



PATRICK J. QUINN

Governor

Pat Quinn (Democrat) was sworn in as the 41st Governor of Illinois on Jan. 29, 2009. Governor Quinn has focused on restoring integrity to state government and, in his first official act, signed an executive order establishing the Illinois Reform Commission to examine ethics rules and practices in state government. He also led passage of recall legislation that allows Illinois voters to approve a constitutional amendment to remove a Governor from office, and signed into law the first-ever limits on campaign contributions in Illinois.

Job creation has been one of Governor Quinn's top priorities. In July 2009, he signed into law Illinois Jobs Now!, a plan to invest \$31 billion in Illinois' economy, creating and retaining more than 439,000 jobs over six years. The initiative is the state's first capital plan in more than a decade and addresses long-awaited improvements to Illinois' transportation networks, bridges, roads, schools and communities.

Quinn has served the people of Illinois for more than a quarter of a century as both a citizen and a public official. He has organized grassroots petition drives signed by more than 4 million voters, walked across the state in support of decent health care for all, and proposed historic tax reform for working families. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 2002 and re-elected in 2006, and served one term as State Treasurer from 1991 to 1995.

In 2003, during his first term as Lieutenant Governor, Quinn created the Illinois Military Family Relief Fund. To ease the financial burdens caused by deployment, the fund provides grants to families of Illinois National Guard and Reserves members called to active duty. The fund has distributed more than \$10 million to Illinois military families.

Quinn has spearheaded a number of initiatives that foster a cleaner environment and encourage economic development in historic business districts and rural communities. As State Treasurer, his Linked Deposit program helped more than 25,000 Illinois families and businesses obtain \$2 billion in bank loans to support affordable housing, small business expansion and agriculture.

A longtime consumer and taxpayer advocate, Quinn led the largest petition drive in state history, ending the century-old practice of allowing legislators to collect their entire salary on their first day in office. In 1980, he organized the Cutback Amendment to reduce the size of the General Assembly — the first and only Illinois constitutional amendment ever adopted by citizen initiative. He also spearheaded the 1983 drive creating the Citizens Utility Board, a nonprofit organization that battles rate increases and represents the interests of residential utility customers across the state.

Governor Pat Quinn was born in Hinsdale and graduated from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Northwestern University School of Law. He was elected commissioner of the Cook County Board of (Tax) Appeals in 1982 and served as the City of Chicago's revenue director. He has two sons.

Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn became Governor following the impeachment and removal from office of Governor Rod Blagojevich on Jan. 29, 2009. Because of this historic succession, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor remains vacant until the end of the term.

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