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**Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) to Recognize
200 Years of Innovation in Illinois at the Illinois State Fair**
DoIT to join agencies with displays in the Governor's Tent

Springfield, IL – The Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) is participating in the Governor's Tent at the 2018 Illinois State Fair. This year's display will be in recognition of the Illinois Bicentennial with a theme that centers around "200 Years of Innovation and Technology in Illinois", featuring influential inventors from Illinois alongside current DoIT initiatives and successes.

Representatives from DoIT will be on site at the booth to greet visitors and answer questions about Illinois' technological transformation. DoIT was officially recognized as a state agency last month when [Governor Rauner signed House Bill 5611](#), after passing unanimously in both the Illinois House and Senate.

"We are excited to be a part of the Governor's Tent again this year at the Illinois State Fair," said DoIT Acting Secretary Kirk Lonbom. "Illinois has a strong history of innovation and our agency continues that tradition of technology leadership today and into the future. We hope to provide fairgoers with a better understanding of our innovative history and progress with digital transformation at the State of Illinois."

A special addition to DoIT's 2018 display will be a backdrop incorporating a portrait of Abraham Lincoln by the artist Stephen Fishwick, entitled "Starry Eyed Freedom". Lincoln is, to date, the only president to have held a patent and is a model of the blending of technology and public service that DoIT strives to embody. Fishwick granted DoIT permission to use his artwork for the Illinois State Fair display, which provides an image of both tradition and innovation.

The DoIT booth will be in the Governor's Tent, located at the intersection of Brian Raney Avenue and Main Street, and will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the August 10-19, 2018 fair schedule.

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