



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**January 27, 2020**

CONTACT:

Jana Plat

[jplat@businessfwd.org](mailto:jplat@businessfwd.org)

(202) 861-1270

Washington, D.C. — Today, [Business Forward Foundation](#) issued its latest report on how severe weather is distorting commodity prices, disrupting supply chains, damaging facilities and equipment, and hurting consumer demand for Illinois businesses. **Illinois Companies Explain Climate Change and Severe Weather Risk** is meant to serve as a resource for local, state, and Congressional officials and media interested in energy and climate change policy.

“Illinois has been affected by 22 billion-dollar weather and climate disasters since 2014 and extreme weather temperatures have affected farmers, manufacturers, and other businesses across the state,” said Jim Doyle, president of Business Forward Foundation. “As a result, Illinois’s top entrepreneurs, executives, investors, and small business owners are changing how they build, where they locate, and how they insure their assets. They are creating new business lines and models to mitigate the effects of climate change. And they are issuing warnings to their investors that climate change skeptics in Springfield and Washington, D.C. should heed.”

“Politicians in Springfield and Washington are talking past one another on climate, and too many are denying climate change altogether,” said Doyle. “To get the straight story on how severe weather is affecting Illinois’s economy, go to the warnings Illinois’s businesses are sharing with their investors.”

Business Forward Foundation has worked with more than **6,150** entrepreneurs, executives, and small business owners across Illinois. More than **2,000** of them have participated in our climate change and clean energy program, where they have discussed energy options and shared experiences managing severe weather costs.

###

#### **ABOUT BUSINESS FORWARD FOUNDATION**

The Business Forward Foundation is an independent research and education organization that takes a business-minded look at policy issues affecting America’s economic competitiveness. Our work combines insights and advice from business leaders across the country with rigorous policy analysis. Through white papers, issue briefs, conference calls, and other events, we educate policy makers and the public about climate change, immigration reform, infrastructure investment, the future of work, and other critical issues.