



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 2013

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## Hydraulic Fracturing Legislation Signed by Governor

*Industry will generate up to 50,000 jobs, hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue and preserve the environment*

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The GROW-IL (Growing Resources and Opportunity for the Workforce in Illinois) coalition applauds Governor Pat Quinn for signing legislation today that regulates the practice of hydraulic fracturing in Illinois.

"This is a monumental achievement for economic development and jobs in Illinois. Hydraulic fracturing will create good-paying jobs and reduce our reliance on foreign source of oil," said **Mark Denzler, vice president & COO of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and a co-founder of the GROW-IL Coalition**. "We applaud Governor Quinn and members of the General Assembly for developing a strong regulatory framework that will allow industry to flourish while protecting the environment."

"Good paying jobs are on the way for the working men and women of organized labor," said **Michael T. Carrigan, president of the Illinois AFL-CIO and co-chair of GROW-IL**. "Hydraulic fracturing regulations will stimulate the economy and provide protection for our environment. We thank Governor Quinn for signing this bill."

This comprehensive hydraulic fracturing legislation has earned the support of a diverse group of elected officials and industry representatives including Governor Pat Quinn, Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Illinois' business community, energy companies, transportation groups, labor unions, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Illinois Environmental Council, Farm Bureau, Illinois EPA, and Department of Natural Resources. The final compromise represents an unprecedented group of stakeholders coming together to create a solution unique to Illinois.

### The legislation has several important highlights:

- Studies indicate that 50,000 jobs may be created in manufacturing, mining, trucking, rail, engineering, road building, construction, and other sectors, many of which will be represented by organized labor.
- Millions of dollars from the taxes on production, increased economic activity, and fees to permit drilling will be generated by this legislation. An initial tax rate of 3 percent in the first two years of production will be followed by a graduated rate between 3 and 6 percent creating substantial revenue for Illinois.
- Strong safeguards exist in the legislation mandating standards on well construction, closed loop water storage, extensive chemical disclosure, air pollution protections and testing of ground and surface water – before and after fracking occurs.
- Producers will pay a \$13,500 initial fee on every permit application submitted to the Department of Natural Resources. The Illinois EPA and Department of Natural Resources will share the revenue to hire sufficient staff to review and process permits, ensure compliance, and inspect well sites.
- Incentives in the bill exist to encourage the hiring of Illinois residents.
- The bill requires residents to be notified in advance so that they may engage in the entire process by submitting public comments prior to the permit, appeal issued permits, and file citizen lawsuits to enforce the law.

For a full list of coalition members visit: <http://grow-il.org/coalition-members/>

### ABOUT GROW-IL

GROW-IL is a diverse coalition of more than three dozen business, labor, construction, transportation and agricultural organizations focused on passing common sense hydraulic fracturing legislation in Springfield and are led by three co-chairs: Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Illinois AFL-CIO and the Illinois Petroleum Council. For more information, visit [www.grow-il.org](http://www.grow-il.org)

