

Media Advisory



From State Representative La Shawn K. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
State Rep. La Shawn Ford
Office: 217-557-4054

Ford Introduces HB5979 to Help Fund PTSD Programs in Illinois

CHICAGO- Illinois State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (D-CH) introduced HB5979 in an effort to help fund P.T.S.D programs for Veterans in Illinois. The bill would allow anyone to purchase a special P.T.S.D awareness registration plate that would help fund the P.T.S.D Awareness Fund in Illinois.

“I am proud of the men and women who sacrifice everything to keep us safe,” said Ford. “It is our duty to take care of them once they return home, and ensure that we are doing everything in our power to keep them safe and healthy. Anyone who would like to support our Veterans could purchase these special plates and contribute to the great programs our Veterans use for assistance with P.T.S.D.”

Researchers estimate that 10–14 percent of service members who served in combat have developed P.T.S.D. Michael Tellerino is the CEO and founder of K9s for Veterans, a P.T.S.D assistance program for Veterans in Illinois.

“K9s for Veterans is proud to work with Representative La Shawn K. Ford on HB5979,” said Tellerino. “P.T.S.D is a serious affliction that is highly treatable. Purchasing this new license plate will help raise awareness of those afflicted, and help those who suffer adjust once they are back home.”

HB5979 amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the Secretary of State may issue special registration plates designated as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness license plates. Provides that the original fee and renewal fee shall be \$25. Creates the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Fund. Makes corresponding changes in the State Finance Act.

[Read More About HB5979 Here](#)

For more information, contact one of Ford’s constituent service offices: Stratton Office Building in Springfield at 217-782-5962.

WHO: Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, Illinois Veterans, K9s for Veterans, VFW, American Legion, Chicago Skyway, Texas Roadhouse, Ozinga Materials, Safe Haven, Compass Mortgage, Pet Supplies Plus, Home Smart Reality, Art Van Furniture

WHAT: Press Conference on P.T.S.D Awareness for Veterans in Illinois

WHEN: Sunday, December 2, 2018 @ 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: James R. Thompson Center Blue Room
100 West Randolph, 15th Floor
Chicago