



A MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY OF STATE JESSE WHITE

It is my privilege to present this 2021-2022 edition of the *Illinois Blue Book*. The 59th edition continues the tradition of providing up-to-date information about state officials and government agencies, as well as a snapshot of Illinois facts and history.

Our state historically has had the ability to step up to and overcome profound challenges, no matter the situation. This strength was tested this past year with the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has posed many difficult and unique challenges, but the citizens of our state have displayed their capacity to act in a way that is thoughtful to all Illinoisans by social distancing, wearing masks and caring for one another during trying times. The future looks bright, and our past — including the preceding year — demonstrates that we are capable of surmounting the challenges put before us.

As in previous *Blue Books*, this edition contains biographies of our elected officials and legislators; information on constitutional offices and state departments, Illinois courts and the education system; and an updated chronology of Illinois history. The compilation of information in this book is reflective of the extraordinary efforts of many individuals. Employees in all sectors of government contribute to the assemblage of this publication. I appreciate their tenacity and thoughtfulness in maintaining the legacy of this book, one of the most reliable and respected resources on Illinois government and history.

On a personal note, this 2021-2022 *Illinois Blue Book* represents my 11th and final edition. I have been deeply honored and privileged to serve the people of this great state, and I am proud to provide this year's publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JESSE WHITE
Illinois Secretary of State
