

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

“The Governor shall have the supreme executive power, and shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws.” — Constitution of the State of Illinois

The Governor of Illinois is the chief executive of the state and is responsible for the administration of most areas of the executive branch of Illinois government. The Civil Administrative Code establishes clear lines of authority between the Governor and state departments and gives him general administrative responsibility over numerous agencies, boards and commissions. Though the Governor does not exercise direct control over other elected state constitutional officers, the Illinois Constitution empowers him to require information on any subject relating to their management or expenses.

The Governor appoints hundreds of key administrators and department directors and fills vacancies in the Offices of the Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller and the U.S. Senate. The Governor’s powers include granting clemency, calling special legislative sessions, approving or vetoing bills and approving state construction contracts. The Governor also serves as commander-in-chief of the state’s Armed Forces.

Each year, the Governor appears before the General Assembly to propose a budget for Illinois government and report on the condition of the state, set priorities and provide direction. The Office of Management and Budget develops the comprehensive annual budget for submission to the General Assembly and provides the Governor with the professional budgeting and fiscal analysis tools needed to manage state government.



Governor Rauner meets with workers at Reg-Ellen Machine Tool Corporation in Rockford.



Governor Rauner loves meeting with veterans, especially welcoming them home from Honor Flights.

Economic Reform

Governor Bruce Rauner came into office with a mission: to transform Illinois into the most compassionate and competitive state in the nation. Governor Rauner thinks that for too long Illinois has been moving in the wrong direction by passing unbalanced budgets, raising taxes and failing to initiate reforms necessary to keep Illinois workers, businesses and taxpayers thriving. To make Illinois grow, Governor Rauner believes the state needs major structural changes that will free up resources to improve the social services safety net for the long term. Structural changes include reducing the overall tax burden, especially skyrocketing property taxes; fixing the workers' compensation system; and reducing the amount of red tape. Governor Rauner presumes these changes will help create jobs in all corners of the state and improve the quality of life for Illinoisans.

Political Reform

The Governor is an advocate for term limits and redistricting reform. It is the Governor's belief that term limits overcome the power of incumbency and help bring new and fresh ideas to government. Governor Rauner thinks the current redistricting process provides too much power to career politicians; it is time to adopt an independent commission model to draw fair legislative maps.

Education Reform

The future of Illinois is in the hands of its children. To ensure the best and brightest future for the state, heavy investment in the education system must be a priority. Education is the most important service a community can provide, and the children of Illinois deserve a world-class education system that empowers them, creates opportunity and gives them a well-rounded view of the world. The Governor's education plan aims to educate children from cradle to career, ensuring readiness when they enter the workforce. Since taking office, the Governor has fought for and delivered education funding increases, including an additional \$100 million specifically for early childhood education. In addition, he has created a bipartisan, bicameral commission to examine and adjust the current education funding formula to make funding distribution more adequate and equitable.



Governor walks in the 26th Street Mexican Independence Day Parade in Chicago. Illinois is a diverse state with strong multi-national communities. The Rauner administration has introduced multiple programs to help expand minority participation within Illinois' economy.

Governor's Staff Members

Richard Goldberg.....	<i>Chief of Staff</i>
Trey Childress.....	<i>Deputy Governor; Chief Operating Officer</i>
Leslie Geissler Munger.....	<i>Deputy Governor</i>
Dennis Murashko.....	<i>General Counsel</i>
Scott Harry.....	<i>Director, Office of Management & Budget</i>
Beth Purvis.....	<i>Secretary of Education</i>
Hardik Bhatt.....	<i>Chief Information Officer</i>
Michael Mahoney.....	<i>Deputy Chief of Staff; Policy and Legislative Affairs</i>
Jim Kaitschuk.....	<i>Senior Adviser, Legislative Affairs and Administrative Policy Initiatives</i>
Lance Trover.....	<i>Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications</i>
Brad Hahn.....	<i>Communications Director</i>
Catherine Kelly.....	<i>Deputy Communications Director</i>
Allie Bovis.....	<i>Press Secretary</i>
Eleni Demertzis.....	<i>Press Secretary</i>
Jim Clark.....	<i>Deputy Chief of Staff, Intergovernmental Affairs</i>
Phil Rodriguez.....	<i>Deputy Chief of Staff, Public Engagement</i>
Randy Pollard.....	<i>Downstate Director</i>
David Wu.....	<i>Director of Governmental Transformation; Deputy Chief Operating Officer</i>
Jared Dubnow.....	<i>Director of Operations</i>