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APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER

FACING RACE

2007–2008 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
CARD ON RACIAL EQUITY

ILLINOIS



APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER

Facing Race: 2007–2008 Legislative Report Card is a project of the Applied Research Center, a public policy institute advancing racial justice through research, advocacy and journalism. The Applied Research Center publishes the award-winning *ColorLines* magazine and has offices in Oakland, Chicago, and New York City.

The 95th Illinois General Assembly held a great deal of promise. In the previous session, the state stepped up as a national leader by making health care and affordable preschool programs available to all Illinois children and adopting the country's strongest protections for day laborers. This session's first year, in contrast, saw ineffective political leadership—policymaking came to a standstill while ongoing budget stand-offs produced the longest overtime session in Illinois history. As Illinois becomes increasingly diverse, it is imperative that Illinois' political leadership address the state's growing racial disparities and prioritize racial equity.

Illinois is home to nearly 4 million people of color—an increase of 10 percent since 2000—and nearly 1.8 million immigrants.¹ While one in three people of color in Illinois is an immigrant, four out of five immigrants are people of color.² In 2006, people of color made up 35 percent of state residents. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity forecasts that by 2050 the majority of the state’s population will be people of color.

Illinois political leaders’ response to these changing demographics will determine the state’s future. States that have implemented discriminatory policies to exclude people of color and immigrants have exacerbated racial disparities and tensions, which has even contributed in some instances to violence. Others have embraced the potential of these new and growing communities and promoted equity, benefiting the entire state. Illinois immigrants have contributed to the economic and population growth, without which the state’s Congressional delegation would have declined by two seats rather than one.³

Labeled by the Associated Press as the nation’s “most average” state⁴, Illinois—the fifth most populated—most closely mirrors the country in demographic factors including race, age, income, education, and immigration.

Racial disparities persist in income, health, and education. For example:

- The median net worth of white households—\$111,750—is 6 times that of households of color—\$18,160.⁵
- Approximately 26 percent of working age Blacks and 30 percent of working age Latinos are uninsured, compared to 12 percent of whites. Nearly 52 percent of non-citizen Latinos are unemployed.⁶
- Less than a quarter of American Indians—but 82 percent of whites—graduate from high school. Forty-three percent of Black males graduate.⁷

Racial gaps are widening in Illinois. For example:

- Between 1980 and 2005, the hourly wage gap in Illinois between white and Latino workers widened by 21 percent; the gap between whites and Blacks widened by 143 percent.⁸
- Between 2005 and 2006, the health insurance coverage gap between Blacks and whites grew by 17 percent.

