**Jeff Mays Bio**

**Director Jeff Mays, Illinois Department of Employment Security**

**BIO**: Jeff Mays was appointed as the Director of the Illinois Department of Employment Security by Governor Rauner and was former president of the Illinois Business Roundtable. For more than 15 years, Mays has advocated for education and workforce development, while representing the interests of chief business executives in Illinois. Mays served five terms in the Illinois General Assembly from 1981 to 1990, representing large portions of Springfield, Decatur, and surrounding communities. He was the Chief Sponsor on all Executive Agency Appropriations, and led House Republicans on all budget related committees. He was also the Co-Chair of the Legislative Audit Commission. In between his time in the General Assembly and at the IBR, he worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator. He also spent five years at the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce as the Vice President of Human Resources and as the Executive Vice President. Mays holds bachelor's degrees from Northwestern University in history and economics.