

# BREAKING NEWS

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## Gov. Quinn renews call for Burris resignation

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Gov. Pat Quinn, who is calling on embattled U.S. Sen. Roland Burris to resign, said Saturday he has not yet spoken to the senator about stepping down.

The new governor, who said he's known Burris for 37 years, suggested that Burris "find a different way to serve and step aside."

Burris, who has said he intends to stay, is under pressure in the wake of revelations that he had many more contacts than he disclosed with aides to then-Gov. Rod Blagojevich and tried to raise campaign cash for him as he sought to succeed Obama in the U.S. Senate. Blagojevich appointed Burris following his Dec. 9 arrest but before lawmakers kicked him out of the governor's office.

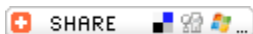
Some in the black community, including a group of ministers on Saturday, are rallying around Burris. A group of aldermen last week suggested that politicians who are critical of Burris might suffer a backlash from African-American voters.

The governor's comments on Burris were made at a Black History Month event on South Michigan Avenue's Motor Row. Quinn honored Julieanna Richardson for leading an effort to create "a living archive" of 5,000 videotaped interviews of a diverse group of African-Americans. The oral history project, called The HistoryMakers includes interviews with folks as famous President Barack Obama and as unique as a 103-year-old ice man who made his deliveries by horse-drawn wagon.

Quinn also said the state should keep its free public transit rides for seniors program and "see how it works."

As CTA, Metra and Pace face major money problems this year, the Illinois House is considering legislation to take away the controversial free bus and train rides for all but low-income seniors. Quinn said he won't sign it should it reach his desk.

--*Sara Olkon*



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