



# Illinois News Broadcasters Association

February 24, 2010

Senate President John Cullerton

327 Capitol Building  
Springfield, Illinois, 62706

Dear President Cullerton:

The Illinois News Broadcasters Association (INBA) is pleased to learn that you will open all further joint caucus meetings to the public and to the news media. The organization objects to the closure of the most recent such caucus meeting, held on February 17, 2010, which included a presentation from the National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL).

Any such closed meeting certainly violates the very spirit of both the state constitution and the Open Meetings Act, and the organization does not believe that calling this a "joint caucus" makes it legal. The fact that the meeting focused on the state budget—clearly an issue that will affect each and every Illinoisan—makes this violation of the state's trust even more objectionable.

INBA insists that you keep your promise to open these meetings for the good of the residents of Illinois.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hahn  
President