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FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE FRED CRESPO

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## Crespo Appointed to Mental Health Task Force

**HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL** – State Representative Fred Crespo (D-Hoffman Estates) has been appointed to serve on the Mental Health Task Force that was created upon passage of legislation Crespo sponsored to create a comprehensive strategy to improve mental health services in Illinois.

“My commitment to improving mental health services has been consistent and this task force will provide a great start to improving our system,” Crespo said. “I am hopeful that the task force will produce practical solutions and remedies to address mental illness.”

The task force created by House Bill 2084 (Public Act 97-0438) is charged with creating a five-year plan to develop better mental health services in the state. The plan includes avenues to increase the quality of services throughout the state by improving access to care, reducing regulatory redundancy, and finding ways for providers to improve service while maintaining or reducing costs.

The task force will also work in conjunction with the Department of Human Services to assure effective treatment for those dually diagnosed with both Mental Illness and Developmental Disabilities. Task force members are being selected from various fields and agencies to ensure a comprehensive overview of all aspects of reform for the industry. Once the task force presents its five-year plan, the state will have one year to implement its findings.

“Mental health issues are an important part of my legislative agenda, and it’s an honor to be selected to serve on this board,” Crespo said. “I look forward to improving mental health services in our state.”

For more information, please contact Crespo’s office at (630) 372-3340.

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