



GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF ILLINOIS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 13, 2008

The Honorable Michael J. Madigan
Speaker
Illinois House of Representatives
300 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Speaker Madigan:

We, the undersigned, are writing to ask that you include in the FY 2009 budget \$2 million for a new grants program to expand the routine offer of HIV testing in health care settings. This funding would expand HIV testing and implement P.L. 95-0007 (Ford/Ronen), landmark legislation effective June 1, 2008 that will allow HIV testing with verbal informed consent.

In FY '08, \$500,000 for this purpose was included in the budget passed by the House and Senate, but the funding was vetoed by the Governor.

In September 2006, the U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended that all people age 13-64 be offered voluntary tested for HIV when they visit a doctor's office, regardless of risk factors. CDC made this recommendation because an estimated one in four people living with HIV in the United States do not know they are infected. In Illinois, there are an estimated 40,000-42,000 people living with HIV, but an estimated 10,000 of them do not know they are HIV-positive. They lack the medical care that will extend their lives and delay the onset of costly AIDS-related medical care.

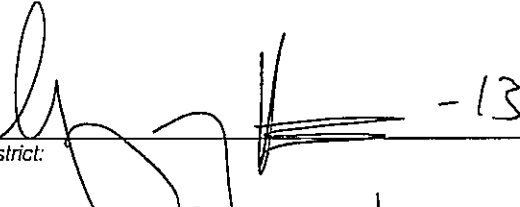
The proposed grants program, to be administered by IDPH, would target resources to public settings where a high number of HIV-positive individuals could be identified. Examples include hospital emergency departments, ambulatory care clinics, and STD clinics. Proposed uses of the funds include purchasing rapid HIV test kits, hiring staff to perform HIV testing and educate patients about HIV/AIDS, and training medical providers.

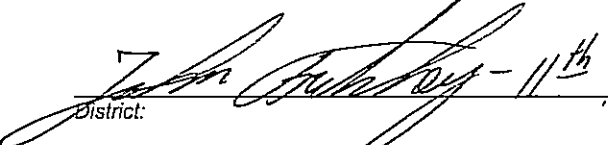
By offering routine tests for HIV to people in these high prevalence settings, some of the 10,000 undiagnosed Illinoisans living with HIV will be identified. They will be linked to medical care, likely averting costlier illnesses if their HIV status had remained

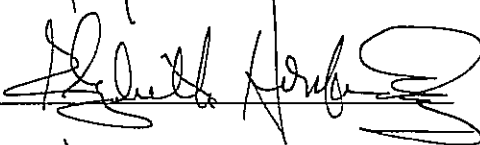
undiagnosed. More importantly, they will be able to modify their behaviors to protect themselves and to avoid transmitting the virus to others.

Thank you for considering this request. We look forward to working with you to fight the spread of HIV and improve access to healthcare for people with HIV.

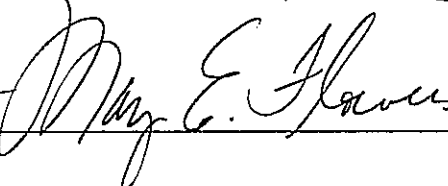
Sincerely,

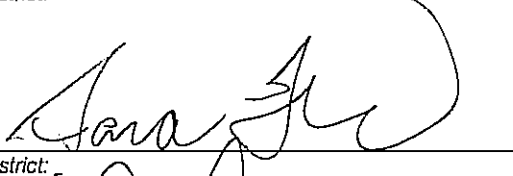
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District:

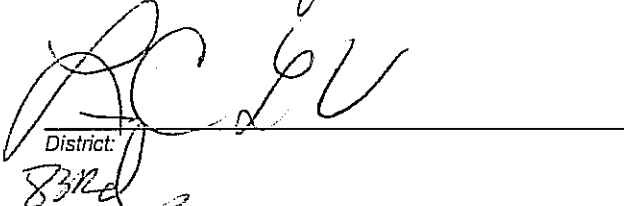
 -11th
District:

