

Simon to present Classrooms First legislation

Written by Kara Beach

Tuesday, 12 March 2013 15:08

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SPRINGFIELD – Lt. Governor Sheila Simon will testify before the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee on Wednesday, presenting legislation created from her Classrooms First Commission.

Simon, the state's point person on education reform, served as the chairperson of the bipartisan Classrooms First Commission, which examined ways school districts could reduce duplicative spending and improve educational offerings. Based on the Commission's findings, legislation being presented on Wednesday would allow non-contiguous school districts to consolidate and small schools to dissolve without referenda.

"We want Illinois to lead the nation in education performance, not bureaucracy," said Simon. "This legislation will make it easier for school districts to put their students first by dedicating resources to expanding classroom opportunities."

Later Wednesday, Simon will address more than 100 representatives from Illinois' Main Street communities. This year marks the 20th year of Illinois Main Street, a program dedicated to revitalizing local economies through investment and job creation. Simon is the state ambassador for Main Street.

Committee Testimony

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DATE: Wednesday, March 13

□ **TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Room D-1, Stratton Building, Springfield

Illinois Main Street Rally

DATE: Wednesday, March 13

□ **TIME:** 11:30 a.m.

PLACE: Capitol Rotunda, Springfield

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