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FYI -
This is how
I feel - Bill

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Illinois House Republican Leader, Tom Cross
316 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

April 28, 2005

Dear Leader Cross,

Thank you for taking time to seek input from State Central Committeemen regarding SB0600. Though there are pros and cons about going back to the old way of direct elections, there is unlikely to be any spirited opposition to this bill. As with any corporate entity that encounters hard times, changes in procedure, personnel, or both are expected. This change, however short sighted or visionary, may indeed energize Republican "grass roots."

The makeup of the committee will surely change, as will the expectations. 400 district precinct committeemen and County Board Chairman are more likely to be familiar with the work ethic and Republican principles of candidates under the current system than will be 150,000 primary voters. Under the proposed system, name recognition and wealth will be important determinants, not necessarily a good or bad thing.

I became interested in Republican politics in the 50s, doing what I could for Eisenhower as a high school student, energetically working for Nixon in college, and supporting Republican principles and candidates ever since. I sought this position for two reasons. First, to get the Party to focus, once again, not on personalities, but on the message and principles that make us better. Second, I have tried to get all Republicans to work together against Democrats, instead of worrying about each other's ideological "purity."

On behalf of the Republicans in the 8th, allow me to congratulate you on your leadership and promotion of these same ideals. I have been honored to serve in this capacity, and especially so to co-chair the State Platform Committee. Though I would like to continue my effort, should one of the ten fine state legislators of the 8th seek this position, I will probably step aside.

Sincerely,



William C. Dam, M.D.
State Central Committeeman 8th Congressional District
c.c. Area Legislators and County Chairman