

Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

Bruce Rauner, Governor

July 29, 2015

Dan Long, Executive Director Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability 703 Stratton Office Building Springfield, IL 62706

RE: Illinois State Museum Closure

Dear Executive Director Long:

In response to a July 29, 2015 email request from Benjamin Varner, Senior Analyst for the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability ("CGFA"), to Michael Stevens, legislative liaison for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources ("IDNR"), requesting IDNR attendance at the proposed August 5, 2015 hearing in room A-1 of the Stratton Building to vote on closure of the Illinois State Museum, IDNR respectfully declines the invitation to attend.

Pursuant to the Illinois State Facilities Closure Act (30 ILCS 608) ("Act"), public hearings conducted by CGFA shall be conducted no later than thirty-five (35) days after the filing of the recommendation for closure. As CGFA accurately acknowledged in its June 30, 2015 letter to IDNR Director Wayne Rosenthal, the recommendation for closure pertinent to the State Museum was properly filed by IDNR with CGFA on June 19, 2015.

Therefore, the thirty-five (35) day requirement within which hearings "shall be conducted" has already passed. IDNR does however acknowledge the forthcoming non-binding/advisory opinion on this matter from CGFA required pursuant to the Act on or before August 8, 2015.

Sincerely,

Director