

News...

...from the Illinois House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Bob Flider

Phone: (217) 428-2708

E-Mail: bobflider@repflider.com

Flider Highlights Potential \$525 Million Increase in Education Funding for Fiscal Year 2009

Lawmaker calls attention to aid for local schools in budget plan

DECATUR, IL – The state budget supported by state Rep. Bob Flider (D-Mount Zion) includes \$525 million in additional state dollars to school districts throughout the state, including an additional \$2.1 million for schools headquartered in the 101st district.

If the governor signs the budget recently sent to him by Illinois General Assembly, schools that are headquartered within the 101st district will receive a total of \$ 60.3 million in funding. This figure includes a foundation level increase of \$225 per student, marking the sixth straight year Flider has voted to increase state aid to education. Early childhood education funding, which helps children to get a better start in life, would also be increased by \$ 32 million if Gov. Blagojevich signs the measure.

“One of the most important investments our state makes is funding our schools,” Flider. “In essence, our support for education funding translates directly into our investment in our future. Education builds the foundation of our society, and if the governor signs the budget the House and Senate adopted, our schools will be provided with the resources that can help build a better tomorrow.”

Funding estimates for schools in Flider’s 101st district include:

- \$41 million for Decatur School District 61;
- \$8.6 million for Mt. Zion Community Unit School District 3;
- \$1.3 million for Lovington Community Unit School District 303;
- \$1.9 million for Okaw Valley Community Unit School District 302;
- \$4.8 million for Sullivan Community Unit School District 300;
- \$1.6 million for Windsor Community Unit School District 1;
- \$842,000 for Futures Unlimited Alternative School in Decatur; and
- \$149,000 for Milligan Academy Alternative School in Decatur.

Flider’s district serves major portions of other schools districts, including:

- \$3.4 million for Argenta-Oreana Community Unit School District 1; and
- \$3.6 million for Central A&M Community Unit School District 21.

“Our state’s commitment to education has never been stronger, and it is my hope that the governor will sign the budget and our schools will be able to utilize this new funding” Flider said.

The Governor has yet to act on the Fiscal Year 2009 State Budget approved by the Illinois General Assembly on May 31.

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