



## *Illinois General Assembly*

For Immediate Release  
June 2, 2016

Contact: Rep. Wehrli: 630.696.4160

### **Lawmakers: Auditor General Mautino Needs to “Step Aside” While Investigations Continue**

Chicago...A group of Illinois lawmakers today urged Illinois Auditor General Frank Mautino to voluntarily take an unpaid leave of absence while numerous investigations persist into irregular campaign expenditures and reporting procedures dating back to his time in the Illinois House of Representatives. The lawmakers stressed that Mautino cannot effectively do his job while under a lingering cloud of suspicion.

“Over the last four months we have formally asked Auditor General Mautino four times to provide answers to the questions raised in the investigations, and still no answers are forthcoming. Recently it has come to light that federal authorities are looking into his campaign spending and reporting practices as well. There is no way that he can effectively do his job as Auditor General while defending himself against potential criminal charges and a State Election Board investigation,” said State Representative Grant Wehrli (R-Naperville).

A group of twelve legislators from the House sent an initial request for answers to Auditor General Mautino on February 1<sup>st</sup> asking for a written reply within 10 days. Mautino replied on February 9<sup>th</sup> that he needed more time to properly address the request. To accommodate the Auditor General, the lawmakers on February 11<sup>th</sup> extended their request deadline to February 25<sup>th</sup>. Mautino replied that he had retained a legal firm to assist him and would be working ‘...during the next few weeks in order to respond to your letter.’ In May lawmakers sent another request to which the Auditor General responded that the issue would be resolved by the State Board of Elections. Since that time, however, it has been revealed that the matter has grown into a federal investigation.



ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

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June 2, 2016

***Via Certified Mail and Email***

Frank J. Mautino  
Auditor General  
740 East Ash Street  
Springfield, IL 62703-3154

Dear Auditor General Mautino:

It has now been over four months since you promised to provide the General Assembly detailed clarification of the accounting and spending practices of your campaign fund, *The Committee for Frank J. Mautino*. Almost one month ago, we sent you another letter demanding immediate answers to this reasonable request. As of today, we've still not received a single document from you, much less a straightforward and thorough explanation of the many apparent irregularities in your campaign account.

While you have not responded to this inquiry from the General Assembly, you recently confirmed for the media that you are under federal investigation for the activities of your campaign fund.

The people of our state are tired of the many corruption scandals they've had to endure in recent years. Illinoisans trust and rely upon the Auditor General to prevent these sorts of scandals in state government. And for decades, the Auditor General's Office has successfully upheld the highest standards of ethics and impartiality in auditing the many agencies and funds that comprise our Illinois government.

We wrote you previously that, "Each day that passes without a full explanation of the irregularities in your own campaign account further erodes the public trust in you and your leadership, and risks an indelible black mark on the office of the Auditor General."



Those words ring even truer today, because the Auditor General's Office now operates under the cloud of a federal investigation.

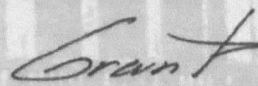
Even apart from the scent of scandal—and your refusal over the past four months to answer the reasonable requests of the General Assembly—there is no practical way you can competently govern and administer the Auditor General's Office, while simultaneously defending yourself against federal criminal charges, a state Election Board investigation, and whatever other legal problems you may face going forward.

For the sake of the people of Illinois, we demand that you step aside and take an unpaid leave of absence from the Auditor General's Office, until the various federal and state investigations into your past financial conduct are concluded.

Illinoisans deserve clean government. They deserve audits they can trust. With an Auditor General now laboring under the weight of state and federal investigations, they have no guarantee of either.

Please give us your immediate assurance that you will step aside until these investigations are resolved.

Yours in good government,



Rep. Grant Wehrli

On behalf of:

Rep. Andersson

Rep. Breen

Rep. Ives

Sen. McConchie

Rep. Sandack

Rep. Batinick

Rep. Bryant

Rep. Jesiel

Rep. McDermed

Rep. K. Wheeler

Rep. Bennett

Rep. Butler

Rep. Kay

Rep. Morrison

Rep. Wojcicki Jimenez

Rep. Bourne

Rep. Frese

Sen. Oberweis

Rep. Phillips

Sen. McCarter