

Press Release...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Ford Calls on Apple To Make the Mac in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, IL - On the heels of Apple CEO Tim Cook's announcement of his commitment to manufacture products in the United States, state Rep. La Shawn Ford (D-Chicago) called on Mr. Cook to make the new line of American-made Mac computers right here in Illinois. This invitation to a major high tech manufacturer dovetails into Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's renewed efforts to attract technology sector jobs to the city and state.

"Illinois is at the forefront of the silicon prairie and its workforce is ready to make the finest, cutting edge consumer electronics Apple has become synonymous with," Ford said. "Our advantages of a highly-trained workforce, excellent technology infrastructure, an extensive university system and a centralized location for manufacturing and transit would make Apple's \$100 million investment in Illinois a profitable return to American manufacturing."

As Chairman of the Illinois House of Representatives' Committee on Small Business Empowerment and Workforce Development, Rep. Ford encourages Gov. Quinn and Mayor Emanuel to work to bring Apple to Illinois, as Mr. Cook has heeded President Obama's call to have Apple products once again proudly stamped "Made in America."

Rep. Ford plans to work with his 21 member bipartisan committee to achieve the goal of Apple products being made in Illinois. He encourages Illinoisans across the state to find "iTech Illinois" on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ITechIllinois>) and sign the online petition to tell Apple why the Land of Lincoln and the home state of President Obama is the ideal location for a profitable and dynamic American manufacturing facility.

Accompanying Representative Ford's letter to Apple CEO Tim Cook will be a bushel of delicious apples from Flamm Orchards of Cobden, Illinois, a University of Illinois-Fighting Illini T-Shirt, caramel corn from Pease's of Springfield, Illinois, and Tootsie Rolls made in Chicago, Illinois.

"The return of high tech manufacturing jobs from China to Illinois is not only good corporate citizenship, it is good business, and given the opportunity we will exceed expectations and build the finest products in the world, right here at home." Ford added.

For more information, contact one of Ford's constituent service offices; call the Oak Park office at (708) 445-3673 or the Chicago office at (773) 378-5902, or visit www.lashawnford.com.

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