Media Advisory...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

For Immediate Release: September 19, 2011 For More Information: State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (773) 378-5902

Rep. Ford Urges Local Families to Attend Event Demonstrating Use of Asian Carp to Feed the Hungry

CHICAGO, **IL** – State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) is urging local families and nonprofits that serve the hungry to attend an event he is co-hosting with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to demonstrate how donated Asian carp can be used to alleviate hunger, protect the environment, and create jobs.

The "Target Hunger Now!" event will feature Louisiana Chef Philippe Parola, who will use Asian carp donated by commercial fishermen in Illinois to prepare meals for 400 children and parents. The event will show the health benefits of eating Asian carp, which is a high-protein food that is easily prepared. Studies show that needy families do not get enough protein because it is the most expensive food source.

"I am excited to support this effort to feed the hungry while eradicating Asian carp from Illinois waters, and protecting valuable shipping and sport fishing industries in our state," Ford said. "Asian carp has a bad reputation because its name suggests that it is a bottom feeder, which is not true. It is my hope that by bringing in a well-known chef, we can help families learn the many ways to prepare this healthy and delicious food and dispel myths about Asian carp."

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Ford's office at (773) 378-5902.

What: "Target Hunger Now!" Community Meal and Information Session

Who: State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Chef Philippe Parola

When: Thursday, September 22, 2011

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m

Where: Christ The King Preparatory School

5088 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL