

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

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SECRETARY OF STATE, INDEX DEPT.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly, by law, to make appropriations for all expenditure of public funds for each fiscal year for the operations of State government, departments, authorities, and public agencies, among other things;

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 requires the General Assembly to pass a balanced budget in which appropriations for the fiscal year do not exceed funds estimated to be available during that year;

WHEREAS, the General Assembly passed four appropriations bills for the expenditure of public funds for Fiscal Year 2009;

WHEREAS, the appropriations passed by the General Assembly for Fiscal Year 2009 exceed funds estimated to be available during that year and thus render the budget passed by the General Assembly unbalanced by approximately \$2 billion, in clear violation of Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Illinois Constitution;

WHEREAS, the Illinois Senate has passed several funding solutions, including a capital bill and a fund transfer bill, among other things, that if enacted could support a balanced budget;

WHEREAS, the capital bill which has overwhelmingly passed the Senate not only provides additional funding solutions to support a balanced budget, but also spurs the economy by creating approximately 600,000 jobs across Illinois;

WHEREAS, the leadership of the House of Representatives refused to present any of the funding solutions passed by the Illinois Senate to the House for a vote of the body prior to adjourning on May 31, 2008;

WHEREAS, during debate on the House floor on May 29, 2008, several representatives acknowledged that the spending measures the House was considering (and ultimately passed) lacked supporting revenues;

WHEREAS, on the day the appropriation bills were passed by the Illinois House of Representatives, numerous representatives questioned the constitutionality of knowingly passing a budget that was grossly unbalanced;

WHEREAS, it was emphatically noted on the House floor that intentionally passing an unbalanced budget under the premise that it would be balanced by the Governor did not comport with the General Assembly's constitutional duty to pass a balanced budget;