

## Linda Chapa LaVia

(D-Aurora)  
83rd District

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\*Bill sponsorship and committee information courtesy of the Legislative Information System

## Biography

Linda Chapa LaVia represents the 83rd Representative District, which includes Aurora, Montgomery and North Aurora.

Linda was born and raised in Aurora and graduated from East Aurora High School. She was the first member of her family to complete college, earning her bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

While in college, Linda honed her leadership skills as a cadet in ROTC, completing basic training in 1988 and serving as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army until 1993. She continued her service in the National Guard until 1998 and is currently on Inactive Ready Reserve.

Linda brings her work ethic, energy and passion for community service to the job of State Representative. She is working to provide a voice in Springfield for all residents by working toward excellence in education, safer streets and quality healthcare for families and seniors.

Linda has long sought to promote economic development opportunities in her community. She has fought infrastructure improvement programs in the region and for budget reforms that force the state to live within its means, pay its bills and fund the pension systems, giving job-creating businesses the confidence to create and retain jobs in Illinois.

As a veteran, Linda is determined to make sure Illinois soldiers and her fellow veterans get the services and care they need. Linda has fought to protect needed funding for veterans' programs and she has supported new laws that hold the line on property taxes for veterans and make it easier for Illinois veterans to attend college.

Linda has been a fierce advocate for education in Illinois as the chair of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee, where she was the chief sponsor of landmark education reform that made it easier for schools to dismiss poorly performing teachers and made tenure contingent on satisfactory evaluation ratings. Linda has been a staunch advocate for improving education opportunities for all Illinois children. She has served on numerous task forces aimed at improving the lives of Illinois residents, including the Illinois Joining Forces Foundation, Commission for High School Graduation Achievement and Success, Enhance Physical Education Task Force, Teacher Recruiting and Retention Task Force, Task Force on Charter School Funding, and Young Adults Heroin Use Task Force.

Linda and her husband have two daughters.

[Return to Previous Page](#)

