OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

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Treasurer Frerichs Honors Leaders at LGBT History Month Celebration

CHICAGO – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs today hosted a celebration at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago to commemorate LGBT History Month. The event was an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and achievements in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. October is LGBT History Month.

"Today, we stand together proudly and celebrate our LGBT neighbors and community," Frerichs said. "We must work every day to secure the dignity that is deserving of every human being."

Victor Salvo, Founder and Executive Director of The Legacy Project, served as the celebration's Keynote Speaker. Treasurer Frerichs and CBS Channel 2 News Brad Edwards presented awards to the following recipients for their outstanding commitment to the community:

Award Recipients:

Outstanding Commitment in Business: Tracy Baim, Windy City Times

Outstanding Commitment in Community Service: Mary Morten, Morten Group

Outstanding Commitment in Education: Owen Daniel McCarter, Illinois Safe Schools Alliance

Outstanding Commitment as an Elected Official: State Rep. Greg Harris, D-13.

Outstanding Commitment in Leadership: David Ernesto Munar, Howard Brown Health Center

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About the Illinois Treasurer

The Illinois Treasurer is the state's chief investment officer and Frerichs is a Certified Public Finance Officer. He protects consumers by encouraging savings plans for college or trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, and removing barriers to a secure retirement. As the state's Chief Investment Officer, he actively manages approximately $25 billion. The portfolio includes $13 billion in state funds, $7 billion in college savings plans and $5 billion on behalf of local and state governments. The investment approach is cautious to ensure the preservation of capital and returns $28 to the state for every $1 spent in operations. The Treasurer's Office predates Illinois incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 chose to make it an elected office.

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