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February 9, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Quinn  
Governor, State of Illinois  
Room 207, State House  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

The Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability met on January 12, 2009 to continue discussions on the proposed closures of Howe Developmental Center and Tinley Park Mental Health Center. At that time, the Commission voted to withhold a final opinion until the trial proceedings against former Governor Rod Blagojevich had been completed. An opinion adopted by the Commission (see attached) stated that within sixty business days of the completion of such proceedings a more definitive opinion would be issued. In accordance with the decision by the Commission on January 12, 2009, it is the Commission's intent to issue a final opinion regarding these closures by April 27, 2009.

The Commission understands that a thorough review of decisions made by the prior administration is being undertaken. Given the importance of these proposed closures to the clients and employees at these facilities, the Commission requests that a review of the decision made by the prior administration concerning the Howe Developmental Center and Tinley Park Mental Center be made in an expeditious manner.

The Commission looks forward to working with you to insure transparency on this and any future facility closures.

Sincerely,

Senator Jeffrey M. Schoenberg  
CGFA Co-Chairman

Representative Richard P. Myers  
CGFA Co-Chairman