



# ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT 2023

LEGISLATIVE REPORT AS REQUESTED BY MINNESOTA STATUTE 15.0145









### **OUR MISSION**

The Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs is a state agency in the Executive Branch entrusted to advise, inform, influence, and connect in a nonpartisan way to improve the lives of Hispanic or Latinx/e Minnesotans.

### **OUR VISION**

Powerful and diverse voices drive and affect policy and systems change that is equitable and improves the lives of Minnesotans of Latin American and Caribbean descent.

### **OUR VALUES**

Voice. Quality of Life. Democracy. Presence. Linkage. Mutual Prosperity. Inclusive and Anti-Racist.



# **ICONTENTS**

Letter from Council Chairwoman Marta Castañón	∠
Introduction	5
MCLA's Main Goals and 2023 Highlights	7
Legislation & Policy	
MCLA's 2023 Legislative Agenda	8 13
A Community-Informed Approach to Influence Policy and Legislation	14
Financials	16
Board Members	17
Staff Members	18

The Council advises and works with the legislature and the governor towards the implementation of the economic, social, legal, and political equality for Minnesotans of Latino heritage (Minn. Stat. 15.0145)



# ILETTER FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR

### Dear members of the Minnesota State Legislature,

Greetings. It has been an exciting year for the people of color who reside in all parts of Minnesota. After many years of advocacy by many who never gave up, it was exciting to see the passage of Driver's License for All, which will help many to drive legally on our state highways. To all the legislators, on behalf of myself, the Council, and the Latino community, thank you for your support in helping Minnesota become a better state for all to live in.

In this last legislative session and during the year, MCLA had many successes that align with our 2022-2025 Strategic Framework:

- MCLA successfully advocated getting two significant bills to the finish line, which were adopted in the omnibus bills in K-12 Education and Higher Education (Increase Teachers of Color bill) and in State Government (new Hair Technician License).
- 2. In addition, MCLA worked actively in supporting the passage of legislation that will close opportunity gaps and reduce racial disparities to promote equity and prosperity in all underserved communities, including ours. The list is extensive, but Driver's License for All, and Health Care for All are among the main successes for the community in 2023.
- 3. At the end of the session, the Council held a town hall meeting with several state agencies, including the Minnesota Department of Revenue, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the Office of Higher Education, to inform the Latine community at large about legislative wins that will benefit their children and families.

- 4. This past summer, MCLA surveyed to gather input and recommendations to outline our 2024 priorities. A report, both in English and Spanish, was produced to help us inform the legislature, policymakers, and the public about challenges and opportunities in the community.
- 5. MCLA convened historic Latine civic leaders to produce a series of videos as we celebrated the Council's 45th anniversary, creating a dedicated page on our website highlighting the Council's achievements over more than four decades.
- 6. The Council increased and expanded relationships with Latino organizations to support Latino legislative priorities during the 2023-2024 session, co-creating an umbrella coalition of organizations advocating public policy and legislation, the Minnesota Latino Leadership Alliance (MiLLA).

The Council is very excited to continue fostering working relationships with all legislators before and during the 2024 session to familiarize them with the work of MCLA and celebrate Latine Minnesotan's contributions to the state. The Council will continue producing non-partisan and evidence-based recommendations to help understand how to reduce opportunity gaps that will benefit all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

Marta Castañón

2023 Chairwoman, CD7

# IINTRODUCTION

The Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs presents its 2023 Legislative Report to the Minnesota State Legislature. As our Council Chairwoman detailed in her letter, 2023 was a year of many successes for MCLA in executing its legislative mandate and serving Minnesotans. It was also a year in which MCLA continued to provide leadership, guidance, and stewardship when the state and our constituents needed it the most to support many of the legislative wins for the community.

In April, we held our Annual Latino Day at the Capitol, which, once again, drew a considerable number of community members who took advantage of resources provided by state and non-profit agencies, and met with legislators during the day. MCLA celebrated its 45th anniversary this year with the theme "Embrace the past, celebrate the present, dream up the future!". The event focused on Latino contributions to the state and the power of civic engagement as a tool for policy and systems change. With a historic budget surplus, being visible and engaged in the policy-making process was vital for our communities. The rally also included the presentation of MCLA's awards to recognized leaders and organizations: Lifetime Achievement Award (Susana de León), Outstanding Community Builder Award (Irma Márquez-Trapero), Outstanding Youth Community Builder Award (Azomali Obisakin), Outstanding Community Builder Organization Award (the coalition behind Driver's License for All), and MCLA's Champion Award (Elsa Vega-Pérez).

