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FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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Ford Pushing State Government to Create Financial Crisis Task Force

SPRINGFIELD, IL – State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) is moving forward with legislation to create a State Financial Crisis Task Force to immediately begin working to identify ways to cut costs and increase revenue at a time when Illinois' state budget faces its largest ever deficit.

“While the governor delays his budget proposal, it’s important that the legislature empower a panel within the agency structure of state government to immediately begin looking for ways to cut costs and boost revenue for this year’s budget, as well as the budget for the next fiscal year,” Ford said.

Ford’s House Joint Resolution 83 would create the 2010 State Financial Crisis Task Force within the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the lead state agency charged with spurring economic development and providing incentives for business opportunities. The bipartisan task force would consist of eight members, with each caucus leader in both chambers of the General Assembly appointing two members.

The task force would be required to report findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and would be available to work with the legislature to craft the upcoming budget due by May 31.

“This bipartisan effort will allow both parties and the voters of Illinois to work together for solutions to a problem that continues to divide Springfield and hurt the families of Illinois,” Ford said.

Ford’s legislation passed the House State Government Administration Committee and is currently before the full House for further consideration. For more information, call Ford’s constituent service office at (773) 378-5902.

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