

TREASURER



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The son of two union members, Michael Frerichs was born and raised in the small Champaign County farming community of Gifford, Illinois. After graduating from Rantoul Township High School, Frerichs attended Yale University, graduating in 1995. From Yale, Frerichs enrolled at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan where he taught English while learning Mandarin Chinese. Afterward, he returned to serve his community, teaching at his old high school, serving as a volunteer firefighter and joining the board of a local nonprofit nursing home.

Frerichs won a seat on the Champaign County Board in 2000 when he was 27 years old. In 2002, he was appointed to the office of Champaign County auditor. As auditor, Frerichs was responsible for preparing budget reports, ensuring the county met state and federal reporting requirements, preventing fraud and improving the financial health of the county.

In 2006, Frerichs became the youngest member of the Illinois Senate and the first Democrat from East Central Illinois to serve in the state Senate since the 1930s. There, he championed government reform, job creation and education investments. As chairman of the Agriculture and Conservation Committee, Frerichs fought for economic assistance to farmers and advocated for alternative fuels. A leading voice for job creation, he authored legislation to preserve enterprise zones linked to millions of jobs and billions of investments. As chair of the Higher Education Committee, Frerichs championed full and fair funding for higher education while advancing efforts to make college more affordable.

Frerichs was elected treasurer of Illinois in 2014 on a promise to strengthen ethics and transparency, and expand financial access, opportunity and education across Illinois. As a Certified Public Finance Officer and the state's chief investment officer, Treasurer Frerichs will leverage our investments to not only earn strong returns for taxpayers, but also create good-paying jobs that help families reclaim the American dream.

Frerichs and his young daughter, Ella, continue to call Champaign, Illinois, home.

Office of the Treasurer

The treasurer is the state's chief investment officer, investing a portfolio of approximately \$10 billion in state funds and \$5.5 billion for local governments to increase their rates of return. The Treasurer's office also administers the Invest in Illinois linked deposit programs to enhance communities and encourage economic growth. The Unclaimed Property Division aims to reunite more than \$1.5 billion in lost and abandoned property with its rightful owners.