

# Press Release...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

**For Immediate Release:**

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**For More Information:**

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

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## Ford Releases Results of Poll on Options for Solving Pension Problem

**CHICAGO** – Today, State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) released the results of an informal poll on Illinois's pension system, taken by 501 respondents between September 18 and September 26, 2013. The voluntary poll was emailed daily from Ford's office to thousands of individuals in his database, and votes could also be registered at the website [www.lashawnford.com](http://www.lashawnford.com). Results are not isolated to residents of the Eighth District. The poll asked, "Should Illinois reform its pension system by reducing the benefits of retired senior citizens on fixed income?" The results:

Should Illinois Reform its Pension System by Reducing the Benefits of Retired Senior Citizens on Fixed Income? (only one choice available; voters could only vote once)

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
YES - We need to fix the system to help move Illinois forward.	<div><div></div></div>		43	9%
NO - We need more Revenue from Big Businesses.	<div><div></div></div>		157	31%
NO - We need to raise the taxes on individuals making over \$250,000 a year.	<div><div></div></div>		213	43%
YES - Teachers' and State Workers' pensions are too large.	<div><div></div></div>		28	6%
NO - Only reduce benefits for those who continue to work.	<div><div></div></div>		60	12%
<b>Totals</b>			<b>501</b>	<b>100%</b>

Though the poll is informal, the first 501 respondents indicate overwhelming support for raising taxes on individuals making over \$250,000 a year and obtaining more revenue from big businesses.

“As we proceed in deliberations on how to deal with Illinois’ pension issues, I am clearly hearing from constituents and from this poll that we need to raise more revenue to meet the contractual obligations the state made years ago to our retired teachers and state employees, many of whom are on fixed pension incomes, have no other source of income, and are no longer able to work,” said Ford.

For more information, contact one of Ford’s constituent service offices: 816 S. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park at [708-445-3673](tel:708-445-3673), 4800 W. Chicago Avenue in Chicago at [773-378-5902](tel:773-378-5902) or in the Stratton Office Building in Springfield at [217-782-5962](tel:217-782-5962), or visit [www.lashawnford.com](http://www.lashawnford.com).