



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Office of Innovation

Jake Hamilton

Regulatory Innovation Officer



Jake Hamilton serves as the Regulatory Innovation Officer for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. In this role, he leads the agency's Office of Innovation, working with legislators, consumer advocates, and industry stakeholders to shape forward-looking policies on emerging technologies, including digital assets and artificial intelligence ("AI").

Hamilton was appointed Regulatory Innovation Officer in August 2025, following his service in the acting role beginning January 2025. He first joined IDFPR in 2019 as an advisor and research assistant to the Director of Banking, where he focused on blockchain and digital asset research and policy, authoring the agency's Blockchain Business Development Report released in 2020. He also advanced the Division of Banking's financial literacy initiatives, including the successful launch of IDFPR's financial podcast, Making Cents of Money.

Before returning to IDFPR in 2023 as a fintech policy advisor, Hamilton served as a Senior Coordinator for public policy research at the University of Illinois System, Institute of Government and Public Affairs. There he managed a diverse portfolio of initiatives, including the Research

Scholar Initiative, the Digital Government Initiative, and a federal farm bill mapping project.

At IDFPR, Hamilton has been at the forefront of regulatory modernization. As Innovation Officer, he led the successful passage of comprehensive digital asset regulations in the 2025 legislative session of the Illinois General Assembly. He also directs the agency's AI Working Group and Data Governance Initiative, while guiding intra-agency efforts to evaluate emerging technologies and provide regulatory insight across IDFPR's diverse licensed industries.

Hamilton earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in public administration from Eastern Illinois University. He lives in Chicago with his wife, Jen, and dog, Auggie.

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