Our Executive Director led a video-documentary project to tell the Council's story over the last 45 years. It is a series of five videos, one for each decade (and one video compiling them all), with the voices of the historic leaders in the Latino community about the creation, transformation, and contributions of the Council for the betterment of Latinos in the state.

The Council's staff and members work collaboratively in its internal Legislative Committee, which helps staff strategize and offer recommendations regarding the Council's overall legislative and policy work. In that vein, MCLA continued to focus on our legislative work, ranging from supporting a comprehensive bill to increase teachers of color with critical investments, raising awareness about the singular work of Latina estheticians by removing barriers in their



Commissioner and Chair Luis Fitch "deconstructing" the current Minnesota flag with a group of college students

profession, and enacting a new Hair Technician License. The staff also worked on tax initiatives to expand financial opportunities for all Latinos to achieve prosperity.

Thanks to this work, the legislative staff successfully contributed in securing investments for many programs to increase the number of teachers of color, and in supporting the passage of a new Hair Technician License, a retirement program called MN Secure Choice Program, the Expansion of Homestead Classification and Homestead Credit Refund to Individual Taxpayers Identification Number (ITIN) filers, the Working Family Tax Credit's expansion to ITIN filers.

MCLA staff has developed and launched a user-friendly bilingual webpage on our website. This dedicated resource offers support to newcomers to the state, effectively bridging language barriers and easing their transition into the community.

During the summer, MCLA conducted a community priorities survey to understand the main issues affecting our constituents in several areas, including gaps affecting Latina women entrepreneurs, the environment, and the persistent education disparities. As in previous years, the results will continue guiding our work by prioritizing legislative areas for the upcoming legislative sessions. We shared the bilingual report with Latino organizations, policy advisors, and other state agencies, including the Minnesota State System of Colleges and Universities.

2023 presented opportunities for the Council to effectively



Young attendees at MCLA's Latine Day at the Capitol

adapt and serve as a bridge between the community and state government. Our team advised key government agencies, including the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Office of Higher Education, the Department of Labor and Industry, and the Department of Employment and Economic Development. On multiple occasions, we also contributed information to various legislators and state agencies with recommendations gleaned from our outreach to our constituents about different needs.

MCLA was instrumental in appointing a State Emblems Redesign Commission member by selecting acclaimed artist and graphic designer Luis Fitch to participate in this historic change. Thanks to his leadership, he was elected Chair of the 13-member commission that finally decided the new emblem and flag out of thousands of submissions by the public.

After some staff changes and transitions, the Council ended the year stably staffed with no vacancies on its Board, except those that, per statute, ended this year. As we all know, the pandemic caused many disruptions, including in the workforce, and new trends in employment have not spared the government, a sector with a very tight labor market. However, MCLA is being more intentional in hiring and retaining Latino talent in the agency by promoting current staff, offering professional development opportunities, and including leadership training.

The Council instituted a Staff Retention Committee to

# INTRODUCTION

work closely with state administrators and to address the staff retention issue. Thanks to the Council's leadership, the Executive Director re-classified two senior positions and worked hard to complete a Hay Review for the Executive Director's position. Similarly, among our achievements this year at the legislature, MCLA increased its staff to an additional FTE and hired the first Communications and Public Affairs Director. This position will help the Council in develop a communications strategy that aims to promote and amplify the state's programs and services to help reduce disparities. At the same time, during 2023, MCLA continued strengthening the role of new board members with a Board Assessment Training by aligning their statutory service with the staff's work and executing MCLA's 2022-2025 Strategic Framework approved by the Board in 2021.

It is in this new environment, where a certain level of normalcy is back after two challenging years of the COVID-19 pandemic and social unrest that disproportionally affected communities of color that MCLA successfully continues to adapt, understand new trends, and build relationships with both political parties to advance legislation that will benefit all Minnesotans, and more specifically our constituents. As our Executive Director indicated at the beginning of an historical session: "When Latino communities thrive, Minnesota thrives."

