

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

STATE RELATIONS

101st General Assembly U of I Caucus

Senators
Senator Neil Anderson (R)
36th District



Biography: Raised in the Quad CIty area and helped with the family business of installing floors. He graduated from the University of Nebraska and played on the football team. After graduating, he became a firefighter in the Moline Department and a paramedic in 2006. He resides in Rock Island with his wife and two children.

Senator Jason Barickman (R) 53rd District UIUC alum



Biography: Born May 1, 1975 in Streator, Illinois; raised on family farm in Livingston County; Graduated Woodland High School. Veteran of his service in uniform while an infantry soldier in the Illinois Army National Guard. Graduated from Illinois State University and then the University of Illinois College of Law. Principal with law office of Meyer Capel, P.C. Selected to inaugural class of the 2012 Edgar Fellows Leadership Program. Member of Illinois House from 2011-2013. Resides in Bloomington with wife, Kristin, as well as their two sons and a daughter.

Senator Scott Bennett (D) 52nd District UIUC alum



Biography: Grew up in Gibson City; B.A. in History, Illinois State University; J.D. from University of Illinois College of Law; former Assistant State's Attorney for Champaign and McLean counties; Past President of the Urbana Rotary; Attorney; married (wife, Stacy), has two children.

Senator Bill Cunningham (D) 18th District

UIC alum



Biography: Served in the House from 2011-13; full-time state legislator and lifelong resident of the southwest Chicago area; born July 21, 1967; graduate of Saint Barnabas Grammar School (1981), Mount Carmel High School (1985) and the University of Illinois Chicago (1990); former advisor to Cook County Sheriff Mike Sheahan and former chief of staff to Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart; youth soccer coach; parent representative on the Sutherland Local School Council; lives in Beverly with wife, Juliana, and two daughters, Madeline and Olivia.

Senator John Curran (R) 41st District



Biography: John Curran was sworn in to represent the 41st District in the Illinois Senate in July of 2017. Prior to the General Assembly, he served as the Vice-Chairman of the DuPage County Board, and was a board member from 2008 to 2017. Following 19 years working as an Assistant State's Attorney in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, Curran now works as an attorney at a private law firm in Oak Brook. He received his Juris Doctor Degree from Northern Illinois University College of Law and Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (where he played football). Curran and his wife, Sue, have four daughters and live in Downers Grove.

Senator Anna Gillespie (D) 27th District UIUC alum



Biography: Gillespie grew up in Des Plaines and has lived in Arlington Heights for 27 years. She received her bachelors from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her JD from Depaul University College of Law. Most of her career, she worked in the healthcare industry. Gillespie als volunteers at La Rabida Children's hospital and is a council member of the Northwest Suburban United Way Women's Leadership. She has two children.

Senator Michael Hastings (D) 19th District UIUC alum John Marshall Law School Alum



Biography: Elected to Senate in 2012; holds B.S in Leadership and Management, Civil Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point; M.S., Business Administration, University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign; and J.D., The John Marshall Law School; Former US Army Captain; Served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Bronze Star recipient; Former Vice President of High School District 230; born October 6th, resides in Tinley Park, married to wife Katie and has one son Mikey.

Senator Toi Hutchinson (D) 40th District UIUC alum



Biography: Born May 20, 1973; Graduated University of Illinois at Urbana with a Bachelor in English; J.D. Northern Illinois University, College of Law 2014, Former Olympia Fields Village Clerk; Harvard Kennedy School of Government Executive Management Program (Women and Power) 2004, 2012 Edgar Fellow at University of Illinois at Urbana Institute of Government and Public Affairs; Chair of Senate Revenue Committee, lives in Olympia Fields with husband (Paul), 3 children (Paul Jr., Camryn, Ryan) and the family dog (Maisy)

Senator David Koehler (D) 46th District



Biography: Born and raised in South Dakota; he received his bachelor's degree from Yankton College. Afterwards, he became a staff member for the National Farm Workers Ministry in 1972. He went to United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio for his master's. He has experience in healthcare and labor-management relations. He also served on the Peoria County Board for six years. He has been in office since 2006 and works to be an advocate for his state's residents. He is married and has three daughters.

