



A Message From Secretary of State Jesse White

As Secretary of State, it is my privilege to present the *2017-2018 Illinois Handbook of Government*. This edition provides updated information about state and government officials and an overview of the history of Illinois.

This volume also contains content related to the Bicentennial celebration of our great state. The many celebrations, landmarks and special programs to be held in honor of Illinois' 200th year of statehood will highlight the unique and important history of Illinois.

The *Illinois Handbook of Government* serves as a primary resource for teachers, students and citizens interested in learning more about the state's history. It includes up-to-date photos and contact information for Illinois constitutional officers, legislators and members of Congress. The *Handbook* also details descriptions of the duties and responsibilities of the three branches of government. The U.S. and Illinois Constitutions are featured to help students and those who desire to become U.S. citizens study for the required constitution exams.

I am confident that you will find this edition a valuable resource on Illinois government and history. I am proud to feature a special section on the Bicentennial. The *Handbook* is also available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Jesse White

JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State