

## INTRODUCTION

Chi Hack Night ([chihacknight.org](http://chihacknight.org)) is a group of thousands of designers, academic researchers, data journalists, activists, policy wonks, web developers and curious citizens. We strive to make our society more just, equitable, transparent and delightful to live in, by making data, design and technology more accessible. Each week, we volunteer to build tools that serve the public good. Open government data makes it possible for us to do this valuable work.

## GOVERNOR'S PLEDGE

Representative democracies thrive on transparency and accountability, facilitated by open access to information. The State of Illinois collects and stores a wide range of data that's critical for the public to know and use. As the chief executive for the state, I will be committed to supporting open data practices to benefit all constituents, including citizens, organizations, journalists, and other government entities.

I recognize that capturing and providing public access to data is critically important for creating an open, efficient and responsive government. Access to public information is a right, not a privilege.

**If elected, I will ensure that the State of Illinois and its agencies receive adequate support and funding to implement an open data policy in these eight areas:**

1. **Lead Data-Driven Governance:** I will use open data to inform executive decision-making, initiatives, operations, and policy creation wherever possible. I will also report annually on the state's progress in this area.
2. **Appoint a Data Leadership Team:** In the first year of my term, I will appoint a data leadership team including a Chief Data Officer and Chief Information Officer that will be responsible for developing and implementing data governance policies (including open data policies), and supporting executive data analysis projects.
3. **Collaborate and Share Services:** I will convene regular meetings with county and municipal units of governments to promote the open sharing of data and to find ways we might together improve the quality and quantity of data available to our residents.
4. **Adhere to Open Standards:** I will advocate for renewal of the *Open Operating Standards Act* (Public Act 98-0627), and propose revisions to account for current technology and civic needs. I will also update the *Illinois Open Data Standard and Technical Standards Manual* to reflect best and emerging practices.
5. **Defend and Enforce FOIA law:** I will implement decision-making processes for FOIA response and open data release designed to shield those decisions from political or reputational considerations. I will drive good-faith compliance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. I will instruct my agencies to make good-faith efforts to publish their data and fully respond to legitimate FOIA requests in a timely manner.
6. **Respect the Privacy & Security of Citizens:** My policies will ensure secure data storage, safeguard personal identity, respect personal privacy, and follow all applicable privacy laws.
7. **Reduce Barriers to Access:** I will remove barriers to accessing data online (for example, by eliminating fees and licensing requirements for access, by maintaining and enhancing [data.illinois.gov](http://data.illinois.gov), by using open source data structures and providing APIs, and by publishing data in bulk).
8. **Prioritize Accuracy & Currency:** I will support and fund processes to create data that is accurate and keep it up-to-date.
9. **Require Documentation:** I will require publication of the sources of open data and the processes used to collect and manage the data, and will make citation information available to facilitate sharing.

## SIGNATURES

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Alex Paterakis (D)

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Ameya Pawar (D)

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Bob Daiber (D)

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Bruce Rauner (R)

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Chris Kennedy (D)

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Daniel Biss (D)

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J.B. Pritzker (D)

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Robert Marshall (D)

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Scott Drury (D)

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Tio Hardeman (D)

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William J. Kelly (R)