Senator Kimberly Lightford (D) 4th District



Biography: Full-time senator; B.A. in communications, Western Illinois University; M.A. in public administration, University of Illinois Springfield; village of Maywood trustee; employee for Secretary of State, Department of Corrections and Central Management Services; longtime champion in the Senate for education, working families and women's issues; lives in Maywood with her son, Isaiah.

Senator Andy Manar (D) 48th District UIS local legislator



Biography: Born November 15, 1975, in Bunker Hill; B.A. in History, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; past chairman of Macoupin County Board; married (wife, Trista), has three children.

Senator Iris Martinez (D) 20th District



Biography: Martinez was born on February 25th, 1956; raised in Chicago's West Town community. She graduated from Northeastern Illinois University, where she studied public policy and administration. She became the first Hispanic woman to be elected into the Illinois State Senate in 2003. She is an advocate for affordable housing, expanding health care access and ensuring seniors and the disabled receive proper care. Currently, she resides in Albany Park with her daughter.

Senator Steve McClure (R)

50th District UIS alum Higher education committee



Biography: Born on March 8th 1984 in Springfield. He studied political science and history at Arizona State University for his undergrad. He was a former prosecutor in the Juvenile Division and in the Felony Division in the Sangamon County State's Attorney's Office in Springfield. He studied law at Valparaiso University School and received his masters from University of Springfield in political science.

Senator Dan McConchie (R) 26th District *Higher Education committee*



Biography: Dan McConchie started a business at the age of 15 and another while in college at the Central Bible College. He served nine years at the Army National Guard. McConchie was worked for non-profits and has been an advocate for his residents. He lives in Hawthorn Woods with his wife and two daughters.

Senator Pat McGuire (D) 43rd District *Senate Higher Education Committee Chair*

Biography: Former teacher, school board member, Will County treasurer and Braidwood City Clerk; attended Joliet Catholic schools from first grade through college; married (Lora) with one daughter (Molly).



Senator Antonio Munoz (D) 1st District

1st District



Biography: Born Feb. 18, 1964, in Chicago; served in U.S. Army with the 82nd Airborne Division; City of Chicago-Mayor's License Commission, Local Liquor Control Section (1990); Dept. of Aviation; Mayor's Office of Budget & Management; member of Fraternal Order of Police; married (wife, Patricia), has three children.

Senator Jim Oberweis (R) 25th District UIUC alum



Biography: Jim Oberweis of Sugar Grove has served in the Illinois Senate since January 2013. He serves as Republican spokesperson for the Labor and Commerce Committee, and is a member of the Appropriations I, Environment, Local Government, and Public Health committees. A lifelong resident of the Fox Valley, Jim graduated from Marmion Military Academy, earned a B.A. from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. His first job was a math and science teacher at Waldo Junior High School in Aurora. He later launched a career in the financial services industry. Today, Oberweis Asset Management manages approximately \$2 billion in growth stock assets. Jim also serves as the Chairman of Oberweis Dairy, a business founded by his grandfather Peter. Jim and his wife, Julie, have five adult children, two stepchildren, and 20 grandchildren.

Senator Jason Plummer (R) 54th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: He lives in Edwardsville with his wife and daughter. He is the vice president of R.P. Lumber, which is a family owned business. He attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for his bachelors. He has served as an intelligence officer in the Navy.

Senator Sue Rezin (R) 38th District *Education committee*



Senator Chapin Rose (R) 51st District UIUC alum



Senator Martin Sandoval (D) 11th District Children at UIC



Biography: Sue Rezin graduated from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government's Senior Executives in State and Local Government program. She is an active volunteer and supporter of the Make-A-Wish foundation of Northern Illinois. She believes in giving back to the community. She also attended Augustana College, where she studied International Business and Political Science. She lives with his husband and four children in Morris.

