**For Immediate Release**

Leading Latino Organizations Sign on to Support Progressive Income Tax for Illinois

CHICAGO, IL – The Latino Policy Forum along with 20 leading Latino-serving organizations in the state, all members of the Illinois Latino Agenda, have signed a statement voicing their strong support for a fair, progressive tax for the state of Illinois.

We recognize that the present fiscal crisis facing Illinois makes tax reform necessary and are urging lawmakers to make certain that any tax increase includes budget and tax reforms that promote fiscal responsibility, tax fairness, and economic competitiveness. Any tax reform must be progressive.

The undersigned organizations and their constituents help to advance Illinois’ economy through labor, taxes, spending power and entrepreneurship:

Latino Policy Forum          Healthcare Alternative Systems
Casa Central                 Instituto Del Progreso Latino
Central States SER – Jobs for Progress, Inc  Puerto Rican Agenda
Centro de Informacion        Puerto Rican Cultural Center
El Valor                     IASHE (Illinois Association of State
Enlace Chicago               Hispanic Employees)
Gads Hill Center             LUCHA
Little Village Chamber of Commerce  Mujeres Latinas en Accion
The Resurrection Project     Center for Changing Lives
Alivio Medical Center        Erie Neighborhood House
Chicago Hispanic Health Coalition

State lawmakers must recognize the growing economic contributions of Latinos and immigrant communities to our workforce and small business creation and invest accordingly in educational opportunities for our youth as they become the future workforce, and in our workers so that they can maximize their contributions to the economic recovery and the entrepreneurship of the State of Illinois.

About the Latino Policy Forum

The Forum is the only organization in Illinois that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future. For more information, visit www.latinopolicyforum.org.

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