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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Illinois Chamber of Commerce calls on legislators for areas of improvement on latest budget proposal

SPRINGFIELD, June 26, 2017 - The Illinois Chamber of Commerce urges state legislators to look at the latest budget proposal – laid out by the Republican caucuses and the Governor on June 14 - and make changes to the plan in six key areas before the end of the fiscal year.

In a letter given to all state lawmakers Monday, Illinois Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd Maisch said, "The need for real reform of government and the Illinois jobs climate remains critical but, finally, meaningful progress on reforms and a balanced budget appear within reach."

Maisch says the framework is not perfect and is not yet complete, but that the budget package proposed on June 14, with adequate changes, is "the best framework available for a conclusion to the impasse."

The Illinois Chamber calls for the following changes and additions in order to support a final budget package:

- Omitting the unconstitutional service tax
- Stopping the road fund raid
- Including a transportation "Bridge the Gap" proposal
- Passing a clear plan for reducing the bill backlog
- Improving the workers' compensation reforms
- Rebalancing the tax mix

"The Chamber stands ready to work with all legislators and the Governor to find a resolution to the current budget crisis. The time for a resolution is now," Maisch said.

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