

## Illinois Priorities for 2017

### **Budget**

Options to address the state's budget challenge should:

- Support measures that improve fiscal responsibility.
- Promote long term growth of business and industry in Illinois.
- Stop budget sweeps of funds collected for specific state programs.
- Provide funding for core agriculture programs to provide services efficiently and effectively.

### **Enhance Business Climate**

Programs and policies should be predictable, consistent, and enhance the business climate in Illinois. Fees, regulations, and tax rates must be competitive with other states in our region. The federal Domestic Production Activities Deduction (DPAD), rolling stock sales tax exemption and sales tax exempt status of agricultural products should be maintained. No service fees should be imposed on business to business transactions.

### **Renewable Fuels**

Improvements to renewable fuels programs should promote consistent quality, increased use, and enhanced infrastructure for fueling all vehicles.

### **Cooperative Law**

The agricultural cooperative law should be preserved.

### **Transportation**

Illinois' transportation infrastructure should be modernized to maintain and enhance agriculture's global competitiveness.

- Fuel tax policies should be simple, transparent, and competitive.
- Funding sources should be dedicated to road and bridge improvements, particularly in rural areas.
- Off-road fuel should remain tax-exempt.

### **Water Quality**

Water quality programs and efforts should be based in science, flexible to geographic location, voluntary, rely on our land grant university system, and use modern agriculture practices.

### **Use of Pesticides**

Policy for use of neonicotinoids should be science-based, focus on agricultural productivity, and improve pollinator health.