This report will detail MCLA's bi-partisan legislative work, community outreach, engagement, and 2023 fiscal year expenditures. In reading our annual report, the legislature will see that MCLA is a state agency that, despite its small size and faced with unpredictable changes, remains focused, provides level-headed leadership in important policy areas, and properly informs decision makers about the recommendations and aspirations of Latinos in the state.

At a time when demographics continue to change, and Minnesota becomes more diverse as informed by the U.S. Census, with baby boomers retiring in communities across the state and thousands of jobs available in crucial sectors like health care, childcare, education, services, engineering, agriculture, food processing, and manufacturing, the imperative need to close opportunity gaps is more than ever a top priority for the economic health of Minnesota.

### IMCLA'S MAIN GOALS AND 2023HIGHLIGHTS

As a small-staffed and efficient state agency, MCLA prioritizes its work through a three-pronged approach: 1) Advise the state legislature, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor's office, and executive branch agencies on the policy priorities of Minnesota's Latino community, 2) Connect the Latino community and the State of Minnesota, and 3) Influence public policy while adding value to state government.

### 1. ADVISE

The primary purpose of MCLA is to provide non-partisan, fact-based analysis and advice to state government. Whether through our in-house research, direct meetings with legislators, testifying during hearings, or holding policy-focused events, MCLA ensures that it properly advises the State of Minnesota on the Latino community.

This year, MCLA successfully led the passage of the Hair Technician License with bipartisan authorship by Rep. Pérez Vega & Sen. Alice Mann, and former Council members Rep. Jon Koznick and Senator Carla Nelson. Also, MCLA was instrumental in the passage of the 2023 ITCA provisions and funding, in partnership with the two other ethnic councils and the Coalition of Teachers of Color.

# Below is a list of other bills that passed and MCLA actively supported:

- 1. MinnesotaCare Inclusion Act
- 2. Working Family Credit for ITIN filers
- 3. Homestead eligibility for ITN filers
- 4. Minnesota Child Credit Tax (includes ITIN filers)
- 5. Personal Finance for High School Students
- 6. Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program
- 7. Increase Funding for English Learner Programming
- **8.** Community solutions establishment and appropriation for healthy child development grants
- **9.** Alzheimer's public information program establishment and appropriation
- **10.** First generation homebuyers down payment assistance fund



Nicauris Heredia-Rosario and Senator Alice Mann with Latina cosmetologists during a hearing for the Hair Technician License.

Katya Zepeda testifying in support of the 2023 ITCA bill.



Rosa Tock in support of HF2493, supplemental energy assistance.



MCLA and Ethnic Councils meeting with Speaker Melisa Hortman to discuss the ITCA bill.

### IMCLA'S MAIN GOALS AND 2023HIGHLIGHTS

#### 2. CONNECT

MCLA finds various ways to connect Minnesota Latinos and the state government. The agency prioritizes any appropriate channels to connect Latino community members directly to their state legislators, state agencies, or other levels of government. Latino members' lived experiences, stories, and perspectives are insightful and powerful.





### Launching of the Minnesota Latino Leadership Alliance (MiLLA)

At the beginning of the session that started with a historic budget surplus, MCLA was instrumental in convening Latino-led organizations around a new concept of Latino advocacy to make our communities more visible and be equitable included in the 2024-2025 state budget.

### 2023 Legislative Recaps

MCLA released two bilingual legislative reports that assessed the 2023 legislative sessions, highlighting the primary positive outcomes for the community and stressing pending changes moving forward.

# Latine Day at the Capitol: "Embrace the past, celebrate the present, dream up the future!"

In April, in the middle of the session, the Council held its first inperson rally at the Capitol since the pandemic. This year, we celebrated our 45th anniversary by recognizing Latine leaders who have made a long-lasting impact in the community through their service and advocacy work.

### End of Session Townhall

MCLA convened Latino leaders and the community to discuss the main legislative actions the Council supported during the session so they could hear directly from the state departments that are in charge of implementing the new policy around the Child Tax Credit, the North Star Promise, new provisions around the Increase Teachers of Color Act, etc.

### IMCLA'S MAIN GOALS AND 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

### 3. INFLUENCE

Whether it is providing non-partisan research and analysis or advising a state legislator on Latinos who live and work in their district, MCLA works hard to create a space for dialogue to help influence and shape policy by providing timely expertise that adds value to state government and makes the state a more prosperous and inclusive place for every resident.