Biography: Born December 27, 1973; B.S., University of Illinois (former Student Trustee); J.D., University of Illinois Law School; selected to inaugural class of the 2012 Edgar Fellows Leadership Program; married (wife, Camille), has one son and three daughters.

Biography: Full Time state legislator, born in The Back of the Yards, graduate of Loyola University in Chicago where he earned a Bachelor's of Science in psychology; married (wife, Marina) has three children.

Senator Elgie Sims, Jr. (D) 17th District UIS alum



Biography: Attorney; born in Chicago; B.S., Political Science, Illinois State University; M.P.A., University of Illinois; J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law; married, has two children.

Senator Steve Stadelman (D) 34th District



Biography: He was born on October 30th, 1960. He grew up on a dairy farm in southern Wisconsin. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was a news anchor/report for 25 years and reported on issues regarding Rockford and Illinois. He was elected in 2012. He lives in Loves Park with his wife and their four children. He is known for coaching his kids' sport teams.

Senator Jil Tracy (R) 47th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: Jil Tracy was elected to represent the 47th District in the Illinois Senate in November of 2016. She previously served as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives from 2006 to 2014. In her early career, Tracy worked in private law as the Mt. Sterling City Attorney and an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. She currently serves on the John Wood Community College Foundation Board, the Network Knowledge WQEC/WSEC/PBS Board. She was also a founding board member of the Brown County United Way and served for more than 13 years on the Mt. Sterling Park District Board. In addition to Senate Committees, she serves as a member of Illinois' Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, as well as the Legislative Research Unit. She and her husband, Jim, live in Quincy and have four grown children and two grandchildren.

Senator Patricia Van Pelt (D)

5th District



Biography: She was born on November 12th, 1957 in Chicago. She earned her bachelor's degree at Roosevelt University and her master's degree at Spertus Institute. At Capella University, she completed her doctorate. She was elected to the State Senate in 2012. She worked as a drill operator and union steward at Ingersoll Steel Mill for eight years. She lives in the West Side of Chicago with her husband.

Representatives

Representative Carol Ammons (D) 103rd District *UIUC local legislator*



Biography: Full-time legislator; former member of Urbana City Council and Champaign County Board; volunteered at Courage Connections (A Woman's Fund); worked at Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center, Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club, Salvation Army Food Pantry, and University YMCA; resides in Urbana; married, has three children.

Representative Mark Batinick (R) 97th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: Small business owner and entrepreneur; B.S., Business Education, University of Illinois; founder of the Will County Liberty Club; member of the Plainfield and Oswego Chambers of Commerce; Married (wife, Ellen) with five children.

Representative Thomas Bennett (R) 106th District UIUC alum



Biography: Raised in Gibson City, Illinois. Former IT manager for a national insurance company; former high school science teacher and a corporate computer software developer and trainer. Earned a BS in Education, BS in Applied Computer Science, MBA, and a Doctorate of Business Administration. Married with two grown children and three grandchildren.

Representative Kelly Burke (D) 36th District UIUC alum John Marshall Law School Alum



Biography: Full-time state representative; B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; J.D., John Marshall Law School; Evergreen Park Library Board trustee, 2003-2011 (board president 2005-2011); alumna of the Edgar Fellows Leadership Program (2012); adjunct faculty, Loyola University Law School.

Representative Tim Butler (R) 87th District UIS local legislator



Biography: Rep. Tim Butler previously served as district chief of staff to former U.S. Rep. Ray LaHood and to U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis. A 1990 graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Tim and his wife Wendy have lived in Sangamon County since 1998. He is active in the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association and serves on the Boards of Directors of the Dirksen Congressional Center and Downtown Springfield, Inc.

