SPRING NEWSLETTER

MAIN: Candidates, Gubernatorial Forum

The election season in Illinois is up and running. The primary season is over and general elections now have the full attention of constituents. This means it’s voters’ responsibility to turn their

Include New Executive Board Photos and quote from new President

We would like to introduce the Latino Policy Forum’s Executive Committee and Board of Directors for 2018:

**President,** Maria S. Doughty**,** State Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Counsel**,** Allstate Insurance Company

**Vice President,** Guacolda Reyes**,** Vice President of Real Estate Development**,** The Resurrection Project

**Secretary, Nicolas Catoggio,** Partner & Managing Director, Boston Consulting Group

**Treasurer,** Dorothy Abreu**,** Vice President, Community Development**,** PNC Bank

**Board of Directors**

**Luis Avila**

**Sol A. Flores,** Executive Director**,** La Casa Norte

**Martín Montes,** Director of Regulatory Affairs**,** Commonwealth Edison Company

**Carmen I. Ayala,** Superintendent, Berwyn North School District 98.

**Maricela Garcia,** Executive Director**,** Gads Hill Center

**Jorge Quezada,** Director, Leadership Development, Northwestern Mutual

**John Betancur,** Professor**,** UIC College of Planning & Urban Affairs

**Luis Gutiérrez,** Executive Director**,** Latinos Progresando

**Hipolito (Paul) Roldan,** President/CEO**,** Hispanic Housing Development Corp.

**Filemon S. Cerda,** Research Consultant

Community Meetings around 10-year anniversary – still looking for partners

**Mental Health Video (Jose Marco)**

Daca Response (website)

The Latino Policy Forum continued efforts to keep the Latino community updated and informed regarding the latest around DACA. The Forum stood in solidarity with DREAMers in Illinois and around the country by calling on Congress to provide permanent protections to Dreamers, who were brought to the United States as children, with a clean DREAM Act. t that creates a pathway to citizenship that does not split up families or squander billions of taxpayer dollars on ineffective border security measures.

[Read More >>>](http://www.latinopolicyforum.org/news/press-releases/document/DACA-statement-FINAL-1.pdf)

**Budget Response (website)**

On Wednesday February 14th, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner gave his annual budget address to the state where he introduced the proposed state budget for FY19. Here are the highlights as they impact Latinos in the state: The budget would move $490 million away from education state pensions and put it toward K-12 schools. This results in a net effect that will give K-12 education about $76 million extra for next fiscal year. The problem with this shift, though, is that local schools will now be asked to pick up the pension check and pay millions toward teacher retirement, adding an additional, unplanned expense for these schools.

[Read More >>>](http://www.latinopolicyforum.org/blog/fiscal-year-2019-budget-proposal-response)

**Latino Policy Forum w the Bulls (recap with photos)**

**The Latino Policy Forum’s staff, the Forum’s Acuerdo network along with**

**Latino Unity Day**

Each year, organizations and activist make the trip to Springfield for Latino Unity Day, a day to advocate for issues and legislation critical to the Latino Community. This year we will continue the tradition and plan to have a day’s full of events, including a luncheon, a X, and a X on May 9th, 2018. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks to about how you can participate and be part of this incredible event.

**Academy Retreat** ([Video](https://www.facebook.com/LatinoPolicyForum/videos/10155861582750199/))

The Forum’s Multicultural Leadership Academy, which encourages intercultural collaboration and collaborative social action between Latinos and African American in Illinois, kicked-off the 2018 cohort in February. In this video, leaders in the cohort began the first Academy retreat with some music and dancing. Click [here](http://www.latinopolicyforum.org/publications/training/document/Academy-Biobook.pdf) to learn more about the Leadership Academy.

Policies to be on the look out…. –