



May 30, 2017

Ford Calls on Governor to Negotiate Budget; Help Hurting Families

SPRINGFIELD, IL –On Wednesday, the Illinois House of Representatives concluded this year’s regularly scheduled session on the 700th consecutive day without the passage of a state budget. State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, has urged Governor Bruce Rauner back to the negotiating table to provide Illinois with a full, balanced budget. Upon adjournment, he released the following statement:

“With over 700 days of an ongoing budget crisis that we are facing here in Illinois, the lives of some people all across our state have been forever altered. School children, hurting families, seniors on fixed incomes who need services and the community’s most vulnerable are feeling the most pain from the stubbornness coming from Governor Bruce Rauner’s refusal to negotiate an honest, balanced budget.

“The governor has repeatedly said that he will not negotiate a budget until he gets non-budgetary items that will help billionaires like him and his CEO friends. This kind of pressure is immoral, inhumane and outright inexcusable. But in an effort to do everything we can to reach a budget compromise while protecting working families in our communities, I have voted for a number of measures that would meet objectives laid out by the governor.

“He demanded that we make the state a better place to do business, so we passed real economic reforms that will cut taxes for small and medium-sized businesses and keep money in the accounts of real working people. He said he wanted workers’ compensation reforms, so we voted to pass reforms that save money and require those savings to be passed onto employers. He cried that he wanted a property tax freeze. I agree so much that we need property tax relief in this state that I voted to take it even further and CUT property taxes for Illinoisans.

“I think it’s clear who is serious about compromising to reach a budget for our state. On behalf of hurting families and children that truly need us, I implore Governor Bruce Rauner to roll up those sleeves on his plaid shirt and get to work with lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to reach a budget solution that is truly an equitable deal for taxpayers in our state.”

Sincerely,

La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative-Eighth District