



MICHAEL FRERICHS

Treasurer

Michael Frerichs (Democrat) was first elected Illinois State Treasurer on Nov. 4, 2014, and reelected on Nov. 6, 2018.

The Illinois Treasurer acts as the state's chief investment and banking officer. The Office of the Illinois State Treasurer invests money on behalf of the state, local units of government and families saving for college. Frerichs firmly believes in providing necessary tools to individuals so they are able to invest in their most important asset: themselves. He achieves this by encouraging savings plans for college and trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, removing barriers to a secure retirement, and reuniting Illinois residents with their unclaimed property.

The Treasurer's office actively manages approximately \$35 billion. The investment approach is cautious to ensure the preservation of capital.

In Illinois, the Treasurer's office predates the state's incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 chose to establish it as an elected office. Frerichs is the 74th person to serve in this role. Frerichs serves on the Executive Committees of the National Association of State Treasurers; the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers; the College Savings Plan Network; and the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators. He also serves as a trustee on the Illinois State Board of Investment.

Frerichs was born and raised in the small farming community of Gifford, Illinois. He graduated from Yale University and spent two years in Taiwan, where he taught English to young students and learned to speak Chinese. He later returned to Champaign County and launched his own technology business. He was elected to the Champaign County Board and then as Champaign County auditor. He also served as a volunteer firefighter.

In 2006, Frerichs won election as state Senator to represent east-central Illinois. As chair of the Higher Education Committee, he championed efforts to make college more affordable. He was chair of the Agriculture and Conservation Committee and became a certified public finance officer.

Treasurer Frerichs resides in Champaign with his young daughter, Ella.

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