

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Illinois is celebrating its diverse Latino communities in observation of Hispanic Heritage Month and Support Latino Business Day - a national call to action that officially acknowledges and encourages support for Latino-owned businesses; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois is a state of ingenuity, acceptance, and home to vibrant Latino communities whose residents and businesses have made immense contributions to our state and have helped to preserve and enhance a culture of diversity and strength - in 2022, Hispanic-owned businesses generated nearly \$25 billion in revenue; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois recognizes the unique contribution that an estimated 152,000 Latino businesses make in our communities and are integral to the prosperity of our economy; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, the State of Illinois held the third annual Latino/a Economic Summit to continue supporting and uplifting Latino/a-owned businesses in Illinois; and,

**WHEREAS**, Hispanic workers continue to serve as an engine of economic growth - the total economic output, or GDP, of Hispanic Americans in 2023 is estimated to be well over \$4.1 trillion, up from \$2.8 trillion in 2019, and Hispanic Americans alone accounted for more than half of all the population growth in the United States between 2010 and 2023; and,

**WHEREAS**, continuing to prioritize small businesses in Illinois, support is given through small business grants for Latino businesses across the state, regardless of immigration status, and other standard business assistance programs like the Advantage Illinois - State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI 2.0) Loan and Loan Guarantee Program, and investments in worker training to include Pre-Apprenticeship & Apprenticeship Training to fill essential jobs across all sectors of the economy; and,

**WHEREAS**, despite hardship, Latino residents and businesses continue to see growth and play a prominent role in our economy, with the United States Senate Joint Economic Committee estimating that Hispanic-owned businesses contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois celebrates the significant cultural and economic contributions Latino communities and Latino-owned businesses make, the jobs they help create, and the positive impact they bring to communities across our state and beyond;

**THEREFORE**, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2025, as **Support Latino Business Day** in Illinois and September 15 through October 15, 2025, as **Hispanic Heritage Month** in Illinois, and encourage everyone to celebrate the rich history and cultures of the Latino Community and support Latino businesses in Illinois.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,  
this FIFTH day of SEPTEMBER, in  
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and  
TWENTY-FIVE, and of the State of Illinois,  
two hundred and SIXTH.



*Alexi Stanaouh*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR