

## OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

---

Daniel W. Hynes is the sixth State Comptroller since the office was created in 1970 with adoption of the new Illinois State Constitution. Prior to 1970, the financial reporting functions of the state were the responsibility of the Auditor of Public Accounts, an office dating back to 1812 when Illinois became a territory.

The Comptroller maintains all state fiscal records and is the chief fiscal officer for Illinois' multi-billion dollar budget — comparable in size to that of a Fortune 100 corporation. As part of pension reforms passed by the General Assembly in 2009, the Comptroller became a member of the Illinois State Board of Investment, which manages the pension assets of the General Assembly, Judges' and State Employees' Retirement Systems. The legislation also designated the Comptroller as chair of the State Employees' Retirement System Board.

The Illinois Constitution empowers the Comptroller to maintain the state's central fiscal accounts. The office records transactions, pre-audits expenditures and contracts, issues financial reports and provides leadership on the fiscal affairs of the state. The office processes more than 16 million transactions annually, and serves as “watchdog” to ensure that all state payments meet the requirements of the law.

The Comptroller's primary focus is the management of state funds — revenue receipts and spending. The office provides current and accurate fiscal information to the Governor, the General Assembly, local government officials and the public. In addition, financial impact analyses and other studies are performed to assist the Governor and lawmakers in making better budget decisions.

### Fiscal Leadership and Financial Reporting

The Comptroller's office must provide meaningful and timely fiscal information to help state policymakers adopt effective fiscal policies. One measurement of the state's fis-



Comptroller Dan Hynes gathered a bipartisan group of Illinois political leaders and government reform advocates to urge an override of the Governor's veto of landmark ethics legislation. The legislation drafted by Hynes and passed in 2008 prohibits the influence of “pay-to-play” politics in Illinois.



Comptroller Hynes joined more than 5,000 laid off steelworkers and a coalition of unions and community groups at the U.S. Steel plant in Granite City. The marchers called on Congress to pass legislation that invests in American jobs and puts people back to work.

cal health is the rating issued by bond rating companies. Key components of the bond rating are cash balances and outstanding payables. The Comptroller's office is involved in the management of both components as well as the approval of any short-term borrowing by the state.

The office must keep current with technology advancements and continually seek new ways to improve how it serves the public. One such way includes the use of electronic commerce, which allows vendors, employees and retirees to receive electronic direct deposits to their bank accounts. Vendors also may check on the status of a payment due from the state on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.ioc.state.il.us](http://www.ioc.state.il.us).

Comptroller Hynes' commitment to putting more understandable fiscal information into the hands of taxpayers was demonstrated by his support of a law requiring the Department of Revenue to provide easy-to-understand budget summaries in the annual tax booklet mailed to millions of taxpayers each year.

The Comptroller's office is required to report periodically on the fiscal status of the state to the constitutional offices and the General Assembly. At the end of each year, the Comptroller's office prepares an account of the state's financial affairs called the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*. The report is published according to generally accepted accounting principles and standards set by the Government Accounting Standards Board.

The Comptroller's office also publishes *Fiscal Focus*, a newsletter containing updates of key state fiscal facts and in-depth articles about timely fiscal issues. The annual *Illinois Traditional Budgetary Financial Report* provides summaries of revenues, expenditures and year-

end balances by fund and category. The *Tax Expenditures Report* highlights the \$6.6 billion in tax breaks each year, while the *Fiscal Responsibility Report Card* provides an annual report on the financial status of 5,200 units of local government in Illinois. Other annual financial reports prepared by the office include the *Executive Summary*, the *Fee Imposition Report*, the *Detailed Annual Financial Report*, *Appropriations and Bonded Indebtedness* and the *Long-term Obligations Report*.

Since adoption of the Illinois State Collection Act of 1986, the Office of the Comptroller is required to report on receivables and establish collection procedures through its statewide accounting system. The *Receivables Report* provides a compilation of the state's receivables and an analysis of debt collection efforts by agencies and the Comptroller's office.

### **Statewide Accounting**

As the state's chief fiscal office, the Comptroller's office records transactions and ensures proper payment and management of payables. The office processes 16 million transactions annually to fund necessary programs, pay state employees and issue more than 4 million state income tax refunds. The office utilizes state-of-the-art industry transmission formats for its electronic transactions, which have increased 90 percent under Hynes' leadership.

