



Chicano Latino Affairs Council
Legislative Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2012

Board Members: BM Francisco Gonzalez, Committee Chairmen; BM Gerardo Bonilla; BM Margaret Villanueva; BM Cynthia Campos; BM Alberto Quintela Jr.
Staff: Hector Garcia

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/ Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Review of Agenda	Committee Chair Gonzalez discussed the items on the agenda and began the meeting.		
Discuss Legislative Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report 87th Legislature 2012 • Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals • Voter ID • Marriage Amendment 	<p><u>Report 87th Legislature 2012</u></p> <p>ED Garcia explained the Report on the 87th Legislature Session. Sunset Act and the Commission which puts the Council and other Agencies through close scrutiny. The commission has asked the Council to turn in an annual report that focuses on the Council's outcomes.</p> <p>The Education bill focused on penalizing failure and teacher tenure. The LIFO bill also talked about tenure of teachers and if the number of years working should be considered when laying off people.</p> <p>In the last special session, the Legislature had eliminated Emergency Medical Assistance for and only allows undocumented people to go to the emergency room for life threatening situations. Treatments like.</p> <p>The bill for Micro loans for immigrant farmers was also passed.</p> <p><u>Sunset Act Results</u></p> <p>BM Villanueva asked what qualifies as in outcome for the report due Nov. 15 to the Legislature. ED Garcia explains that MMB had to say about outcomes during their Budget Narrative Seminar. They don't know either and to talk to the Legislature. ED Garcia suggested CLAC submit in writing our contributors and if CLAC made an impact in their organizations. BM Bonilla agreed and also suggested we report on key bills CLAC has been advising to the Legislature. BM Quintela also suggested other ideas for measurable outcomes such as the number of people who CLAC brought to testify for or against bills. BM Quintela recommended that all committees identify activities that can be measured for CLAC to report, BM Bonilla agreed. ED Garcia also added that the Legislature is looking for ways CLAC is making a difference in the disparities through partners. BM Quintela added that partners and "troops" are the key to helping eliminate the disparities.</p> <p><u>Voter ID</u></p>		

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	<p>BM Villanueva proposed that since the courts are going to let the amendments be on the ballot CLAC should issue a statement against these two amendments. BM Bonilla agreed and suggested having them ready by the retreat. The statement should include how the amendment will disproportionately affect the Latino/Immigrate/Low income Community by suppressing their vote. BM Villanueva suggested finding some data to support CLAC's position. But Committee Chair Gonzalez said that advocates for the Voter ID Amendment don't have had evidence and the statement should just focus on the effects on the Latino Community.</p> <p>BM Quintela had an idea of challenging the county auditors, who supervise elections, because they are the ones who will be deciding who votes in the upcoming elections. Committee Chair Gonzalez pointed out that we should wait to see the results of the upcoming elections. Committee Chair Gonzalez also pointed out that if Voter ID does pass it will be an opportunity to help the community register for state IDs and give them information at the same time.</p> <p><u>Marriage Amendment</u></p> <p>BM Bonilla brought a Community Member, Christian Ucles from MNUnited, to explain the Marriage Amendment and how it affects the Latino Community. As of now Minnesota already has a law against same sex marriages but the Marriage amendment will put it in the state constitution. This will make it harder to reverse the law. This will also be the first time in Minnesotan history where a law will be in place restricting rights instead of broadening them.</p> <p>BM Villanueva commented that it would be better if all the Ethnic Councils make a statement opposing the Marriage Amendment because it is a restriction of rights. BM Villanueva also suggested we frame the state as the Marriage Amendment being against Civil and Human Rights. Committee Chair Gonzalez challenged her comment by saying that the Council needs to justify all it takes by sticking to its mission and statute of advising the Legislature. BM Quintela also agrees that the Marriage Amendment does not have evidence that it hurt the Latino Community. BM Campos disagreed and pointed out that 1 in 4 people are of same sex orientation and that cuts across all races so both the Marriage Amendment and the Voter ID Amendment should be discussed equally.</p> <p>ED Garcia voiced his concerns about the amount of time spent discussing this issue and suggested that CLAC focus on education and the President's Deferred Action Policy.</p> <p><u>Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals</u></p> <p>DACA allows undocumented young undocumented people work permits, a SSN and assurance that they won't be deported for at least 2 years. The cost is \$465 per application for processing and</p>		
Board Meeting/Retreat,			

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Sept. 8 th			
New Business			
Adjournment			