### 2024 Community Priorities Report

During the summer, MCLA conducted a statewide survey to understand the community's leading issues and draft our legislative priorities for the year.

#### 2023 Proclamations

MCLA worked with the Office of the Governor and Lt. Governor to draft the Latino Heritage Month Proclamation and translate it into Spanish. Their office also issued an MCLA's Day proclamation to celebrate MCLA's 45th Anniversary on September 15, 2023.

In addition, the Minneapolis Mayor and City Council recognized MCLA's work in their Latino Heritage Month's Resolution, highlighting that many Minneapolis Latino-led groups and the Council actively supported the passage of multiple bills that will benefit their Latino residents.

Finally, MCLA was recognized by the National Association of Hispanic Realtors-Twin Cities, with the 2023 President's award for our commitment to Latino Homeownership in recognition of past and current staff advocating for ITIN filers' inclusion to take advantage of this benefit.

Group of Latino leaders after reading the City of Minneapolis' Latino Heritage Month, including MCLA's staff





# 12023 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PRIORITIES



### LIFELONG LEARNING (EDUCATION)

Minnesota's economic competitiveness and socioeconomic outcomes depend in part on Latinos' educational attainment. Progress has been made in closing the achievement and opportunity gaps that disproportionately impact Latinos, but much work remains to further narrow them.

- **Teachers of Color (HF320):** Secure funding for programs aimed at increasing the number of teachers of colors and American Indian teachers in Minnesotan schools.
- Multilingual Learners (HF340/SF8 and HF22/SF21): Advocate to increase funding for English Language Learners (ELL) programs.
- Affordable Childcare (HF9/SF9): Support legislation to improve access to quality and affordable childcare in Minnesota.
- **Minnesota Teacher shortage:** Advance the "Addressing Teacher Shortages Act" and other legislation addressing teacher shortages.

#### **BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Increase funding to support and expand Head Start programs, including Migrant and Seasonal Head Start.
- Target funding for Latino families to increase access to Childcare Assistance Program.
- Invest in targeted information to Latino students to access PSEO, FAFSA and other financial resources to reduce barriers to access college.
- Protect and increase sources of funding for in-state tuition rates in college (Prosperity Act).
- Funding for Student Support Personnel that targets specifically Latino personnel services and students.
- Fully fund ITCA programs like Grow your Own, CUGMEG Grants, Underrepresented Student Teachers Grants, and Aspiring MN Educators of Color Scholarships.

# 12023 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PRIORITIES





# PROSPERITY AND FINANCIAL STABILITY (ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)

Latine/x Minnesotans are a vital part of the state's workforce, having the highest labor force participation rate in the state. However, this high participation in the workforce has not yet translated to higher incomes or economic stability. MCLA supports legislations that promote Minnesotan Latino economic security and financial stability.

- New Hair Technical License: Lead the passage of a cosmetology bill to create a new Hair Technical License to assist Latina estheticians in becoming licensed, operate, and work under state regulations.
- Trades & Postsecondary attainment: Promote awareness among Latine/x students and parents about post-secondary education options, including trade programs and STEAM careers.
- **Financial Literacy classes:** Supports legislation mandating financial literacy classes in the curriculum and funding Latino nonprofits to offer financial literacy classes to our youth.
- **DLs Renewal Process with DPS/DVS:** Continue communicating with DVS/DPS to reinstate Individual Taxpayer Individual Number (ITIN) users access to driver's licenses renewal.
- Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program Act: MCLA will support legislation pertaining
  to retirement programs that would provide employees without access to retirement savings plans
  the opportunity to save for retirement an essential step towards financial security.
- Advancing Racial Equity: The Council supports racial equity impact notes in the analysis of bills
  and budget allocations that will not have adverse economic outcomes for Latinos, indigenous and
  people of color.
- Consumer protection: Lead a bill that would require used car dealerships to inform consumers if a "kill switch" has been installed in their cars and under what circumstances it would be activated.

