



Dear Representative _____

As the statewide association representing all nonprofits and foundations in Illinois, Forefront would like to draw your attention to [SB 1349](#), which makes one simple change: It waives the \$300 / per-year / per-exclusive-lobbyist fees for 501c3 businesses with less than \$5 million in revenue. **Forefront and nonprofit stakeholders listed below strongly support SB1349.**

Please:

1. Sign onto SB1349 as a co-sponsor (Senate only)
2. Ensure that the provisions of SB1359 are enacted this spring.

This simple but crucial legislation will support equitable participation and full compliance with lobbying rules. Many grants and contracts do not permit the use of funds for lobbying fees; raising private dollars to cover lobbying fees is challenging, as well. Waiving the lobbyist registration fee for some 501c3 registrants will ensure that many nonprofit leaders continue to share their expertise and district knowledge with elected officials.

While many of the organizations listed below have revenue > \$5 million and/or are a 501c4, and thus will not directly benefit from this legislation as it's drafted, we collectively support it because it's a step in the right direction for the nonprofit sector overall.

A fact sheet about SB1349 is attached to this email.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have questions!

Holly Ambuehl, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, Forefront

Nadeen Israel, Vice President Policy & Advocacy, **AIDS Foundation Chicago**

Jennifer Walling, Executive Director, **Illinois Environmental Council**

Jonathan VanderBrug, Deputy Director, Civic Engagement, **Arts Alliance Illinois**

Allison Clements, Executive Director, **Illinois Housing Council**

Lore Baker, President & CEO, **Association for Individual Development**

John S. Herring, Sr., Executive Director, **Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living**

Ron Melka, President, **Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois**

Lauren Wright, Executive Director, **Illinois Partners for Human Service**

Niya Kelly, Director of State Legislative Policy, Equity and Transformation, **Chicago Coalition for the Homeless**

Cyrus Winnett, Sr. Vice President, Public Policy + Governmental Affairs, **Illinois Primary Health Care Association**

Jay Young, Executive Director, **Common Cause Illinois**

Elissa Bassler, CEO, **Illinois Public Health institute**

Blanca Campos, CEO, **Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois**

Christy Filby, Executive Director, **Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs**

Amy Zimmerman, Assistant Vice President, State Government Affairs, **Jewish United**

Josh Evans, President &
CEO, **Illinois Association of
Rehabilitation Facilities**

Gerald (Jud) E. DeLoss,
CEO, **Illinois Association for
Behavioral Health**

Vickie Smith, President &
CEO, **Illinois Coalition Against
Domestic Violence**

Carrie Ward, CEO, **Illinois Coalition
Against Sexual Assault (ICASA)**

Lawrence Benito, CEO/Executive
Director, **Illinois Coalition for
Immigrant and Refugee Rights**

Andrea Durbin, Chief Executive
Officer, **Illinois Collaboration on
Youth**

**Fund/Jewish Federation of
Chicago**

John Bouman, Director, **Legal
Action Chicago**

Anne Larsen VanderWeele, Director
of Government Affairs & Special
Assistant to the
President, **Metropolitan Family
Services**

Jeremy Rosen, Director of Economic
Justice, **Shriver Center on Poverty
Law**

David Esposito, Executive
Director, **Supportive Housing
Providers Association**

Heather O'Donnell, Senior Vice
President, Public Policy &
Advocacy, **Thresholds**