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STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:

ILA Urges Aldermen to Vote Against Any Changes to Chicago's Sanctuary City Status *media interviews available*

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the <u>Illinois Latino Agenda</u> in response to the <u>proposed changes to Chicago's Welcoming City ordinance</u>:

"Today, the Illinois Latino Agenda stood alongside community leaders and aldermen to defend Chicago's Latino communities and reaffirm our city's longstanding commitment to being a place of refuge and opportunity. The proposed changes to the Welcoming City Ordinance by Ald. Raymond Lopez (15th) and Ald. Silvana Tabares (23rd) pose a direct threat to our migrant neighbors and the well-being of all Chicagoans.

"People who migrate to the US, regardless of status, strengthen our neighborhoods, enrich our culture and drive our economy. Allowing police officers to work with federal agents would instill fear, deter community members from calling emergency services, encourage police to engage in warrantless conduct and divert police resources from addressing public safety issues to targeting our neighbors based on immigration status.

"Our city has proudly stood as a Sanctuary City for over 40 years, embodying resilience and unity in the face of external challenges. Now is not the time to act out of fear, it is time to step up for our City.

"We urge all City Council members to reject this harmful proposal, which, if approved, would violate the <u>Illinois Trust Act</u>. Let's uphold Chicago's legacy as a diverse, inclusive city that protects all who call it home."

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The Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA) is a coalition that advocates for the representation of Latinos across all sectors and works to advance the economic, political and social prosperity of Latino communities throughout Illinois.