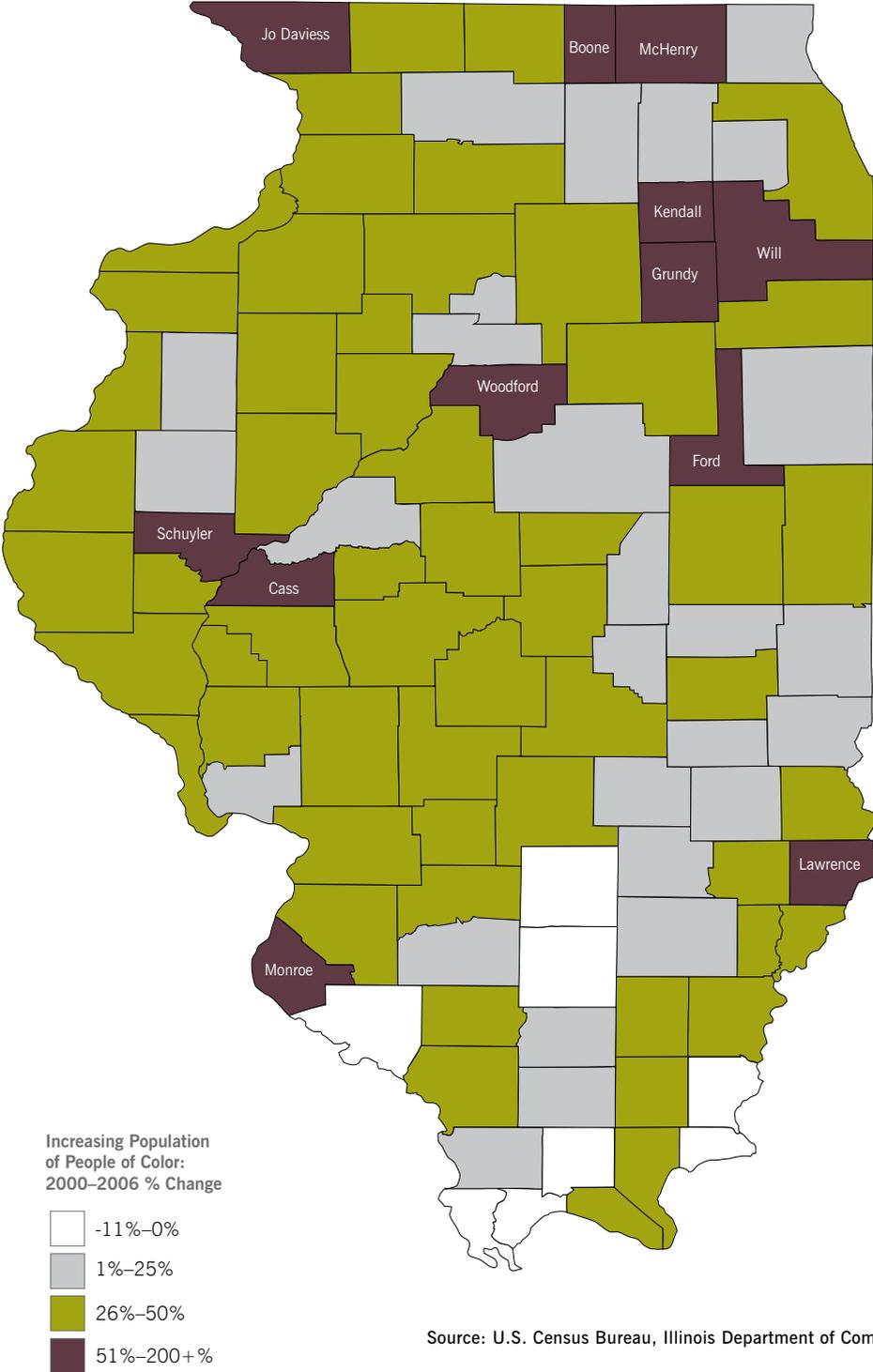
And on some measures, Illinois ranks worst in the country.

- Illinois has the most inequitable school-funding system in the nation—per pupil spending differences between districts are as high as \$19,000.⁹
- Illinois ranks worst in Medicaid funding per client—with the highest gap between Medicaid coverage (the amount paid by the Illinois Medicaid system) and individual costs (the total cost for the service)—leaving individual Illinois residents to pay the highest amount out of pocket.¹⁰

During the 95th Illinois General Assembly, Illinois’ top political leaders have, thus far, failed to deliver on the most pressing matters affecting the state’s most vulnerable communities, especially communities of color. Racial disparities in Illinois are pervasive, but they *need not* be permanent. As the “most average” state, Illinois has the opportunity to redefine American standards for racial equity.

Race *does* matter in Illinois.

ILLINOIS IS INCREASINGLY DIVERSE



Latinos. Nearly 1.9 million Latinos live in Illinois, an increase of 23 percent between 2000 and 2006. Latinos are projected to be nearly 40 percent of Illinois' population growth between 2000 and 2030.

Asian/Pacific Islanders. The number of Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) in Illinois has grown to over half a million, an increase of 26 percent between 2000 and 2006. The API population is projected to double by 2030.

Blacks. Over the past six years, the state's Black population has remained unchanged. Blacks are projected to remain approximately 15 percent of the population through 2030.

Whites. The number of whites has decreased by over eight percent since 2000, to just over 8.3 million. By 2050, less than half of the state population will be white.

