

Members of the Illinois General Assembly,

As leaders of alumni from the 12 Illinois public universities, we write to you today to request your support for public higher education in the upcoming budget cycle.

Illinois' public universities are cornerstones for economic development across our state and are vital to the regional economies where our universities are located. Combined, our universities educate over 180,000 students each year and employ over 60,000 people, the vast majority of which are Illinois residents.

We understand the great challenges you face crafting the state budget this year, but we ask that you support our public universities and the millions of Illinoisans whose lives our public missions impact each year.

Thank you for all that you do for our state.

Sincerely,

Lazarus L. Goosby
President
Alumni Advisory Council
Chicago State University

Christopher M. Swing
President
Eastern Illinois University
Alumni Association

Jermaine Paul
President
Alumni Association
Governors State University

Steve Smith
President
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Molly Hudgins
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SIU Alumni Association

Eileen Martindale
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Peter Skosey
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Brian Savage
President
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