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MEDIA ADVISORY

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**REPUBLICAN GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE ADAM ANDRZEJEWSKI TO CALL
FOR NIU BOARD TO DISCLOSE NIPTRC SPENDING**
Says “Noble cause no reason to withhold information from taxpayers and NIU
supporters.”

March 26, 2009—DeKalb, Illinois. Candidate for Governor Adam Andrzejewski called on the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University to disclose the financial details of a \$160 million university project that has been stalled for months. The university has claimed that it is not subject to laws requiring disclosure of public expenditures on the project because it set up a subsidiary corporation to build the Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center (NIPTRC).

“There is no question that NIU has embarked on a noble cause to bring new treatment to cancer patients, but the university cannot hide behind technicalities to hide the financial details of such a huge project involving tens of millions of tax dollars,” said Andrzejewski, Republican candidate for Governor. “We would never tell DCFS that because their job is protecting innocent children that they don’t have to disclose their spending. The public should expect the same transparency in this instance,” he added.

Prior to announcing his candidacy, Andrzejewski founded *For the Good of Illinois*, an organization promoting government transparency. Andrzejewski worked with dozens of local units of government to facilitate disclosure of public spending, leading to over \$2 billion in taxpayer expenditures being posted on the Internet.

The university won state approval of the massive new project without having secured adequate financing to build the high tech cancer treatment center. Since then, they have sought federal and state taxpayer funding as well as trying to issue bonds to fund the project. The school has also disclosed that it has backed a \$15 million bank loan for the project.

“President Obama recently said ‘just because a government agency has the legal power to keep information private doesn’t mean it should,’” said Andrzejewski. “He’s right. No matter how beneficial any government project may be, we must hold elected and appointed officials accountable for how they spend our money. That starts with full transparency.”

Andrzejewski called on the NIU Board of Trustees to immediately disclose how the NIPTRC has spent the federal funding it has received and to disclose any and all university expenditures in support of the NIPTRC project. In addition, he called on the university to join dozens of other government entities and post their monthly expenditures online to provide greater financial transparency to the public and stakeholders.

If you would like to hear more about this topic or interview Adam Andrzejewski, please call or email Jesse DeSplinter at (630) 899-9191 / jesse@adamforillinois.com

Paid for by Adam for Illinois Committee