



June E-Newsletter

Dear friends,

This year's session has been nothing but unpredictable. Instead of working in a bi-partisan manner to fix the state's financial perils, the Democrats jammed a budget through the House and Senate that doesn't include reform, doesn't stop spending and doesn't cut government waste.

Session adjourned last week with the Democrats passing an irresponsible budget that fails to address the serious issues facing Illinois.

The House Republican caucus met with Governor Quinn last year and offered ideas on how to fix the budget deficit all of which he ignored and instead created unnecessary crisis after crisis against human service agencies, college students and now the education community.

Then the Democrats gave us two choices – borrow more money or raise taxes. This is not the proper way to handle the state budget.

My Republican colleagues and I filed 80 bills to save taxpayer money, reform the state's budget process and increase employment opportunities, all of which were denied by the House Democrats.

Emergency Budget

The Democrat members of the General Assembly voted for an emergency budget that fails to address the \$13 billion deficit facing Illinois.

The emergency budget approved by the Democrat members of the General Assembly gives the Governor unprecedented power to decide how the money will be spent. It also further delays vendor payments. Current state law mandates bills left over from this year would need to be paid by August 31. However, the new bill awaiting the Governor's approval would allow the state to wait until December 31, adding more financial pressure to the healthcare providers and businesses that have state contracts.

I voted against the measure because I do not believe Governor Quinn should have full power over the state's finances because the past two years of his administration have been full of failed promises and flip-flopping on decisions. He has also said from the beginning that he wants to raise taxes instead of cutting the fat from the budget.

Pension Borrowing Bill

The House approved a pension borrowing plan that would make next year's \$3.7 billion payment to the pension systems. However, the measure stalled in the Senate because the Democrats, despite holding a super-majority, do not have enough votes to approve it.

I voted against the borrowing scheme because it does not solve the problem and only adds to the state's deficit for future generations. It's like taking one credit card to pay off another credit card.

Unless the Senate approves the borrowing measure, the money for pension payments will automatically be taken out of the state's pot and more than likely from restricted state funds, ultimately putting more pressure on the budget.

We knew this was going to be the toughest budget year and would need to make hard choices, but borrowing more money is not the solution.

As always, feel free to contact me by emailing me at staterepramey55@aol.com or calling my district office at (630) 876-0703.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Ramey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

State Representative
55th District