

Press Release...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

For Immediate Release:

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Ford Files HB 4036 To Say No To A Shortened School Year In Chicago

CHICAGO, IL – Illinois State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (**D-Chicago**) has filed HB 4036 urging The Governor and the House Chamber to appropriate the sum of 215 million from the General Revenue Fund to the Chicago Public Schools. In December, Governor Rauner vetoed a 215-million-dollar education funding package for Chicago Public Schools. HB 4306 is a crucial bill for the ongoing issue of the children’s education in Chicago Public Schools.

“I Support Public Schools and will continue to fight to better fund public education in Illinois,” Said Ford. “The road to adequate funding continues, but HB 4036 sweeps funds from a \$9.8 billion system of money just sitting there. To allow the Chicago school children to lose out is cruel.”

The Chicago Board of Education says if it cannot get 215 million from the state, it would have to consider ending school three weeks early on June 1st. According to a report from Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, dropouts are 3.5 times more likely to be arrested than high school graduates and more than eight times as likely to be incarcerated. The nonprofit organization is made of more than 3,000 police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, other law enforcement leaders.

“It is imperative, that we avoid a shortened school year in Chicago. We are only hurting the education of our children. We cannot close the doors on the families in Chicago when they need the state more now than ever. Keeping our children in school and educated will keep them safe and less likely to drop out and find trouble.”

The house bill can be found at the following link: [HB4036](#)

The petition can be found at the following link: [Petition](#)

For more information, contact one of Ford’s constituent service offices: 816 S. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park at 708-445-3673, 4800 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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