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Reimagining immigration reform, advocates look to LGBTQ movement for possibilities

Congressman Luis Gutiérrez to deliver opening remarks at June 30 Pride month event

CHICAGO—June 26, 2014—This Friday marks the one year anniversary of passage of the bipartisan Senate immigration reform bill. 365 days later there has been no action from the House.

“We had our own group of eight in the House crafting a tough but fair immigration compromise by politics slowed us down and the effort collapsed,” said Congressman Luis V. Gutiérrez in a speech on the House floor Wednesday.

For more than a decade, efforts to overhaul a broken immigration system that keeps families strong and stable have failed. Now more than ever, immigration laws that reflect [American values](#) and needs are necessary.

In light of these issues and in honor of LGBTQ Pride month, Latino Policy Forum and ALMA Chicago will host *Rethinking Immigration Reform and Lessons Learned from the LGBTQ Community*, an event that focuses on what immigration reform advocates can take away from the LGBTQ community’s persistent fight for equality.

Congressman Gutierrez will deliver opening remarks and discuss the political challenges to reform in 2014 as well as the possibilities for administrative relief.

A panel discussion will follow with Illinois State Representative Kelly Cassidy; David Munar, CEO/President, Howard Brown Health Center, and Moises Hernandez, Esq. Latinos Progresando, addressing the issues of immigration and the LGBTQ community.

Rethinking Immigration Reform and Lessons Learned from the LGBTQ Community will be held Monday, June 30 at Stage Two, Columbia College Chicago, 618 S. Michigan in Chicago. The event will begin promptly at 8:00 AM, breakfast will be provided. RSVP is required to attend at <http://bit.ly/1wzwe4A>.

The Forum thanks its co-sponsors: Community Media Workshop, Lares UIC, Latinos Progresando, National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities, LULAC and UIC Gender and Sexuality Center.

About the Latino Policy Forum: The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area 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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