

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Laura Morris
Edelman Public Relations
(312) 297-7523

**Illinois Sponsors “Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided”
From Renowned Filmmaker David Grubin**

Series will air as part of “American Experience” on PBS

Chicago (January 29, 2001) – The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA) is proud to be a national sponsor of the award-winning PBS series *American Experience*, produced by WGBH Boston.

A sponsorship by DCCA’s Bureau of Tourism funded production of “Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided” by acclaimed director and producer David Grubin. The six-hour mini-series, which takes an in-depth look at the life of Lincoln and his wife Mary Todd, will air nationally on PBS in two-hour segments on three evenings during President’s Week: February 19, 20, 21, 2001. The broadcast takes on added significance in that it airs the week after the official groundbreaking for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield which takes place on February 12, 2001.

“We are proud to play a part in making ‘Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided’ a reality,” said DCCA Director Pam McDonough. “Through our sponsorship of this mini-series on ‘*American Experience*,’ we hope to encourage viewers to visit Illinois and experience the life of Lincoln in the ‘Land of Lincoln’ for themselves.”

-over-

Illinois' PBS Sponsorship/Page 2

Illinois is home to five of the most-visited Lincoln sites across the country: the Lincoln Monument and Tomb, Lincoln's New Salem Historic Site, the Old State Capitol, the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office and the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. For more information on any of these sites or on the "Looking for Lincoln" tour, visit the Illinois Web site, www.enjoyillinois.com, or call an Illinois Travel Counselor at 1-800-2CONNECT.

###

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA), Bureau of Tourism works to enhance the economic development climate for the citizens of Illinois.