



**For Immediate Release:**  
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**STATEMENT: Illinois Latino Agenda Congratulates Dulce M. Quintero for Her New Role as Acting Secretary of IDHS, Celebrates Deputy Governor Sol Flores's Tenure**

**CHICAGO** - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda \(ILA\)](#), a coalition that advocates for the wellbeing of Latinos throughout Illinois and for representation of Latinos in all levels of government and in all sectors, in response to [Governor Pritzker's announcement](#) that Deputy Governor for Health and Human Services Sol Flores is departing from her role and Dulce M. Quintero has been named as Acting Secretary at Illinois Department of Health and Human Services (IDHS):

"The Illinois Latino Agenda applauds the work of Deputy Governor for Health and Human Services (HHS) Sol Flores, who led HHS through its COVID-19 pandemic response, oversaw the expansion of healthcare access, spearheaded interagency strategies to help the most vulnerable in Illinois, and helped manage the state's response to the migrant crisis. Her leadership serves as an example of how our government leaders can take an equitable and culturally competent approach to address the issues that impact our communities. We look forward to working with Grace Hou who will fill the Deputy Governor position and thank her for her work at IDHS.

"We are pleased to see that there will be Latino representation in IDHS's leadership and we congratulate the announcement of Dulce M. Quintero as Acting Secretary of IDHS. She is a leader with the lived experiences and commitment to improving community wellbeing that we are certain will help uplift Latino communities throughout Illinois.

"We appreciate the Governor's leadership and his recognition of the importance of equitable representation at all levels of government, especially in agencies like IDHS that strengthen the safety net for Illinoisans. We are inspired by the pipeline of Latino leaders at IDHS and hope that Quintero's appointment as Acting Secretary is the first step in being confirmed as Secretary."

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