



Press Release

FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

For Immediate Release:

April 13, 2011

For More Information:

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford
(773) 378-5902

Ford's Legislation Banning Trans Fats in Illinois passes the House

Aims to improve health by encouraging healthier foods

SPRINGFIELD – “Today we have made a step towards banning trans fats in Illinois and improving the health of Illinoisans” said State Representative La Shawn K. Ford. “With more than 35% of pre-teens and teens classified as obese in Illinois, we have to do something to reverse this trend.”

Passed by the Illinois House of Representatives today, HB1600 prohibits food facilities from serving any food containing artificial trans fats, starting on January 1, 2013. Vending machines in schools may not sell foods containing trans fats as of the same date. The bill also states that it is the goal of the General Assembly that any entity operated by state or local government or by public or private schools eliminate the use of trans fats by January 1, 2016.

Illinois has the 10th highest percentage of obese and overweight children in the U.S. “By passing HB 1600, Illinois has the opportunity to become the second state in the nation to ban trans fats and improve the health of its citizens,” said Rep. Ford.

For more information, see www.lashawnford.com.

###