

News...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Ford Responds to Quinn's Budget Address

SPRINGFIELD, IL – State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) released the following statement after Gov. Pat Quinn's Budget Address on Wednesday:

“Illinois is facing a devastating budget crisis, and we must make some difficult decisions to get our state back on sound fiscal footing. I support Gov. Quinn's efforts to restore economic health, and we all share the burden of cutting wasteful government spending. I also agree that we must pay the \$9 billion in backlogged bills to rebuild our economy and provide a business-friendly environment so that we can bring jobs to our state. Paying our debts to schools, hospitals and social service agencies will also help to stabilize our communities. Supporting education, providing adequate health care and maintaining social programs will prevent the high cost of prisons and unemployment on the back end. We all stand to gain when we help people lead successful careers.”

“I will continue to work towards innovative solutions with my constituents and the people of Illinois. As a member of the Human Services Appropriations Committee I will push for smart appropriations to support the needs of struggling families in Illinois. We can no longer sacrifice public safety or quality education for Illinois' children. It is encouraging to see that the violence in Chicago remains a top priority for Gov. Quinn and it is my hope that we can soon establish crisis intervention centers in high crime areas. I am also sponsoring legislation to generate revenue through the lottery to fund education programs and to hire more police officers during a time when gun violence is crippling our neighborhoods.”

“Gov. Quinn challenged the body to pass pension reform legislation, and I understand the need for a comprehensive plan to stop the spiraling debt caused by years of inaction. However, we cannot neglect the hard-working seniors living on fixed incomes that depend on their pension to make ends meet. Yesterday the House adopted a revenue estimate of about \$35.1 billion, based on reports from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, and I look forward to taking a closer look at our options, and working with my colleagues to present a balanced budget.”

For more information, contact one of Ford's constituent service offices: 816 S. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park at (708) 445-3673, 5104 W. Chicago Avenue in Chicago at (773) 378-5902 or in the Stratton Office Building in Springfield at (217) 782-5962.

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