



Guidelines for Speaking with Elected Officials

Back to Work Illinois (BWI) is a broad coalition of civic, business, community and labor organizations dedicated to the successful implementation of Illinois' capital investment plan through outreach, education and advocacy.

BWI's goal is to ensure that the capital program is fully funded and implemented in order to put Illinois back to work NOW, fund thousands of critical road, school and public works projects across the state, and generate new revenues to support municipal and county services, like public safety, economic development and other local priorities.

Elected Officials Need to Hear from You!

Thank you for agreeing to contact your elected officials about your strong support for the state capital plan and the means to fund the investment program. Once you have had the chance to contact your local officials, please encourage your employees, colleagues, friends and family to do the same. Our elected officials need to hear from everyone in their community.

Here are some important points to remember when talking with your local elected officials:

- **Thank them**
Be sure to thank them for their work on behalf of your community and/or your businesses.
- **Make it personal and local**
Relate how the state capital plan and video gaming can help your businesses, your employees and your community. Relate the personal efforts and investments you have made in your business, employees and community. Describe how state funded capital projects or enhanced services will improve your community.
- **Be specific**
Describe how you would be able to use additional revenue. How many jobs would you be able to retain or create? What types of investments in you business or community would be possible as a result? Would area business be able to expand – locations, operating hours, number of employees? Will it make you more competitive? Local officials need to understand how your business will be improved.
- **Ask for their support**
Based on the information you have shared, ask your elected officials to support participation in the state-managed video gaming system. If elected officials need more information, ask them to keep an open mind and give you the opportunity to provide them with additional facts before taking a position.
- **Report back**
We need to know where we stand. If local officials are supportive we want to make sure we thank them; if they require additional information before making a decision, we need to know that, too. Your feedback is critical to the overall effort.

Contact us

Update@BacktoWorkIllinois.com

312-772-BTWI (2894)