Representative John Cabello (R) 68th District



Biography: Rep. John Cabello moed to Machesney park at a young age and graduated Rock Valley College before becoming a police officer and then detective in Rockford IL. John served as a police officer for almost 20 years and is currently on a leave of absence. He previously served as a Winnebago County Board member for District 8 and works part-time for Stewart & Associates.

Representative Linda Chapa LaVia (D) 83rd District

UIC Alum



Biography: Rep. Lavia was born in Aurora IL. and graduated from The University of Illinois at Chicago while serving the ROTC program. She was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army until 1993, served in the Illinois Guard until 1997, and currently serves as the Assistant Majority Leader in the Illinois House of Representatives. Rep. LaVia resides in Aurora with her partner and two daughters.

Representative Terra Costa Howard (D) 48th District

UIUC Alum



Biography: Rep. Costa Howard was born and raised in DuPage County and majored in Political Science and Communications at The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign before earning her law degree at DePaul University. Terra started her career as a staff attorney as the DuPage County 18th Judicial Circuit Court, and two years later joining DuPage County Public DEfender's Office representing children and parents living in poverty. In 2003 Terr opened her own legal practice, and worked alside her husband Nick to start a software development company.

Representative Jerry Costello (D) 116th District

Children at UIC



Biography: Financial adviser; born February 13, 1969 in Belleville, IL; graduate, Southern Illinois University Carbondale; former paratrooper, U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division during Operation Desert Storm; former patrolman and assistant chief of police; member, Fraternal Order of Police, Laborers International Union of Northern America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Catholic War Veterans; member, St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Belleville; married, has three children.

Representative Jim Durkin (R) 82nd District John Marshall Law School Alum



Biography: Born January 28, 1961; B.S. Illinois State University; J.D. John Marshall Law School; married (wife, Celeste), and resides in Western Springs with his family.

Representative Sara Feigenholtz (D) 12th District *UIC Alum*



Biography: Rep. Feigenholtz was born in Chicago and attended Northern Illinois University, then before getting a fellowship degree at the University of Illinois School of Public Health. In 2011 Sara completed Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Rep. Feigenholtz served as the Assistant Majority Leader from 2013 through 2019.

Representative Mary Flowers (D) 31st District UIC Alum



Biography: Rep. Flowers was born in Inverness, Mississippi her family moved to Chicago when she was a child. She attended Kennedy King Community College and the University of Illinois-Chicago. Rep. Flowers is currently serving her 17th term in the Illinois House of Representatives and has one daughter and one granddaughter.

Representative Robyn Gabel (D)

18th District *UIC alum*



Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth (D) 92nd District

UIUC alum



Representative Michael Halpin (D) 72nd District



Biography: Throughout her career, Robyn Gabel has maintained a strong commitment to serving the people of Illinois as an advocate for women, children and families. She served as the Executive Director of the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition, a non-profit advocacy organization, from 1988 to 2010 and previously worked as legislative aid to Alderman (now Congressman) Luis Gutierrez. Her legislative priorities include affordable, accessible health care, environment and sustainability issues, education, and economic development. She has a B.A. from Beloit College, an M.S.P.H. from the University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health and an M.J. in Health Law from Loyola University Chicago. She has one daughter, Lilah.

Biography: Full-time state legislator; B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; former local school board member; former staff member, Illinois Central College; 2013 Edgar Fellow; resides in Peoria with husband, Derrick, and daughter, Jianna

Biography: Attorney; B.A., Roger Williams
University; J.D., University of Illinois; served as a
legislative aide to former Congressman Lane
Evans; former public guardian for Rock Island
County; board of directors, Bridging the Gap:
Stand Down for Homeless Veterans; lives in Rock
Island with his wife and two children.