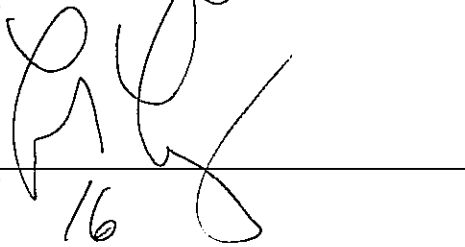
24th 
District:

Paul Froehlich
District:

31st  E. Harcus
District:


District:


District:
83rd


District:
16

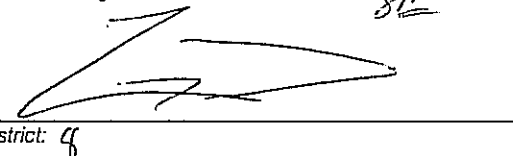
Kathleen A. Rygg
District: 59

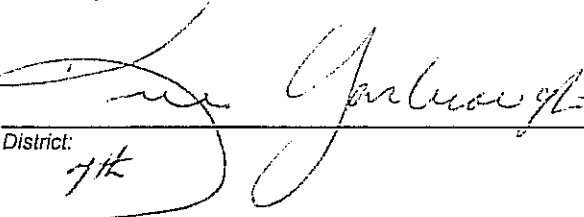
Karen May
District:

Chuck Jeggerson
District:

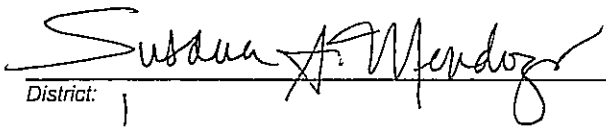
Jack McGuire
District: 46
8th

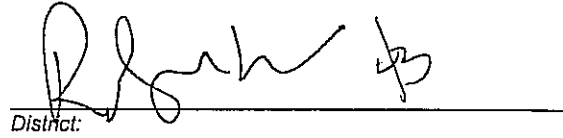
Mike Boland
District: 21


District: 4


District: 7th

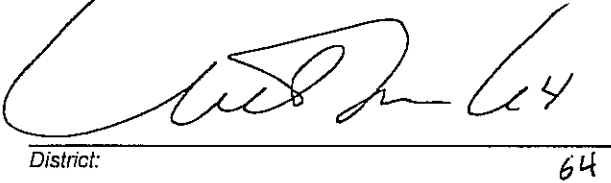

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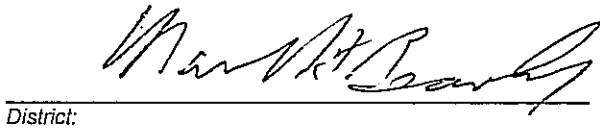

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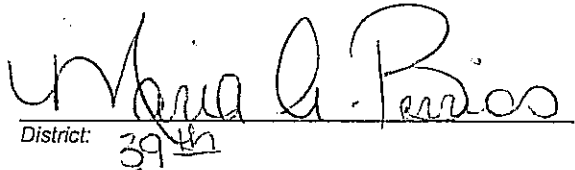

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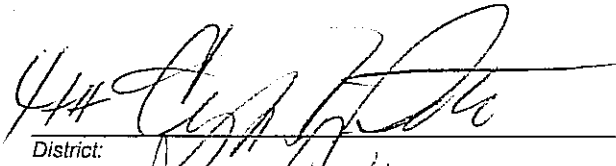

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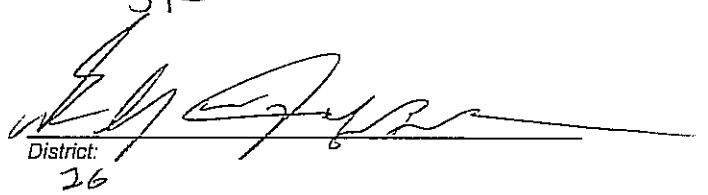

