

News...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Rep. Ford Attends Governor's Budget Address

CHICAGO – State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) on Wednesday attended the governor's Budget Address, an annual requirement of the governor to present a roadmap for a new state budget and to outline fiscal concerns. Ford issued the following statement in response:

"The governor's office has described the next budget as the most difficult yet, and I think it is clear that we are still experiencing economic difficulties and tough realities. We must constantly adapt to do more with less, while still protecting vulnerable residents who rely on us for their survival and dignity.

"I was pleased to hear that the governor is leaving everything on the table for pension reform, allowing the pension working group to finish its charge and deliver its recommendations. Stakeholders have showed a strong willingness to sit down and work towards a solution, and I think we are better served when we work together rather than battle each other in the newspapers and courtrooms. We owe it to the people to weigh every option.

"I am also optimistic about the governor's words on Medicaid reform. We must make changes to preserve this vital lifeline that helps so many families. This is one of our biggest challenges, and I stand ready to work with the governor and his staff to find out what we need to do to tackle it.

"In the House, we are continuing with last year's bipartisan process where we thoughtfully examine our revenue and build a budget around it. By using only real numbers and not revenue we wish we had, we are better prepared to deal with the reality of the math. I am proud of these internal budget reforms and am eager to get to work with the governor and my colleagues to face these hurdles head on."

For more information, please call one of Ford's constituent service offices: call the Oak Park office at (708) 445-3673 or the Chicago office at (773) 378-5902.

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