



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **Chicago Teachers Union releases early endorsement list in statewide races for March 2016 Primary**

**CHICAGO** - Today, the Chicago Teachers Union's Political Action and Legislative Committee released its early endorsement list in advance of the upcoming statewide electoral cycle. General Assembly candidates participated in an extensive screening process with rank-and-file members that included the completion of a mandatory questionnaire, addressing a myriad of issues impacting the lives of educators. The Illinois primary race will be held March 15, 2016.

"We are focused on getting an elected, representative school board in Chicago, progressive revenue solutions that will fund our school district and halt the attacks on our pensions, and the full restoration of our collective bargaining rights," said CTU President Karen GJ Lewis. "Therefore, our first priority is to get champions in the statehouse. This means that we need political leaders who are grounded in our mission to strengthen our schools; and, they must be able to win."

The CTU believes early endorsements buoy the hopes of challenging candidates by infusing their campaigns with much needed resources. The endorsees include:

State Senator William Delgado—District 2

State Representative Elgie Sims—District 34

State Representative LaShawn Ford—District 8

State Representative Ann Williams—District 11

State Representative Cynthia Soto—District 4

State Representative Robert Martwick—District 19

Community leader Jay Travis—District 26

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*The Chicago Teachers Union represents nearly 27,000 teachers and educational support personnel working in the Chicago Public Schools, and by extension, the more than 400,000 students and families they serve. The CTU is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers and the Illinois Federation of Teachers and is the third largest teachers local in the United States and the largest local union in Illinois. For more information please visit CTU's website at [www.ctunet.com](http://www.ctunet.com).*