

Illinois AFL-CIO Statement: New State Budget Cuts Put Heavy Burden on Working Families

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SPRINGFIELD –The Illinois AFL-CIO, representing tens of thousands of Illinois state employees and their families, today issued the following statement in response to Gov. Pritzker's proposed \$700 million in state budget cuts:

"We join AFSCME in opposing state budget cuts that place the burden on the backs of public employees who are on the frontlines of our collective fight against COVID-19.

We were strong supporters of the Fair Tax initiative as a way to provide needed revenue to support the vital state services and programs we all depend on, and that have proven even more important during the pandemic. Our state has suffered for too long with revenue shortfalls, and these now are producing very real and painful choices that will devastate the very hard-working, middle-income families we all depend on.

We stand ready to work with our union partners and our leaders in Springfield on solutions that spare this pain for working families and address the state's revenue shortfall responsibly and fairly."

Tim Drea, President, Illinois AFL-CIO Pat Devaney, Secretary-Treasurer, Illinois AFL-CIO