

# *Press Release...*

*from 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 Votes to Sustain Essential Services and Pay State Workers during Government Shutdown**

**SPRINGFIELD, IL** – Voting yes for a critical services budget, state Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, continues to advocate for the state’s most vulnerable residents and the pay of state workers with legislation recently passed by the House of Representatives.

“This legislation is a temporary fix that ensures that the state of Illinois will be able to take care of some of its most important responsibilities while legislators and the governor come to a permanent solution,” said Ford. “People need to have care they can rely on, and we need to ensure that state workers continue to receive the compensation they need to take care of their families. We need to continue to work for a full short term budget until we achieve agreement on a full budget for FY2016.”

As a new fiscal year began without a long-term state budget in place on July 1, a number of critical services including in-home care for seniors, the salaries of tens of thousands of state employees, therapeutic services for the developmentally disabled and even the incarceration of sexually violent criminals were at risk of coming to a halt.

The House recently passed Senate Bill 2040, a critical services budget which protects critical funding for therapy and work placement assistance for the physically disabled, care for aging veterans, protective shelters for children who are victims of abuse, programs that keep dangerous sexual predators incarcerated, public safety services like operating expenses for prisons and the Illinois State Police, and the Community Care Program, which allows elderly residents to receive in-home care and avoid costlier nursing home care.

“People in need deserve a state government that works for them,” said Ford. “There is more work to be done to protect the critical services that working families, senior citizens and those with disabilities rely on, and I will continue to fight for a long-term budget solution that puts the needs of the most vulnerable first.”

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

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