

Press Release

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Karen May

Phone: (847) 433-9100

Rep. May Passes Bills to Clean State House

HIGHLAND PARK – State Rep. Karen May (D-Highland Park) last Wednesday passed legislation out of the House the she sponsored to strengthen ethical guidelines for government employees and elected officials. The two legislative measures extend protections for whistleblowers and will put an end to pay-to-play politics.

“It is important to have the trust of the public and we need to make sure that government works in an ethical and honest manner,” said May. “We passed strict ethics laws four years ago, but the need to strengthen the law further has become evident.”

House Bill 742 extends whistleblower protections to governmental employees who come forward to report a crime they witness at work. Current law offers job security protection to state employees, and the new law broadens coverage to include employees of any state agency, local government, inter-governmental agency, and many others. May also sponsored House Bill 1, which will require any contractor doing business with the state to disclose how much money they have donated to executive officer’s campaigns. The bill goes further by prohibiting contractors doing more than \$25,000 of business with the state from making any political contributions to executive officers.

“For too long pay-to-play politics has been to law of the Land of Lincoln,” May said. “Honest Abe would be ashamed. The majority of us in government are honest and hard working public servants, but the actions of the few strike a blow to the integrity of the entire state, and the people of Illinois deserve better.”

House Bill 1 and House Bill 742 now await action in the Senate. For more information, visit www.ilga.gov, or contact May at (847) 433-9100.

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