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Sheri L. Jesiel

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 61st DISTRICT

March 24, 2015

Lawrence Hanson
Mayor, Village of Antioch
874 Main Street
Antioch, Illinois 60002

Dear Lawrence:

Thank you for your letter regarding Governor Rauner's proposed reduction to the Local Government Distributive Fund. Your input is always appreciated.

As you know, Illinois is in a fiscal crisis. Governor Rauner's first challenge is to solve a \$1.6 billion shortfall for a budget he inherited. If action isn't taken soon by the General Assembly, the state will be unable to make payroll at our prisons; low-income working families will lose their child care assistance; money for services for the mentally ill and the developmentally disabled will run out; and there will be no funding for court reporters and that is just the beginning. It is imperative that we solve the FY 15 budget shortfall before we can even start discussion on the FY 16 budget.

Keep in mind that the Governor's budget blueprint is a starting point that still needs to go through the legislative process. We are early in the session and any votes on FY 16 budget are months away. There will be hearings and plenty of discussion before any action is taken.

However, now is the time to be thinking about creative solutions or alternatives to the Governor's proposal, and if you have any suggestions or ideas feel free to share with me.

Again, thank you for your concern and your opinion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheri L. Jesiel".

Sheri Jesiel
State Representative
61st District

SJ/bm