Immigrants. As of 2006, nearly 1.8 million Illinois residents were foreign-born, an increase of about 16 percent since 2000. 78 percent of immigrants are people of color.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

**FOREIGN-BORN:
TOP 10 COUNTRIES 2006**

NATIVE COUNTRY	ILLINOIS RESIDENTS
Mexico	40.9%
Poland	8.8%
India	6.5%
Philippines	4.8%
China	3.8%
Korea	2.4%
Former Soviet Union	2.2%
Former Yugoslavia	1.7%
Germany	1.7%
Italy	1.3%
TOTAL	1,773,600

PEOPLE OF COLOR: TOP 5 COUNTIES

COUNTIES	PERCENT CHANGE IN PEOPLE OF COLOR 2000-2006
Kendall County	228%
Lawrence County	170%
Grundy County	140%
Cass County	93%
Boone County	89%

COUNTIES	NUMERICAL INCREASE 2000-2006
Cook County	94,301
Will County	81,826
DuPage County	60,161
Lake County	57,297
Kane County	51,675

ILLINOIS LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD ON RACIAL EQUITY 2007-2008

This report reviews 56 bills introduced in the 95th General Assembly that, if signed into law by the Governor, would have the most direct positive and negative impacts on communities of color. The *2007-2008 Illinois Legislative Report Card on Racial Equity* evaluates the Governor and legislators on their responses to these initiatives. Five racial equity criteria were used:

- Does the legislation explicitly address racial outcomes and work to eliminate racial inequities?
- Will the legislation increase access to public benefits and institutions for communities of color?
- Does the legislation advance enfranchisement and full civic participation for all Illinoisans?
- Will the legislation protect against racial violence, racial profiling, and discrimination?
- Is the legislation enforceable? Are mechanisms in place to ensure accountability?

Bills chosen met at least one of the above criteria. Bills were also selected with a view toward representing the breadth of Illinois’ diverse communities.

The Report Card covers six issues: civil rights, criminal justice, economic justice, educational equity, health equity, and housing and community development. Each section reviews existing racial disparities and describes key legislation considered by the 95th General Assembly. Bill status and grades are reported as of January 25th, 2008. A report on Illinois’ political leadership appears at the end of the report. A record of grades of each legislator and demographics of each legislative district appear in the appendix. A record of votes on each bill and demographics by county are available at www.arc.org.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

POLICYMAKING AND POLITICS

- The Governor cut off the state’s most viable revenue options by taking income and sales tax increases off the table, leaving the General Assembly with limited options to fund programs critical to communities of color.
- Political posturing among Illinois’ political leadership—including Governor Rod Blagojevich, Senate President Emil Jones, and House Speaker Michael Madigan—compromised the General Assembly’s ability to address the state’s deepest racial inequities.
- Illinois has made progress on some issues, including alternative sentencing for low-level drug and prostitution offenses and expanding language access programs, but has failed to pass crucial legislation to provide health coverage for uninsured adults or restructure the state’s school funding system.

Legislator Grades by Demographics of District

	VOTING %*	GRADE	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION EQUITY	HEALTH EQUITY	HOUSING	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM
House Total (n=118)	78%	C	73%	82%	95%	96%	81%	96%	20%
50-100% White (n=88)	74%	C	65%	77%	94%	95%	77%	96%	10%
50-100% People of Color (n=30)	91%	A	97%	97%	97%	98%	93%	94%	51%
Senate Total (n=59)	82%	B	79%	91%	92%	90%	71%	83%	0%
50-100% White (n=47)	80%	B	74%	89%	92%	89%	65%	80%	0%
50-100% People of Color (n=12)	90%	A	100%	98%	90%	92%	96%	92%	0%

* Total score in this table does not include leadership points.

Legislators of Color and Racial Equity

	VOTING %*	GRADE	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION EQUITY	HEALTH EQUITY	HOUSING	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM
Legislator of Color (n=38)	90%	A	97%	96%	95%	94%	95%	92%	46%
Black (n=27)	93%	A	97%	98%	96%	96%	94%	92%	62%
Latino (n=11)	86%	B	97%	93%	94%	91%	95%	91%	8%
White (n=139)	76%	C	68%	82%	93%	93%	73%	91%	10%

* Total score in this table does not include leadership points.

