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## A MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY OF STATE JESSE WHITE

It is my privilege to present the 2019-2020 *Illinois Blue Book*. The 58th edition continues the tradition of providing up-to-date information about state officials and government agencies, as well as a snapshot of Illinois facts and history.

The rich history of Illinois is encapsulated in the cover story featuring the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM). In April 2005, the museum was officially dedicated and received statewide and national recognition and praise for its exhibits and broad appeal to visitors. The 2005-2006 *Illinois Blue Book* commemorated the opening of the ALPLM with photos and information about the 25-year effort to create a museum and scholarly research center worthy of honoring the 16th President of the United States. This edition revisits the ALPLM and features the development and highlights of the state agency. I hope that it rekindles a spirit of enthusiasm for this jewel in Springfield and reminds individuals that there is a new feature with every visit to the library and museum.

As in previous *Blue Books*, this edition contains biographies of our elected officials and legislators, information on constitutional offices and state departments, Illinois courts and the education system, and an updated chronology of Illinois history. The compilation of information in this book is reflective of the extraordinary efforts of many individuals. Employees in all sectors of government contribute to the assemblage of this information, and I appreciate their tenacity and thoughtfulness in maintaining the legacy of this book and providing one of the most reliable and respected sources of Illinois government and history.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your Illinois Secretary of State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

JESSE WHITE  
Illinois Secretary of State

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