

NEWS

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

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Laura Fine Sworn In as New State Representative of 17th District

GLENVIEW, IL – Glenview Democrat Laura Fine was sworn in as the new state representative of the 17th District on Monday evening. Fine, who won election to the seat last November, fills a vacancy left by former state Rep. Daniel Biss (D-Evanston), who now moves to the state Senate.

Fine said she filled the vacant position because important issues may be voted on while the Legislature is currently in session, and she did not want residents of the district to be without representation in the Illinois House.

“I ran for state representative because I wanted to give back to our community,” Fine said. “It’s a great responsibility to be an advocate and a voice for local residents. As negotiations continue to intensify on critical state issues, when the opportunity arose to serve earlier than expected, I felt obligated to step in.”

The vacancy for the 17th District came about following the recent resignation of former state Sen. Jeff Schoenberg (D-Evanston), who chose not to seek re-election in November. Biss, who won election to Schoenberg’s former seat, was appointed to fill the remainder of Schoenberg’s term, leaving his House seat vacant. Fine will also be seated on Wednesday as a member of the new General Assembly with other lawmakers who won election in November.

“It would have been unfair for the people of the 17th District to not have a state representative as the current General Assembly comes to a close,” Fine said. “There are important issues that still need to be resolved. I will go to Springfield to work with my colleagues in hopes of finding common-sense solutions to state challenges while fighting for the needs and concerns of local residents.”

Fine, a former political science instructor at Northeastern Illinois University, will serve as a full-time legislator. Among her priorities in office will be to reject any cost of living increases for legislators during these difficult economic times. She will work to pass laws that expand the development of renewable energy like solar and wind to help lessen our dependence on foreign oil, reduce asthma-causing air pollution and jump-start the state economy with new, green jobs. Fine will support laws that protect reproductive freedom and she will work to make education more affordable and accessible.

The 17th Representative District includes all or portions of Evanston, Glenview, Golf, Morton Grove, Northbrook, Skokie and Wilmette.

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