MAKING THE GRADE:

- The House received a C and the Senate received a B. This grade, however, masks disparities along party lines and by the racial demographics of legislative districts.
- Illinois' 38 legislators of color—11 Latino and 27 Black—have taken leadership in promoting racial equity. Legislators of color received an average grade of A for their support of racial equity, compared to white legislators who received an average grade of C. Legislators of color were lead sponsors on 38 of the 46 racial equity bills.
- Legislators who represent Illinois' 30 House and 12 Senate districts with majority populations of color strongly supported racial equity receiving As. Legislators from majority-white districts received a C in the House and a B in the Senate.
- Republican Representative Raymond Poe (R-99) was the only Republican to sponsor a racial equity bill (HB 1241, page 12). Republicans did not support racial equity as strongly as their Democratic counterparts, and no Republicans made the racial equity honor roll. There are no Republican legislators of color.

Honor Roll Legislators who Scored 100 Points for Supporting Racial Equity



Sen. Jacqueline Y. Collins (D-16)



Sen. John J. Cullerton (D-6)



Sen. William Delgado (D-2)



Sen. Mattie Hunter (D-3)



Sen. Terry Link (D-30)



Sen. Iris Y. Martinez (D-20)

SUMMARY: 2007–2008 RACIAL JUSTICE LEGISLATION

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

CIVIL RIGHTS

VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING NO-MATCH LETTERS

HB 1744 (Soto/Martinez)

TAXI DRIVER PROTECTIONS

SB 76 (Cullerton/Davis)

REPEAL REAL ID ACT

HJR 27 (Yarborough/Hunter)

EXPANDING CIVIL RIGHTS

SB 593 (Cullerton/Fritchey)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

TREATMENT OVER INCARCERATION

HB 2734 (Jefferies/Cullerton)

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING FOR PROSTITUTION

SB 75 (Collins/Molaro)

WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS STUDY

SJR 9 (Hunter/Froehlich)

EX-OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

HJR 8 (Howard/Collins)

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

EXPANDING CHILDCARE BENEFITS

HB 1009 (Hernández/Sandoval)

LATINO FAMILY COMMISSION

SB 1746 (Delgado/Soto)

MINORITY BUSINESS GRANTS

HB 1241 (Poe/Collins)

EDUCATION EQUITY

EMPOWERING LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCILS

HJR 71 (Golar)

EXPANDING LANGUAGE ACCESS

SB 1446 (Sandoval/Hernández)

INCREASING YOUTH EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

HB 202 (Arroyo/Link)

HEALTH EQUITY

LANGUAGE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

SB 544 (Delgado/Hernández)

EXPANDING SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS

SB 715 (Trotter/Feigenholtz)

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TENANTS' FORECLOSURE RIGHTS

SB 258 (Crotty/Riley)

ENERGY ASSISTANCE OUTREACH

SB 175 (Sandoval/Hernández)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

SB 220 (Martinez/Yarbrough)

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

CIVIL RIGHTS

HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

HB 1878 (Younge/Lightford)

ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE

SB 78 (Collins)–HB 858 (Molaro/Link)

IMMIGRANT DRIVERS' CERTIFICATES

HB 1100 (Acevedo/Muñoz)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

ABOLITION OF DEATH PENALTY

SB 328 (Hendon)

SECOND CHANCE ACT

SB 49 (Cullerton)

EXPANDING JUVENILE JURISDICTION

HB 1518 (Collins)

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

REDEFINING PAYDAY LOANS

SB 1468 (Lightford/Miller)–

HB 1437 (Miller)

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC BENEFITS

HB 949 (Jefferies/Hunter)

REGULATING TITLE LOANS

SB 549 (Delgado)

LABOR RIGHTS FOR ALL

SB 134 (Sandoval)

INCREASING LOW-INCOME BENEFITS

SB 12 (Collins/Currie)–HB 557 (Currie)

EDUCATION EQUITY

EDUCATION FUNDING EQUITY

SB 750 (Meeks)–HB 750 (Miller)

SCHOOL CLOSURE ACCOUNTABILITY

HB 200 (Soto)

GROW YOUR OWN FUNDING

HB 3654 (Golar/Martinez)

HEALTH EQUITY

RACIAL HEALTH DISPARITIES CURRICULUM

SB 558 (Hunter)

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

HB 311 (Flowers)

ILLINOIS COVERED

SB 5 (Trotter)

DISCRIMINATORY HOSPITAL PRICING

SB 1237 (Delgado)–HB 684 (May)

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PROPERTY TAX CAP

SB 13 (Link/Madigan)

BORROWERS' RIGHTS

HB 1478 (Burke)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND

SB 445 (Martinez)–HB 728 (Turner)



Acevedo



Arroyo



Burke



Collins, A.



