



Press Release

from State Representative La Shawn K. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

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Ford Calls for Increased Penalties for Littering and Graffiti on Earth Day

CHICAGO- Illinois State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (CH-D) calls for increased penalties for littering and graffiti on Earth Day. Ford will introduce legislation in hopes to remove current penalties of imprisonment and increase fines for littering and graffiti on state highways. Ford believes instead of looking for ways to increase state revenue on working families, this legislation can increase that revenue from those that cause the state to spend taxpayer money on preventable labor.

“Today we celebrate Earth Day and spread awareness for environment protection,” said Ford. “More studies are being conducted each year to show the extent of human impact on our planet. Changes need to be done in the habits of human activities to remedy the significant environmental problems that affect us today.”

Since in 1970, Earth Day grew nationally focusing on the promotion of clean living and healthy sustainable habitats for people and wildlife alike.

“The good news is that we can adjust our habits and create a direct positive impact on the environment,” said Ford. “Littering and painting graffiti on our roads are bad for the environment and highly costly to taxpayers. The increased fines will help deter future impact on our environment while also helping to improve roads and safety.”

Current Law: First conviction: class B misdemeanor, fine up to \$1,500. Second conviction: class A misdemeanor, fine up to \$1,500. Subsequent convictions: class 4 felony, fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment between one and three years (ch. 415, §5/5-8-1). If convicted of littering on a public highway, the violator may, in addition to other penalties, be required to maintain litter control for 30 days over a portion of that highway.

For more information, please contact Ford’s constituent service office at 773-378-5902 or email Repford@lashawnford.com.