

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Senator Linda Holmes

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agricultural in Illinois School- Reorganization Oral History project

Interview # AI-A-L-2012-031

Senator Linda Holmes, an Illinois State Senator who served on Gov. Pat Quinn's Classroom First Commission, was interviewed June 14, 2012, as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's Agricultural in Illinois School-Reorganization Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: June 14, 2012 District Office, Plainfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
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Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 52:29 / 0.87 hrs

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

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Abstract

Linda Holmes, *Agriculture in Illinois*, AI-A-L-2012-031

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Senator Linda Holmes (D) represents the communities of Aurora, Naperville, Plainfield, and Joliet. Currently she serves on the Senate's Committees of State Government, Local Government, Labor, Ag/Conservation and Gaming. She co-sponsored House Bill 1216 and served on the Classrooms First Commission which studied school reorganization. Senator Holmes was born in Chicago in 1959, graduated from Hoffman Estates High School in 1977, attended Harper Community College, and earned a Bachelor Degree from National Lewis University in 1983. Her profession is in remodeling. Senator Holmes discusses the obstacles of School Reorganization and her role on the commission and how Shared Services can work. She was a sponsor of a law which did that by allowing five neighboring school districts (West Aurora, East Aurora, Naperville, Indian Prairie, and Oswego) to work with Aurora University to create an Elementary-Middle School Math-Science Academy.

Subject Headings/Key Words: School Reorganization, Classrooms First Commission, obstacles, incentives, public hearings, operational efficiency, 1985 Educational Reform Act, pensions, regional offices, state mandates, transportation, state funding, school construction, Article 5 State Constitution, PTELL, dual-unit districts, Medicaid, unpaid bills, "one-size fits all", virtual consolidation, Illinois Math- Science Academy.

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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