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February 29, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SENATOR TO VISIT EIU

CHARLESTON -- Illinois Sen. Alice Palmer of Chicago will visit Eastern Illinois University on Monday, March 4, to participate in a panel discussion on "The Impact of International Crisis on the State of Illinois" at 4 p.m. in the Effingham Room of the University Union.

The panel discussion, sponsored by Eastern's National Political Honor Society, is free and open to the public. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Palmer will be the guest of honor earlier in the day at an International Tea from 2 to 4 p.m at the Wesley Foundation, 2202 Fourth Street. The tea is sponsored by Rotary International of Charleston.

An African American senator from the 13th legislative district, Palmer is a member of the Senate Higher Education and State Government and Operations committees. She is co-chair of the Democratic Task Force on Rightsizing Government and is the Democratic minority spokesperson for the Revenue Committee.

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She was recently in the news when she ran against Jesse Jackson Jr. for the congressional seat vacated by Mel Reynolds last year.

Palmer has been a state senator since 1993 and was Democratic ward committeewoman (7th ward, Chicago) before that. She also has taught English in the public schools and has held various administrative positions at Northwestern University, University of Illinois-Chicago and Malcolm X College.

She earned a bachelor of science degree in English and sociology from Indiana University, a master's in urban studies from Roosevelt University and a doctorate in educational administration from Northwestern.

Palmer is the author of The Mature Student's Guide to Reading and Composition.