submit a state budget for the ensuing fiscal year that sets forth the estimated balance of funds available for appropriation at the beginning of the fiscal year, the estimated receipts, and a plan for expenditures and obligations during the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 2(a) of the Illinois Constitution further provides that proposed expenditures shall not exceed funds estimated to be available for the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2009, I presented to the General Assembly and the people of the State of Illinois a fiscally prudent and socially responsible budget solution; and

WHEREAS, my budget proposal reforms, streamlines, and funds government adequately with shared sacrifice in furtherance of the common good; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly enacted wide-ranging ethics reforms and structural reforms to the operations of state government; and

WHEREAS, as one component of my administration's ongoing commitment to reform, I remain strongly supportive of legislation that would have dramatically reduced the state's unfunded pension liability while meeting our commitments to existing and future retirees; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly enacted a budget which will require severe reductions in programs, grants, and services that the people of our state depend upon, due to insufficient financial resources; and

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2009, the Illinois Senate approved House Bill 174, an important step towards fiscal solvency and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, other measures currently pending in the General Assembly may help the State avoid a grave fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution empowers the Governor, as Chief Executive, to convene special sessions of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the Special Session Act, 25 ILCS 15/3, directs the Secretary of State, upon receipt of a gubernatorial proclamation convening a special session, to take "whatever reasonable steps necessary to notify the members of the General Assembly of the date and time of the special session."

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in a special session to commence on June 23, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., for the purpose of considering any legislation, new or pending, which will address the fiscal crisis confronting our State, and additional ethics reform, including, but not limited to legislation that:

1. Continues to reform the operations of state government to ensure ethical conduct, transparency, and accountability; and
2. Reforms and restructures the State's pension systems to ensure sustainability, affordability, and solvency; and
3. Empowers the electors to adopt an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Illinois in the November, 2010 general election that would establish a crucial structural reform: recall; and
4. Invests in projects that revitalize and expand our state's infrastructure, creating employment opportunities; and
5. Enables the state to have sufficient resources to meet its financial obligations and to have a responsible Fiscal Year 2010 budget.



Pat Quinn  
Governor

Dated: June 18, 2009

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