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MARCH 12, 2007

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH  
GOVERNOR

Dear Business Owner:

For far too long, large and multi-national corporations have found ways to avoid paying their fair share of taxes and individuals and **small businesses have paid the price**. Illinois has one of the most regressive tax systems in the nation. It's unfair and it doesn't work. It puts small and medium size businesses at a competitive disadvantage. It under-funds our schools and shortchanges healthcare. It's a tax system that increases the burdens on middle class families. It's a tax system that ignores the realities of today's economy. It's a tax system that is holding us back.

There are loud voices in Springfield spreading misinformation about my plan because they haven't paid their fair share of taxes in a long time – if they've paid any – and they want to keep it that way. They want you to be confused and they will tell you this plan is bad for business and that your taxes will go up. I am writing to you today to set the record straight.

**Under my tax fairness plan, businesses with under \$1 million in revenues will be exempt from the revised tax structure. This means that 75% of all businesses in Illinois will see no or little change in their taxes.** But, under my plan, large and multi-national corporations will finally have to pay their fair share of taxes. No more hiding in the loopholes their lobbyists have created for them. And, because we are leveling the playing field, we will be able to guarantee everyone in Illinois access to quality, affordable healthcare and dramatically increase funding for our schools.

Small businesses are the economic backbone of Illinois and over the past four years I've been committed to helping small business grow. I know that small businesses have been hit the hardest by rising healthcare costs and my new healthcare plan will help.

To learn more about the healthcare crisis and to get information on how to help, visit our new website at <http://www.illinoiscovered.com>.

Sincerely,

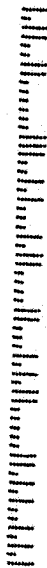
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Blagojevich".

Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

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