

## Historical demonstration at Illinois state capitol

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By [Casey Nolen](#)

**KSDK** -- There was a march on the Illinois State Capitol Wednesday as about 50 historical re-enactors were there to try and convince lawmakers to reverse about \$5 million in budget cuts.

The cuts were part of the state's effort to deal with hundreds of millions in revenue shortfalls. Eleven state parks and 13 historical sites are set to close on November 30.

There is a bill on Governor Rod Blagojevich's desk that would reinstate more than \$200 million in state services, but it's unlikely to be signed.

"If it's going to take demonstrations to let the governor know that people aren't going to stand for losing their history in the state of Illinois then that's what we're going to do," said demonstrator Joe Mele, who traveled from Florissant, Missouri.

One of the more modern historical sites that will close is a home built by architect Frank Lloyd Wright in Springfield, Illinois.

It has a collection of art and furniture that's said to be worth more than \$100 million.

Directors of the site say it cost less than \$20,000 a month to operate.

Closer to St. Louis, Fort DeChartres, the Menard Home and the Cahokia Courthouse will also be closing at the end of November.

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