PERSPECTIVE



As Bruce Rauner prepares to take over as the next governor of Illinois, some tips to keep in mind for ensuring an effective term.

10 SUGGESTIONS from a Democrat who voted for you

By Newton N. Minow

As a Democrat who voted for Republican Bruce Rauner, I'd like to offer 10 suggestions to make him an effective governor.

1. Send your campaign staff home. The campaign by both sides was disgraceful. Too much money, too many commercials, too much nasty negativism. Campaigning and governing are two very different activities. The purpose of a campaign is to defeat the other side. The purpose of governing is to work with the other side for all the people. So send your campaign staff home.

2. Hire a smart staff and Cabinet of men and women who are not ideologues. You want people, like yourself, who are problem-solvers, who are not partisans and who know how to compromise. Get some young people who understand the new technologies to bring our government into the 21st century.

3. Some of your supporters booed when you said Tuesday night that you had called the Democratic leaders, House Speaker Michael Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton. Tell those who booed to get out of your way. **4. Illinois voters decided to elect a Republican** governor and a Democratic House and Senate. That decision does not make you enemies but rather partners. You, Madigan and Cullerton want the same legacies: to make Illinois a better place than it is now. Working together, you can restore the greatness of Illinois.

5. Successful Republican governors such as Richard Ogilvie, Jim Thompson and Jim Edgar learned how to work with Democrats. Study how they did it.

6. Your business success shows you are a problem-solver. The voters made it clear they want to raise the minimum wage and put a 3 percent tax for education on people whose incomes exceed \$1 million. Do not rigidly say "no" to those ideas. Suggest that if certain incentives for small business and incentives to create new jobs are parts of a package, you are ready to negotiate. Do not begin a sentence with the word "no." Say, "Yes, if …"

7. Your wife, Diana, has superb judgment and can be your best adviser. Listen to her. 8. Be more accessible and open to the press. Have frequent news conferences and level with journalists. Study how Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy dealt so successfully with the media.

9. When I served in the Kennedy

administration, Sen. Everett Dirksen of Illinois invited me for a long visit and a drink in his secret hideaway office when he was the Senate minority leader. He said, "Newt, always stand on principle, and your first principle should be flexibility!" Gov.-elect Rauner, think about this and remember to keep your sense of humor.

10. Look often at a videotape of Chicago's extraordinary Jackie Robinson West baseball team when it won the U.S. championship in the Little League World Series last summer and reflect on why these great kids won: team-

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work.