

COUNTY BUILDING
118 N. CLARK STREET
ROOM 567
CHICAGO, IL 60602
(312) 603-6383
(312) 603-3622 FAX
larry.suffredin@cookcountyil.gov
www.Suffredin.org

DISTRICT OFFICE
820 Davis St., Suite 104
Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 864-1209
(847) 864-1209 Fax



LARRY SUFFREDIN
COMMISSIONER - 13TH DISTRICT
COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Pension Subcommittee
Road and Bridges Committee
Veterans Committee
Workforce, Job Development
and Training Committee
Zoning and Building
Committee

May 22, 2019

Hon. John J. Cullerton
Senate President
327 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear President Cullerton:

I respectfully ask you to support the *They Deserve More Coalition* in their efforts to pass HB 2148 and SB 1148. This legislation would enable Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) to earn a base wage of at least \$5.00 per hour above the state minimum wage (as well as any minimum wage levels established by counties or municipalities).

Over the past two years, the General Assembly has appropriated funds to enable small increases in DSP wages totaling \$1.25 per hour, but that has unfortunately not come near what is needed. This year, our passage of the minimum wage increase has accelerated the staffing crisis that already exists and the critical need for funding as workers flee to higher-paying jobs.

DSPs are leaving their jobs in droves to take retail, warehouse and fast food positions to make ends meet. Caring, compassionate people who want to do this critical work simply cannot afford to. Therefore, I am joining the providers in advocating that funds be appropriated to enable DSPs to earn a base wage of at least \$5.00 per hour above the state minimum wage through HB 2148 and SB 1148.

LARRY SUFFREDIN, Chairman

SCOTT R. BRITTON, Vice-Chairman

The 13th District includes the following communities:
49th & 50th Wards of the City of Chicago, the City of Evanston and the Villages of Glencoe, Glenview, Kenilworth, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Niles, Northbrook, Skokie, Wilmette, and Winnetka.



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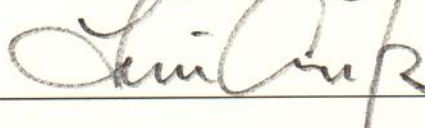

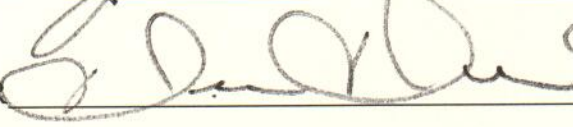
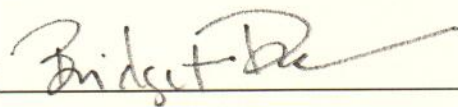
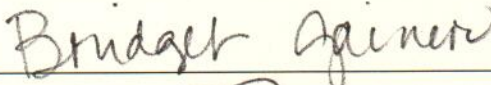

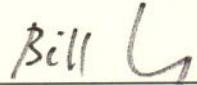
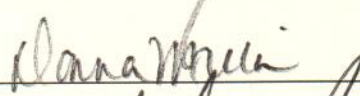
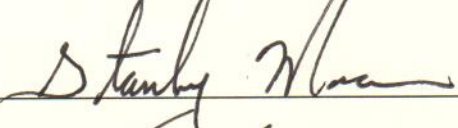




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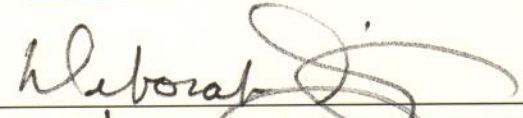
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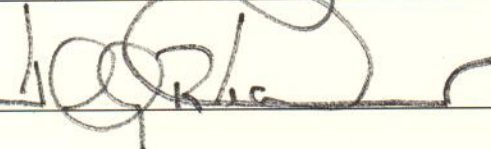
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PETER N. SILVESTRI 

DEBORAH SIMS 

JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI 

Sincerely,



Larry Suffredin
Cook County Commissioner, 13th District
Chairman, Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

cc: Hon. Bill Brady

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