

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Representative Linda Chapa LaVia

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Ag-School Reorganization Oral History project

AI-A-L-2012-012

Representative Linda Chapa LaVia, chair of the Illinois House of Representatives Education Committee, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois – School Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: April 22, 2012 Location: District Rep Office in Aurora, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 0:52 / 0.87 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on July 18, 2012

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Linda Chapa LaVia, Agriculture in Illinois, AI-A-L-2012-012

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Representative Linda Chapa LaVia (Democrat from Aurora) serves as the chair of the House Education Committee. In that capacity she sponsored House Bill 1216 (PA 970503) which dealt with School Reorganization. This led to the formation of the Classrooms First Commission chaired by Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon. Representatives of the Commission were appointed by either Legislative Leaders or school related organizations and unions. Representative Chapa LaVia was selected by Speaker Mike Madigan. This interview explains the work of the Commission, which included public hearings, review of research, study groups, past history and draft proposals regarding efficiency and realignment of school districts. The Commission operated from 2011 through 2012. Also, Representative Chapa LaVia was involved with Senate Bill 7, Race to the Top, School Report Cards, School Ratings and Regional Offices. This interview is a continuation of Mr. Pogue's interview with Representative Chapa LaVia in 2011.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois' Classroom First Commission; Public Act (PA)-97-0503, House Bill-1216; School Reorganization in Illinois; Educational Shared Efficiency; Operational Shared Efficiency & Within District Efficiency; school district realignment; Classrooms First Draft Proposals; Lt. Governor Sheila Simon; Illinois state school incentives; school construction in Illinois; teacher pensions; Regional Office of Education; Senate Bill 3494; PTELL (Property Tax Levy Limitations Extension); Medicaid; Senate Bill 7; Illinois' School Rating Scale and School Report Cards

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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