Representative Frances Ann Hurley (D) 35th District

Child is a UIC alum



Representative Michael T. Marron (R) 104th District

UIUC Alum



Biography: Full-time state legislator and lifelong resident of the southwest community; graduate of Saint Barnabas Elementary School, Mother McAuley High School, and Saint Xavier University; former aide to Chicago aldermen Ginger Rugai and Matthew O'Shea; member of the Saint Christina Parish, Mt. Greenwood Civic Association; former director of the Saint Christina Manna Program and past volunteer for Christ Hospital's Ronald McDonald House, Misercordia, Y-Me softball tournament, PADS, Marist High School, Mt. Greenwood Party in the Park, and Merrionette Park Youth Softball; lives in Mt. Greenwood and has three children.

Biography: Rep. Marron is a small business owner and family farm operator in rural Vermilion County. He served as a member of Governor Rauner's transition team on agriculture issues, was a five-time representative of Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Soybean Associate to Washington ,and is currently a member of the Danville Public Library Foundation Board of Directors. Rep Marron resides in Vermilion County with his wife and two children.

Representative Robert Martwick (D) 19th District *John Marshall Law School Alum*



Biography: Attorney; B.A., economics, Boston College; J.D., John Marshall Law School; former Cook County Assistant State's Attorney, in areas of domestic violence, child support enforcement, DUI and general criminal prosecutions; former trustee, Norwood Park Township; former trustee, Village of Norridge; married.

Representative Joyce Mason (D)

61st District *UIC Alum*



Biography: Rep. Mason earned her Bachelor's degree in Communications at The University of Illinois at Chicago and got her MBA at Devry University. She is the former Vice President of the Gurnee-based Woodland Community School District 50 Board of Education, and was also a human resources consultant. Rep. Mason lives in Gurnee with her two children.

Representative Tony McCombie (R)

71st District

Children at UIUC



Biography: Born and raised in Savanna, IL.
Received BA from Western Illinois University.
Currently is a small businesswoman, operating
Blue Appraisals and self-employed in the real
estate industry as a broker with MelFoster
Company. Formerly served as the Mayor of
Savanna, IL and as a Savanna Councilwoman. She
is a citizen legislator who lives in Savanna with
her husband, Curt.

Representative Anna Moeller (D) 43rd District



Biography: Full-time legislator; BA History and MPA, Northern Illinois University; Edgar Fellow, University of Illinois: former Councilwoman, City of Elgin; former Executive Director, McHenry County Council of Governments; former member of the City of Elgin Planning and Development Commission and Human Relations Commission, former Vice-President of the Northeast Neighborhood Association, former volunteer ESL tutor for the Elgin Literacy Connection, former Treasurer for the Channing Elementary School PTO. Member of the Elgin Area Branch of the Association of American University Women; married, has two children.

Representative Bob Morgan

58th District



Representative Marty Moylan (D) 55th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: Rep. Morgan is an attorney at the law firm of Much Shelist. He previously worked for the State of Illinois as the lead attorney for implementing the Affordable Care Act, and Director of the Illinois Medical Cannabis Program. Bob is currently a board member of the Anti-Defamation League and Board of Trustees of Equip for Equality. Rep. Morgan resides in Deerfield with his wife Sonya, son Ari, and dog Teddy.

Biography: Full-time legislator; attended the University of Illinois; member, Support Your Neighbor Commission; former Des Plaines mayor and alderman; former electrician and electrical inspector; former business representative, IBEW Local 134; married, has one son.

Representative Mike Murphy (R) 99th District



Biography: Rep. Murphy was born in Springfield, IL. and served in the US Army for 3 years before earning a Bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University. He is a former restaurant owner and has served on the school board and village board in Divernon, before serving 6 years on the Sangamon County Citizens Efficiency Commission as vice chairman and chairman. Rep. Murphy resides in Springfield with his wife Cindy.

Representative Aaron Ortiz (D) 1st District *UIUC Alum*



Biography: Rep. Ortiz is an educator and college counselor at Back of the Yards High School, a Chicago Public School. A first generation college student, Ortiz graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning. Aaron is a proud member of the Chicago Teachers Union, and recently participated in a fellowship with United Working Families and Grassroots Illinois Action on political empowerment.

