

News

April 2, 2007

. . . from the Illinois House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford
Phone: (773) 378-5902**

FORD URGES COMMUNITY TO HELP PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

April 2, 2007

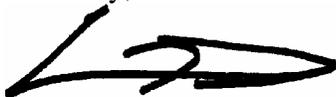
Dear Editor:

Since April was first declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation in 1983, concerned leaders have used the occasion to raise awareness of this hidden epidemic. Each year, close to 3 million cases of suspected child abuse are reported nationally. One cannot help but wonder how many cases go unreported.

Since child abuse most often happens behind closed doors, it is important to raise our voices when we do see it or suspect it is happening. We have all been out to the grocery store or mall and witnessed the parental discipline that crosses the line. We have all held our tongues in these situations, as well. Next time you see it, cast off your hesitation and say something. It is recommended that you politely distract the parent by offering your help and avoid negative reactions that might further agitate the parent. Remember, if this is how the child is treated in public, imagine what must go on at home.

Only by working together and speaking up when it would be easier to turn away can we make progress towards ending child abuse. This year, I am proud to have supported House Bills 421 and 616, which speed up the sharing of abuse data between law enforcement agencies and open investigations of serious abuse to more scrutiny. For more information, visit www.preventchildabuseillinois.org or call my constituent service office at (773) 378-5902.

Sincerely,



La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative – 8th District
(773) 378-5902

###

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.