

PRESS RELEASE

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

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May Receives Award for Improving Lung Health

CHICAGO – State Rep. Karen May (D-Highland Park) last Thursday evening was honored at the Respiratory Health Association’s Inspiration Benefit for Women’s Lung Health for her work to improve Illinois’ air quality. She received the 2008 “Catch Your Breath Legacy Award.”

“It is important to remember that improving our air quality is not just about preventing global warming and ensuring a better world for our children and grandchildren,” May said. “Air pollutants contribute to lung cancer, pulmonary disease, asthma, and other respiratory problems. We must do everything we can to reduce or, if possible, eliminate them.”

Poor air quality is credited for causing many respiratory diseases, including Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and lung cancer, the number one cancer killer in the United States. May has been a leading sponsor of measures in the General Assembly to promote clean indoor and outdoor air, including Public Acts 95-0017 – the Smoke-Free Illinois Act, 95-0084 – the Green Clean Schools Act, and 95-0481 – which requires electric utility companies to obtain a portion of their energy from renewable resource like wind or solar power instead of burning coal. This spring, May is working to pass House Bill 3424 – the Illinois Clean Cars Act – that would reduce vehicle emissions by requiring auto manufacturers to meet stricter particulate and carbon emission standards.

“Clean air is essential to the health and well being of people in any community,” May said. “Air pollution is a serious threat to our quality of life and longevity. I will continue to work to reduce the amount of pollutants dumped into Illinois’ air.”

For more information visit www.lungchicago.org, or contact May at (847) 433-9100.

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Photo available.