

Media Advisory...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Rep. Ford Calls for the Abolishment of History Classes in Illinois Schools

EVANSTON, Ill.- Concerned that current school history teaching leads to white privilege and a racist society, state Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, will join Evanston Mayor Steve Hagerty and other local leaders Sunday to call on the state to stop its current history teaching practices until appropriate alternatives are developed.

“When it comes to teaching history in Illinois, we need to end the miseducation of Illinoisans,” Ford said. “I’m calling on the Illinois State Board of Education and local school districts to take immediate action by removing current history books and curriculum practices that unfairly communicate our history. Until a suitable alternative is developed, we should instead devote greater attention toward civics and ensuring students understand our democratic processes and how they can be involved.”

Attendees at Sunday’s press conference will discuss how current history teaching practices overlook the contributions by Women and members of the Black, Jewish, LGBTQ communities and other groups. These individuals are pushing for an immediate change in history changing practice starting this school year.

Joining Ford and Hagerty will be:

- Meleika Gardner of We Will,
- Former Evanston Ald. Mark Tendam,
- Dr. Megan Bang of Northwestern University,
- Robin Dusek,
- Rabbi Andrea London,
- Dr. Kihana Miraya Ross of Northwestern University,
- Oakton Elementary Principal Dr. Michael Allen,
- Executive Director of Evanston Chamber of Commerce Roger Sosa,
- Henry Wilkins of STEM School Organization

For more information, please contact RepFord@LaShawnFord.com.

What: Press conference on need to change Illinois school history curriculum

When: Sunday, Aug. 2; noon

Where: Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St., Evanston

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