

TO: ALL MEDIA

FROM: Pat Quinn, 41<sup>st</sup> Governor of Illinois (2009-2015)  
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RE: **Gov. Quinn Endorses John Laesch for Aurora Mayor**

**(Aurora is Illinois' Second Largest City and  
the runoff race is the Biggest Municipal Election in the State on April 1)**

**Press Conference in front of Aurora City Hall, 44 E. Downer, Aurora, IL  
This Thursday, March 20, 1:30pm**

This Thursday, March 20, at 1:30pm, Former Governor Pat Quinn will endorse Aurora Alderman-at-Large John Laesch in the runoff for Aurora mayor at the April 1 election.

Laesch and two-term mayoral incumbent Richard Irvin ran a near dead heat in the five-candidate primary election on February 25. The runoff election in Aurora (the second most populous city in the state) will be the premier municipal election held in Illinois on April 1, pitting a grassroots organizer against a Trump-supporting incumbent.

Laesch, who was elected citywide by Aurora voters as Alderman-at-Large in 2023, is running a reform campaign against pay-to-play politics in Aurora.

Laesch has organized a volunteer door-to-door and yard-sign campaign that does not accept political donations from corporate PACS or contributions from people who do business with the city of Aurora.

During Irvin's tenure, Aurora has not enacted a pay-to-play ban on contractors and developers who do business with the city.

Irvin lost the Republican primary for Illinois Governor in 2022 after benefitting from millions of dollars in campaign money from billionaire Ken Griffin.

Gov. Quinn spearheaded enactment of statewide campaign finance reforms and comprehensive ethics laws after the impeachment and conviction of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich in 2009.

"As Mayor, John Laesch will lead a long-overdue movement to enact tough no-nonsense political integrity standards that will put Aurora taxpayers first," said Quinn.

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