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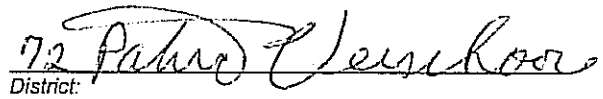

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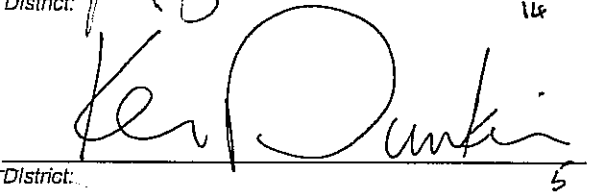

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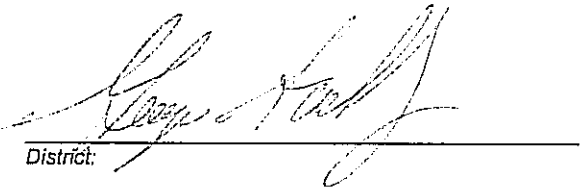

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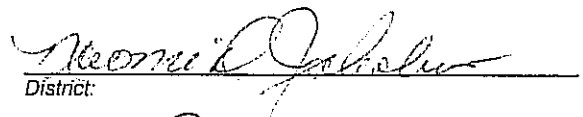

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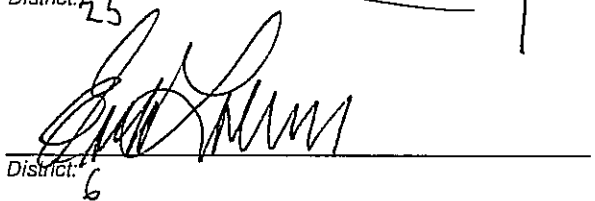

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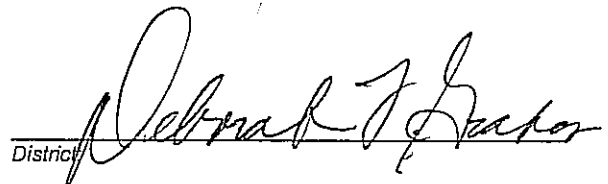

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Michael J. Madigan 35th

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William Davis 30

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**Illinois State Representatives signing May 13 Letter to House Speaker
Madigan Requesting \$2 Million for HIV/AIDS Testing in FY 09 Budget**

(listed by order of signing)

Democrats

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Greg Harris (13) | 16. Al Riley (38) |
| 2. John Fritchey (11) | 17. Susana Mendoza (1) |
| 3. Elizabeth Hernandez (24) | 18. Maria Berrios (39) |
| 4. Paul Froehlich (56) | 19. Cynthia Soto (4) |
| 5. Mary Flowers (31) | 20. Elga Jeffries (26) |
| 6. Sara Feigenholtz (12) | 21. Harry Osterman (14) |
| 7. Linda Chapa LaVia (83) | 22. Patrick Verschoore (72) |
| 8. Lou Lang (16) | 23. Ken Dunkin (5) |
| 9. Karen May (58) | 24. George Scully (80) |
| 10. Kathy Ryg (59) | 25. Daniel J. Burke (23) |
| 11. Chuck Jefferson (67) | 26. Naomi Jakobsson (103) |
| 12. Jack McGuire (86) | 27. Esther Golar (6) |
| 13. Mike Boland (71) | 28. Deborah L. Graham (78) |
| 14. LaShawn Ford (8) | 29. Kevin Joyce (35) |
| 15. Karen Yarbrough (7) | 30. William Davis (30) |

Republicans

31. Ruth Munson (43)
32. Patricia A. Bellock (47)
33. Elizabeth Coulson (17)
34. Michael Tryon (64)
35. Sandy Cole (62)
36. Mark Beaubien (52)