

# Press Release...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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## **Ford Calls on DCFS to Set the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males**

**CHICAGO** – State Representative La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, is calling on the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to establish and activate the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males.

Rep. Ford introduced [House Resolution 390](#) on May 17, 2019 and passed it unanimously in the House on June 1, 2019 during the 101<sup>st</sup> General Assembly.

“Black males are in the news every day for looting, murders, police misconduct, criminal activities and being gunned down in the streets of Chicago,” said Ford. “We need to activate the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males to address these issues and give a brighter future for Black men.”

The Commission on the Social Status of Black Males is created to study the social conditions of black males, develop strategies to remedy or assist in remedying serious adversities, and make recommendations to improve the educational, social, economic, and employment opportunities of black males. The Commission shall consist of the following 14 members, who shall serve without compensation: (1) Two State Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, one who shall serve as co-chair; (2) Two State Representatives appointed by the House Minority Leader, one who shall serve as co-chair; and (3) 10 members to be appointed by the co-chairs, who shall be from the following groups: (a) One U.S. Representative from Illinois; (b) Four elected officials from four different Illinois cities; (c) Two Illinois high school students; and (d) Three public members who may represent the areas of employment, criminal justice, education, health, or faith.

“Black males are crying out for help, and the state must respond,” said Ford. “The state must come together for the good of all of us to help repair and build up black males. I will work with Congressman Davis, legislators, faith-based organizations, young black males, and the greater community to support the change we need for black males in the state of Illinois.”

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