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PRESENTED BY THE LATINO POLICY FORUM

November 6, 2009



www.latinopolicyforum.org

In order to ensure Illinois' economic competitiveness and capitalize on the continued demographic growth of the Latino population, it is critical that Latinos engage in the social, economic and political activities of our state.

Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the region whose primary focus is to facilitate the inclusion of Latinos at all levels in public policy and policy decision-making processes. This is done through the establishment of work groups, or *acuerdos*, of stakeholders in each respective issue area.

The Latino Policy Forum utilizes its strategies of producing policy analysis; convening Latino leaders and civic organizations to conduct advocacy; conferring with and seeking counsel from researchers and experts in the field; and building alliances with non-Latino groups to generate recommendations to improve state policies and program quality from the perspective of the Latino community.

Current efforts are concentrated on education, housing, immigration and community engagement projects.

The mission of the Latino Policy Forum is to build the power, influence and leadership of the Latino community through collective action to transform public policies that ensure the well being of our community and society as a whole.

Celebrating Legislative Victories!

The Latino Policy Forum has made an impact. We have greatly expanded our advocacy capacity with the following outcomes:

\$45 million in capital funding has been appropriated for early childhood facilities

The Early Childhood Block Grant has been funded at 90%, despite facing a thirty-two percent reduction

Bilingual Education has been funded at 90%, despite facing a twenty-five percent reduction

Child Care Services have been funded at 100%, despite uncertainty regarding its funding and structure

Program

Celebrating Legislative Victories!

5:30 p.m.
Doors Open

6:30 p.m.
Welcome
Hipólito "Paul" Roldán, Board President
Latinos in Illinois: Are you in the know?
Sol A. Flores, Vice President

Remarks
Sylvia Puente, Executive Director

Video Presentation

Closing Remarks
Patricia Garza, Event Chair

7:00 p.m.
Brazilian Buffet: *Sinhá*
Entertainment: *Chicago Samba*

Special Thanks

Event Co-Chairs: Patricia Garza and Sol A. Flores

Berenice Alejo, Angela Anderson, Olga Camargo, María Cárdenas, Claudia Hinojosa, Mayra Hinojosa, Mary Beth Lemay, Patricia Novick, Sylvia Puente, Christine Tran

Event Coordinator: Jennifer Friedrich

Video: NanoPics Production, Fernando Ávila