

PRESS RELEASE

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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May Bill Expands Green Cleaning Requirements

SPRINGFIELD – State Rep. Karen May (D-Highland Park) followed-up last year’s acclaimed Green Clean Schools Act last Tuesday by extending the requirement to state owned buildings and facilities by passing House Bill 4812.

House Bill 4812 will expand the Green Cleaning Schools Act to require all state owned buildings in Illinois, not just schools, to purchase environmentally sensitive cleaning supplies. Polluted indoor air can be five to one hundred times more polluted than outdoor air. The chemicals found in everyday cleaning supplies cause much of this pollution.

“Many commercial cleaning chemicals pose dangerous safety hazards,” May said. “Green cleaning supplies are not only safer for custodial staff to use, but remove potential health threats to the environment from fumes or spills, accidents and disposal.”

The Green Government Coordinating Council in the Lt. Governor’s office is responsible for developing specific green cleaning guidelines for schools and, should this measure become law, in all state owned buildings. The council is charged with developing green policies that reduce pollution, incorporate conservation and promote green policies in government operations.

“People spend long hours in state buildings working, touring, and seeking services, and people should expect the State to provide a clean and healthy environment,” May said. “The state should lead by example and I am glad that the Green Government Council is working with the Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association to provide workshops and lists of products for those individuals or businesses who wish to follow the state’s lead.”

The measure now awaits action in the Senate. For more information, visit www.GreenCleanIllinois.org and www.ilga.gov, or contact May at (847) 433-9100.

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