

News...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Rep. Ford Sworn into 4th Term as State Representative

SPRINGFIELD, IL –On Wednesday at the University of Illinois-Springfield, State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) was sworn in as state Representative of the Eighth District for his fourth term. Ford reaffirmed his pledge to take on the issues affecting the Eighth District.

“A new term brings great opportunities to strengthen the relationships and coalitions that have been built as we address the problems that families face everyday,” Ford said.

As he works with his constituents, interested parties, and colleagues, Ford will continue to work to improve the lives of all Illinoisans. Specifically, Rep. Ford renews his push to:

- Increase the employment of citizens returning to their communities after paying their debt to society in correctional institutions by allowing certain non-violent offenses to have their records sealed and removing the question on state employment applications that asks if a person has been convicted of a felony;
- Increase the fairness of representation determined by the Census by counting persons as residents of their last known home addresses rather than as residents of the prison where they are incarcerated;
- Enable local police departments to hire more officers by generating revenue for municipalities through the lottery;
- Work to improve health for all by expanding Medicaid to low-income single men and women, and expanding access to health insurance through health exchanges per the Affordable Care Act;
- Finalize the Firearm Task Force Committee Report. The committee, chaired by Ford, will make recommendations regarding the concealed carry of firearms;
- Improve the chances that minority-owned small businesses will obtain state contracts, especially in the construction trades;
- Continue to strengthen small businesses and improve employment through the work of the Small Business Empowerment and Workforce Development Committee, which Ford chairs; and
- Improve educational possibilities for all of our students, especially as plans are made to close elementary schools in Chicago.

(More)

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Ford said, "As we start a new General Assembly, we have a renewed opportunity to increase social justice as we work to close the pension gap, pay the backlog of bills due to social service agencies, work for a balanced budget, improve our criminal code, and stabilize neighborhoods affected by foreclosure."

Ford maintains three offices, with office hours from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Chicago and Oak Park, and 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 pm in Springfield, Monday-Friday. For more information, contact one of Ford's constituent service offices: 239-E Stratton Office Building in Springfield at 217-782-5962, 816 S. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park at 708-445-3673, 5104 W. Chicago Avenue in Chicago at 773-378-5902. More information is also available online at www.lashawnford.com. Visit the website to sign up for daily job leads, which Ford has sent out for the last 5 years.

Ford represents the 8th District, which now includes parts of the West Side of Chicago, Oak Park, Berwyn, North Riverside, Proviso Township, Brookfield, La Grange, La Grange Park and Western Springs.

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