### **BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Allow ITIN users to apply for better housing options.
- Ensure ITIN users being able to access credit resources.
- Include ITIN users to apply for Working Family Tax Credit and Homestead programs.
- Maintain rent prices under control.
- Provide more resources for Latino nonprofits to provide financial literacy classes to the youth.
- Include Latino organizations to provide Advance Youth Engagement & Employment Opportunities.
- Secure funding for DLI/DEED to provide Know Your Rights workshops or resources.
- Remove the public benefits cliff, where people lose all benefits when reaching an income threshold.
- Increase investments in workforce training and outreach programs especially for youth and women.

# 12023 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PRIORITIES



### **HEALTH & WELLBEING**

MCLA is committed to advocating for the improvement of Latine/x families' access to affordable and quality health care and to providing services that are culturally and linguistically relevant.

- **Expand MN Care (HF96/SF49):** MCLA supports the expansion of health care coverage for individual and families living in Minnesota, regardless of immigration status.
- Paid sick leave (HF19/SF34): The Council supports initiatives that would provide paid sick leave to employees to care for themselves or family members, regardless of immigration status.
- Mental Health: MCLA supports legislation that aim at addressing the shortage of culturally specific mental health service providers, strengthens current legislation, and work with state agencies to address our community's mental health needs.

#### **BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Invest in mental health screening, guaranteeing culturally relevant practices, including per pupil allocations that also include Latino students and staff.
- Invest in Social Emotional Learning programs to build a respectful, safe, harmonious, and productive school environment.
- Invest in outdoor activities, funding promotional information that culturally and linguistically targets Latino youth to explore state and municipal parks.
- Create and fund an outreach and awareness program for Latino youth with mental illness and other medical conditions.
- Invest in programs tailored to Latino families, children, and youth to increase healthy nutrition and physical activity.
- Support funding for community health clinics, particularly in Greater Minnesota.
- Allocate funding to Latino organizations to promote preventive health care and mental health services.



### **IMMIGRATION & BELONGING**

The Council strongly support state-level immigration policies that are humane, nondiscriminatory, and consistent with America's longstanding values of inclusion and integration.

**Driver Licenses for All (HF4/SF27):** Support the community's efforts to re-instate access to a MN Driver's License to all drivers regardless of immigration status.

### **BUDGET RECOMMENDATION:**

Invest in an Office of New Americans with the Department of Employment and Economic Opportunity (DEED). The Council recommends that the ONA has branches, staff, and resources in Greater Minnesota. The Office should also advise on foreign accreditations to integrate skilled new American workers.

# ISUMMARY OF METRICS OF SUCCESS

### LEGISLATIVE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

LEGISLATION DRAFTED BY MCLA OR IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS

12 pieces of legislation

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY/
POSITION STATEMENTS

position statements or committee testimonies

100+

MCLA'S LATINE DAY AT THE CAPITOL ATTENDEES

150

COMBINED MEETINGS WITH LEGISLATORS, LEGISLATIVE AIDS, AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

- virtual town hall
- new bilingual informational webpage to inform newcomers to the state

MEETINGS WITH CONSTITUENTS, COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

virtual or in-person meetings and phone communications

CONSTITUENTS REACHED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA AND TRADITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

40,000

constituents reached through communications, including 12 e-newsletters and several interviews in local Latino media

# SUMMARY OF METRICS OF SUCCESS

### PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH AND IN-HOUSE DATA ANALYSIS

# 2024 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES ANALYSIS:

Charting our Paths Forward with Community Voices. This bilingual publication, released in October 2023, includes policy recommendations and is a comprehensive review of the challenges the Minnesota Latino youth face and the opportunities and aspirations they envision.

### **2023 DEMOGRAPHIC**

**REPORT:** "A Portrait of Hispanic/Latine Minnesotans: Demographics and Social Economic Characteristics" The report offers a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of Minnesota's Hispanic/Latine communities. This report explores various demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, including population, geographic distribution, education, income, poverty, employment, homeownership, disability, and healthcare.