Representative Lindsay Parkhurst (R) 79th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: Raised in Kankakee. Received BA from University of Illinois, JD from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, and LLM from DePaul University College of Law. Currently practicing as a civil practice trial attorney and criminal defense attorney. Formerly served as Assistant Public Defender and Medical Malpractice defense attorney. She is a citizen legislator who lives in Kankakee with her husband and daughter.

Representative Steven Reick (R) 63rd District
UIUC Alum



Representative Sue Scherer 96th District



Biography: Rep. Reick was born and raised in Kankakee IL. and earned his Bachelor's degree in Accountancy at the University of Illinois, followed by a Juris Doctor and Master's degree in Accountancy and Taxation from the University of Georgia. Steve moved to Woodstock where he established a law practice focused on taxation and real estate matter. He continues to practice law today, and has three children with his wife Deb and four grandchildren.

Biography: Rep. Scherer is a former public school teacher of 34 years in Decatur and Maroa-Forsyth. She graduated from Eastern Illinois University, and earned her Master's degree in Education at Illinois State University. Rep. Scherer has served in the Illinois House for 6 years and has four children and five grandchildren.

Representative Ryan Spain (R) 73rd District
UIUC alum



Biography: Vice President of Economic
Development, OSF Healthcare System; born
October 11, 1982, in Peoria; Graduated from
University of Illinois, MBA from Bradley
University; former Peoria City Council Member,
Board Member for Downtown Development
Corporation of Peoria and Greater Peoria EDC;
married, has one daughter.

Representative André Thapedi 32nd District John Marshall Law School Alum



Graduated from St. Ignatius College Prep (Chicago), Morehouse College (Atlanta) and the John Marshall Law School (Chicago); Associate attorney with two major Chicago law firms before founding Thapedi & Thapedi law firm with his mother, retired Circuit Court Judge LLwellyn Thapedi.

Biography: Attorney, Real Estate Broker;

Representative Arthur Turner (D) 9th District *Represents UIC*



Biography: Attorney; born July 17, 1982 in Chicago; B.S., political science, Morehouse College; J.D., Southern Illinois University School of Law; former community organizer and youth mentor.

Representative Emanuel Chris Welch (D) 7th District *John Marshall Law School alum*



Biography: Attorney; B.A., Northwestern University; J.D., John Marshall Law School; former member and president, Proviso Township High Schools District 209 Board of Education; partner, Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman, LLP; married, has two children.

Representative Keith Wheeler (R)

50th District *UIUC alum*



Representative Kathleen Willis (D) 77th District *UIUC alum*



Representative Patrick Windhorst 118th District *UIUC alum*



Biography: Born on June 9; graduated from Oswego High School '85; earned a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of Illinois; owner of Responsive Network Service for over 23 years with offices in Chicago and Oswego; past Chairman of NFIB Illinois Leadership Council; past Board Chairman for the Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce; past Chairman of the Kendall County Republican Central Committee; Treasurer of the Oswego Bears Youth Football and Cheer Pop Warner program; wife Lisa; three children, Matthew, Chad, and Ava.

Biography: Full-time legislator; B.A., Human Services Administration, Elmhurst College; master's degree, Library and Information Services, University of Illinois; former coordinator of access services, Elmhurst College Library; former member, Addison Elementary District 4 school board; resides in Addison; married, has four children.

Biography: Windhorst is from Southern Illinois. He went to Shawnee Community College and went to law school at SIU. He serves as Deacon in his local church and serves the Massac County State's Attorney. He lives with his wife and their two children.

Representative Michael Zalewski (D) 23rd District UIUC alum John Marshall Law School Alum



Biography: Attorney; born in Chicago; B.A., Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; J.D., John Marshall Law School; Attorney specializing in civil and criminal law; married (wife, Carrie).