

COMPTROLLER



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Daniel W. Hynes (Democrat) was elected to a third term as State Comptroller on Nov. 7, 2006, by a margin of more than 1 million votes.

Hynes believes the Comptroller should be a watchdog over state finances, and as such has become the state's leading voice for fiscal responsibility. During his tenure, he has made government more efficient and accountable, blocked excessive and wasteful spending and led by example in the fight for higher ethical standards.

Hynes created a Rainy Day Fund to help ensure the state can meet its financial obligations during economic hard times, pushed for balanced budget reforms and advocated long-term financial planning. He refused to pay for millions of dollars in goods and services the state was billed for but never received, suspended government pay hikes and froze payments for unnecessary pork projects. He also has fought for tough ethics laws that ban campaign contributions from companies with state contracts, and sponsored successful legislation prohibiting tax scofflaws and corporations involved in

financial crimes from getting state contracts.

Hynes has operated his office with fewer dollars and employees than when first elected. He created a more efficient bill payment system, processing more than 6.1 million electronic payments annually; increased the state's debt collection efforts, more than doubling monies collected; and streamlined services to the more than 5,000 local governments in Illinois.

Hynes has led efforts to obtain state funding for lifesaving stem-cell research. He also championed legislation preventing overtime pay losses for as many as 350,000 Illinois workers, and administered an executive order suspending payments to contractors who do not comply with the state's Prevailing Wage Law. In his regulatory role, Hynes spearheaded passage of the most sweeping consumer protection reforms of the funeral industry in 25 years.

Before taking office, Hynes was a health care attorney for a Chicago law firm. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in economics and computer applications, and earned his J.D. with honors from Loyola University School of Law. A native of Chicago, Hynes, 38, and his wife, Christina, have three sons: Charlie, Liam and Finn.

Office of the Comptroller

The Comptroller is the chief fiscal control officer for Illinois government, charged with maintaining the state's central fiscal accounts and ordering payments into and out of the appropriate funds. To fulfill these duties, the Comptroller has established accounting standards for use by all state agencies. Maintaining the official records regarding state government's fiscal affairs, the Comptroller serves as a clearinghouse for financial information.