To ensure fiscal integrity, the office implements a pre-audit process prior to the payment of any invoice. This process ensures that a state agency does not exceed its appropriation authorized by the General Assembly and that the invoice has been properly approved for payment.

An integral part of the Statewide Accounting Management System is the Comptroller's Web site, which provides immediate financial information to taxpayers and increases government accountability.

### **Serving Local Governments**

The Comptroller's office is the repository of local government fiscal information used for financial analysis, oversight and forecasting. The office collects and analyzes Annual Financial Reports (AFRs) that state law requires 5,200 units of local government to file. The Comptroller Connect Internet Filing program allows local governments to file their AFRs online. Local governments with Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts also are required to file annual reports for each TIF with the Comptroller's office.

The office actively seeks new ways to reach out to local governments. Comptroller Hynes has increased financial reporting compliance among local governments each year he has been in office through more aggressive follow-up and by offering technical support to smaller units of government. As part of his fiscal outreach efforts, Hynes' office offers statewide training seminars for county treasurers. The division has a 30-member local government advisory board that offers valuable input from around the state.

### **Cemetery Care and Burial Trust**

The Comptroller's office licenses certain private cemeteries that accept care funds, as well as businesses such as cemeteries and funeral homes that sell pre-need funeral goods and services to consumers. The office helps ensure that consumer dollars collected by these businesses are placed in trust so they are available when consumers need them. During Hynes' tenure, the office has sponsored legislative reforms strengthening con-



Comptroller Hynes testifies with lead sponsor state Senator William Delgado on legislation designed to close a loophole that allows the state's bills to be deferred to the next fiscal year. Hynes gathered health-care and social-service vendors from across the state to push for budgetary reforms that will help ease payment delays.

sumer protection laws, helped secure criminal indictments and stiffened criminal penalties for those who break Illinois' cemetery and funeral laws.

Although the Comptroller's office has limited authority involving the death-care industry, staff members try to assist consumers through a toll-free hotline at 877-203-3401.

### **Public Accountability**

Comptroller Hynes strongly believes that state government should be customer-oriented, provide the most efficient services possible and be accountable to taxpayers for what it spends. As part of its Public Accountability Project, the Comptroller's office surveys state agencies and publishes an annual report on program performance. The comprehensive reports provide a first-rate indication of what types of services the state is providing and whether these services are being provided efficiently and effectively.

The Public Accountability Project seeks to make Illinois government more results-oriented, increase public awareness of the efficacy of state programs, facilitate informed decision-making on the allocation of state resources, and increase public accessibility to information on state programs and services. The annual reports are available on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.ioc.state.il.us](http://www.ioc.state.il.us).

## Comptroller's Staff Members



**Keith Taylor**  
*Chief of Staff*



**Don Templeman**  
*Assistant Comptroller  
Operations*



**Rick Cornell**  
*Assistant Comptroller  
Policy & Programs*



**Peg Roth**  
*Assistant Comptroller  
Chicago Office*



**Whitney Wagner Rosen**  
*Chief Legal Counsel*



**Kevin Shoeben**  
*Director  
Legislative Affairs*



**Chris Belle**  
*Director  
Budget & State  
Officers Payroll*



**Carol Knowles**  
*Press Secretary*



**Olumide "Ollie" Idowu**  
*Legislative Liaison*

Alan Henry .....	<i>Director, Communications</i>
Steve Valasek .....	<i>Director, State Accounting &amp; GASB 34</i>
Percy Lucina .....	<i>Director, Cemetery Care &amp; Burial Trust</i>
Frank Bilecki .....	<i>Director, Local Government</i>
Alexis Sturm .....	<i>Director, Research &amp; Fiscal Information</i>
Judith McAnarney .....	<i>Director, Human Resources</i>
Allen Mayer .....	<i>Prevailing Wage Officer</i>
Katherine Cutler .....	<i>Manager, Expenditure Analysis &amp; Research</i>
Camille Manderfeld .....	<i>Executive Assistant, Chicago</i>