



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

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

May 22, 2019

Hon. Michael J. Madigan  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
300 Capitol Building  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Speaker Madigan:

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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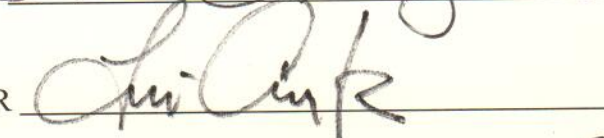
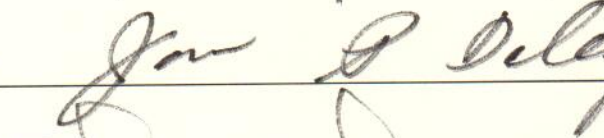
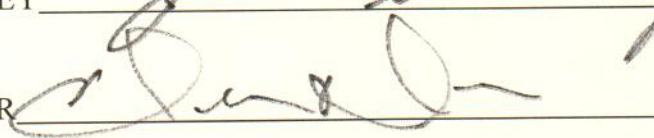

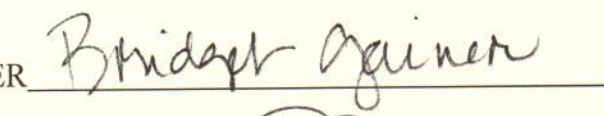

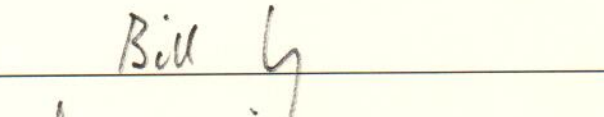
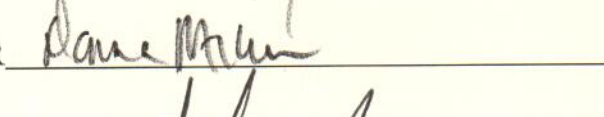
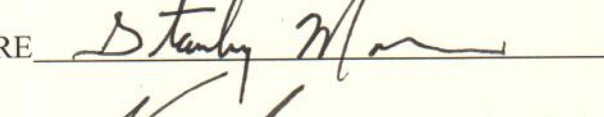
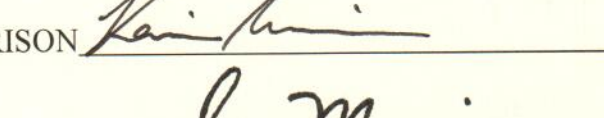
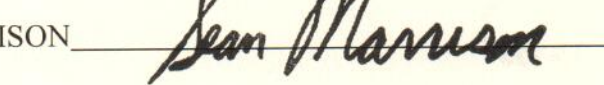


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PETER N. SILVESTRI

DEBORAH SIMS

JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI

Sincerely,

Larry Suffredin  
Cook County Commissioner, 13<sup>th</sup> District  
Chairman, Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

cc: Hon. Jim Durkin

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