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**MICHAEL E. HASTINGS**  
ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR  
19TH DISTRICT

October 25, 2017

The Honorable Bill Foster  
United States Representative 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
1224 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: *Support H.R. 2319/S. 1117, the Consumer Financial Choice and Capital Markets Protection Act.*

Dear Congressman Foster,

I am writing to request your support for H.R. 2319 and S. 1117, the Consumer Financial Choice and Capital Markets Protection Act 2017.

State and municipal governments rely on access to money market funds to finance economic development and public infrastructure in Illinois. Unfortunately, the ability to access money market funds has been severely hampered by a Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rule that requires prime and tax-exempt money market funds offered to institutional investors to no longer use amortized cost accounting to operate on a stable \$1-per share net asset value (NAV) basis. Instead, since October 14, 2016, such funds are required to use a floating NAV. As a result, tax-exempt money market funds, a key source of funding for municipalities and their conduit borrowers, shrunk by more than 50 percent nationally, and total money market fund holdings of Illinois tax-exempt debt declined by 65 percent. This has driven up the cost of borrowing for all of our state entities.

H.R. 2319 and S. 1117 will restore the \$1-per-share NAV and, with it, access to low cost public and private sector financing provided by prime and tax-exempt money market funds. Please cosponsor this legislation so that our state's public and private sector entities can continue to access a safe and secure source of low-cost variable rate borrowing to meet the economic needs of our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Hastings".

Michael E. Hastings  
Senator