



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

BRUCE RAUNER
GOVERNOR

February 9, 2017

Dear Representatives Currie, Davis, Mayfield, and McAsey,

Thank you for your letter dated February 8, 2017. I appreciate you outlining your concerns regarding the unresolved issues highlighted in the Commission framework. Your letter reflects an important intent of the Commission: to have open, honest and detailed conversations about the complex nature of school funding. With 852 individual schools districts in our state, reaching a compromise plan that will meet the needs of all scholars is a daunting task.

As we discussed during the bipartisan, bicameral meetings of the Illinois School Funding Commission, the final report represents a framework that members of the General Assembly can use to create a new school funding formula that defines adequacy based on the needs of children and distributes funds first to those districts whose funding is furthest from adequacy.

I encourage you to share this letter with your colleagues from the Senate and House Republicans who were also on the Commission so that these very important issues can be used during negotiations.

If I or any member of my team can be of specific assistance, please feel free to reach out.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beth Puvris".

Beth Puvris
Secretary of Education