SIX MCLA'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY DOCU-VIDEOS

# PARTICIPATION IN TASKFORCE GROUPS AND OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- The Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers in Minnesota
- Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council (Department of Human Services)
- Minnesota Healthy Partnership (Minnesota Department of Health)
- Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB)
- Racial Equity Impact Notes Workgroup (Center for Economic Inclusion)
- Latine/Hispanic Latino Leaders bi-weekly meetings (Minnesota Department of Health)
- Minnesota Department of Education's Migrant Services Consortium
- Minnesota Latino Leadership Alliance (MiLLA) co-convened by MCLA with Latino-led organizations to advance a Latino Public Policy Agenda
- Licenses for All Coalition
- DHS Resettlement Programs Office's Monthly Conversations
- Department of Vehicular Services' Monthly Roundtable

# IA COMMUNITY-INFORMED APPROACH TO INFLUENCE POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Since 2017, in order to credibly fulfill its mission, MCLA has developed its legislative agenda through a process of community-led outreach. With the passage of all of MCLA's legislative priorities in the 2023 legislative session, the Council focused on implementing the new legislation, including understanding how the new programs, services, and benefits enacted will positively impact the community. Ensuring the information flows to the community will help reduce disparities and bridge gaps between state government and the community.

With this background, MCLA's staff planned and convened a virtual town hall meeting with several state agencies that presented the implementation of the newly passed laws. Paul Marquart, Department of Revenue Commissioner, as well as Abdiwahab Mohamed, DEED Assistant Commissioner for Immigrant & Refugee Affairs, and Marc Majors, DEED Deputy Commissioner for Workforce Development, were some of the speakers

in attendance, in addition to representatives of the Minnesota Department of Education and the Office of Higher Education which explained how the new North Star Promise grants would work and benefit many low-income families and students to afford higher education.

Staff also conducted a community priorities survey highlighting diverse topics and solutions around Latina women and girls, small business development, housing and homeownership, career advancement, the environment, nutrition and food security, and education The policy recommendations included in the report "2024 Community Priorities Analysis: Charting our Paths Forward with Community Voices", are geared towards improving the quality of life of Latino Minnesotans, eliminating systemic barriers in education and paths to financial stability, and ushering in reciprocity for the contributions they continue to make in our local economies and across the state.



# FY24 EXPENDITURES

General Fund	\$664,000
	<b>4</b>
Expenditures	
Full Time	\$134,310.99
Part Time - Seasonal	\$0.00
Overtime and Premium Pay	\$3,726.40
Other Employee Cost	\$1,421.71
Space Rental and Utilities	\$6,834.00
Printing and Advertising	\$458.26
Professional Technical Services.	\$1,500.00
Communications	
In State Travel	
Out of State Travel	\$5,394.22
Employee Development	\$895.00
State Agency Prof Tech Services	\$0.00
Central MNIT Services	
Agency Specific MNIT Services	\$1,200.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Equipment	\$17.59
Other Operating Costs	\$10,350.69
Equipment-Non capital	0.00
TOTAL	\$173,609.08

# **IBOARD MEMBERS**



**ALEJANDRA BEJARANO**Secretary, Congressional
District 1



JUVENTINO MEZA
Congressional District 2



**ELVIS RIVERA**Congressional District 3



MARCO HERNANDEZ
Congressional District 4



**CARLA UGARTE-PERRIN**Congressional District 5



MARIA-VICTORIA KAPITZKE Congressional District 6



MARTHA CASTANON MCLA's Chair, Congressional District 7



SUSANA PELAYO WOODWARD Congressional District 8



**SANDRA FILARDO** At-Large Member



IVETTE IZEA-MARTINEZ
Treasurer, At Large Member



**RONALD SALAZAR** Vice-Chair, At-Large



SENATOR GENE DORNINK District 23



**SENATOR ALICE MANN**District 50



REPRESENTATIVE MIKE WIENER
Disctrict 5B



REPRESENTATIVE MARÍA ISA PÉREZ-VEGA District 65B

# STAFF



ROSA TOCK
Executive Director



KATYA ZEPEDA Legislative and Policy Director -Education -



**LUIS ARGUETA**Communications and Public Affairs
Director



**ESTEFANÍA JAUREGUI** Office Manager

### OTHER STAFF (JANUARY-OCTOBER 2023)

Nicauris Heredia Rosario, Legislative and Policy Director
–Economic Development/TaxesPatricia Torres Ray, Public Affairs Director
Wendy Sánchez, Office and Communications Manager

We also want to thank our two 2023
Policy Fellows: Nayeli Carreno
(College of Saint Benedict and Saint
John's), and Alejandro Cáceres
(Mankato State University), for their
dedication and ideas supporting our
work during the session this year.

# THANK YOU!













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