



OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 23, 2018

CONTACT:

Greg Rivara 312.814.1901

Paris Ervin 217.524.5749

Last Call: Submit Your Design for Illinois' Bicentennial Medallion

May 1 Deadline to Commemorate Illinois' 200th Birthday

SPRINGFIELD – With just more than one week from the May 1 deadline, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs today reminds Illinois residents to submit their design for the *Bicentennial Coin Contest*. The winning design will be used for the coin that will be created and distributed to commemorate the Illinois Bicentennial.

“You still have time to submit your coin design to honor and celebrate Illinois’ 200th birthday,” Frerichs said. “This contest is a great opportunity for residents to showcase their artistic talents and design a bicentennial coin illustrative of the beauty and history of Illinois.”

The treasurer’s office will accept electronic submissions for the *Bicentennial Coin Contest* from Illinois residents. Each design should depict an aspect of Illinois or Illinois history. One entry, per contestant, may be submitted now through May 1, 2018 at www.IllinoisCoinContest.com. The winning design will be used for the commemorative bicentennial coin. To pre-order a commemorative bicentennial coin, visit www.IllinoisCoinContest.com and click on the “medallion pre-sale” graphic.

The public will have an online opportunity to vote on the top five designs in June. A final winner will be announced on June 18, 2018.

The Commemorative Medallions Act authorizes the state treasurer to issue medallions or coins to commemorate popular contemporaneous events of statewide interest. The State of Illinois will celebrate its 200th birthday on Dec. 3, 2018.

To read the rules, terms, and legal conditions associated with this contest, visit www.IllinoisCoinContest.com. For more information and to follow updates about the Illinois Bicentennial events and celebrations, visit www.illinois200.com.

-MORE-

The Illinois Treasurer

The Illinois Treasurer is the state's chief investment officer and Frerichs is a Certified Public Finance Officer. He protects consumers by encouraging savings plans for college or trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, and removing barriers to a secure retirement. As the state's Chief Investment Officer, he actively manages approximately \$28 billion. The portfolio includes \$12 billion in state funds, \$10 billion in college savings plans and \$5.5 billion on behalf of local and state governments. The investment approach is cautious to ensure the preservation of capital and returns \$28 to the state for every \$1 spent in operations. The Treasurer's Office predates Illinois incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 chose to make it an elected office.

###