



OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 5, 2015

CONTACT:

Paris Ervin 217.524.5749

Greg Rivara 312.814.1901

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

Treasurer Frerichs Joins State Treasurers, Advocates to Raise Awareness about Efforts to Provide Financial Independence for People with Disabilities

CHICAGO – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, along with the National Association of State Treasurers, will host an ABLÉ Forum in Chicago on August 6 and 7. State Treasurers and treasury staff members from across the nation will meet face-to-face to discuss working together to implement the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE Act) and the possibility of multi-state collaboration for the program. The ABLÉ Act was recently signed into law in Illinois, which creates a tax exempt plan to assist individuals and families in saving money to cover the expenses for people with disabilities.

A news conference will be held on **Thursday, August 6 at 10:15 a.m.** in the **Blue Room** at the **James R. Thompson Center at 100 West Randolph St., 15th Floor** in Chicago.

WHO: Michael Frerichs, Illinois State Treasurer

Young Boozer III, Alabama State Treasurer, Vice-Chairman - College Savings Plans Network

Betty Lochner, Chair - College Savings Plans Network

Patti Vasquez, parent of child with Autism

Mark Friedman, parent of child with Autism

WHAT: Treasurer Frerichs will join state treasurers and advocates for individuals with disabilities to discuss the ABLÉ Act. The Treasurer's office will be responsible for the administration and implementation of ABLÉ accounts in accordance with federal rules and regulations. ABLÉ accounts are similar to 529 college saving plans with earnings that are tax-advantaged federally.

WHEN: August 6, 2015

10:15 a.m.

WHERE: James R. Thompson Center, Blue Room

100 West Randolph, 15th Floor

Chicago

Note: A b-roll/photo opportunity of the ABLÉ Forum is available immediately following the news conference at the **Bilandic Building at 160 North LaSalle Street, Bilandic Auditorium, Room C500, Chicago** (across the street from the James R. Thompson Center).

###