Collins, J.



Crotty



Cullerton



Currie



M. Davis



Delgado



Feigenholtz



Flowers

LEGISLATING INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

DNA RACIAL PROFILING

HB 1901 (Mendoza/Dillard)–SB 1315 (Clayborne)



Fritchey



Froehlich



Golar



Hendon



Hernández

DAY LABOR FEES

HB 1631 (Granberg)



Howard



Hunter



Jeffries



Lightford



Link

PUNISHMENT TO PRISON

HB 305 (Hamos/Lightford)

DENYING JUVENILE DRIVING

HB 1080 (Fortner/Sandoval)



Madigan



Martinez



May



Meeks



Miller

MANDATORY INMATE HIV TESTING

HB 546 (Flowers)

MANDATORY STUDENT HIV TESTING

HB 193 (Flowers)



Molaro



Muñoz



Poe



Riley



Sandoval

NATIVIST HOUSING

SB 224 (Brady)

NATIVIST EMPLOYMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

SB 103 (Lauzen)



Soto



Trotter



Turner



Yarborough



Younge

CIVIL RIGHTS

Civil rights violations—from workplace discrimination and racial profiling to inequitable resources and hate crimes—have cost Illinoisans their livelihoods and their lives. The civil rights of Illinois’ nearly 4 million people of color and nearly 1.7 million immigrants—about 400,000 of whom are undocumented—must be protected. Despite their growing numbers and political power, people of color throughout the state continue to be targets of discrimination, hate crimes, and labor exploitation. Immigrant rights occupy a central place in ongoing efforts to defend civil rights and eliminate discrimination.



RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING NO-MATCH HB 1744

(SOTO/MARTINEZ): The Social Security Administration (SSA) estimates that its Employment Eligibility Verification System, commonly called the Basic Pilot Program or “E-Verify,” contains nearly 18 million mistakes and discrepancies.¹¹ When the SSA’s record of the social security number attached to a name does not match information an employer provides, SSA notifies the employer by sending a “no match” letter. Despite instructions in the letter itself not to do so, employers often use these letters—many of which are based on erroneous records—to fire and intimidate workers. HB 1744 protects Illinois’ 800,000 immigrant workers¹² by prohibiting use of this system until the Social Security Administration and Department of Homeland Security can, within three days, make a determination on 99 percent of no-match notifications. Currently, the SSA is unable to automatically verify half of the country’s legal immigrant workers.¹³

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

TAXI DRIVER PROTECTIONS SB 76 (CULLERTON/DAVIS): Taxi drivers work in one of the most dangerous occupations, with the highest risk of job-related homicide.¹⁴ Illinois has 12,000 taxi drivers, the fourth highest in the nation. Ninety percent of drivers are people of color and over half are immigrants, primarily of South Asian and African descent.¹⁵ SB 76 enhances the criminal offense of assault on a taxi driver from battery to aggravated battery.

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

REPEAL REAL ID ACT RESOLUTION HJR 27 (YARBOROUGH/HUNTER): In May of 2005, Congress passed the federal REAL ID Act, which attempts to create this country’s first national identification card and imposes restrictive requirements on how states issue drivers’ licenses and identification cards that can be used for federal purposes—including boarding airplanes and entering federal courthouses. HJR 27 calls on the President and Congress to revisit and repeal the REAL ID Act. Seventeen other states have passed similar legislation.

✓ *Adopted by Both Houses.*

EXPANDING CIVIL RIGHTS SB 593 (CULLERTON/FRICTHEY): The civil rights movement won hard-fought anti-discrimination protections. Federal and state legislation prohibits discrimination in public accommodations, including privately-owned properties. SB 593 amends the Illinois Human Rights Act to expand the definition of “place of public accommodation” to cover medical and dental offices, bringing the Illinois Human Rights Act in line with the federal government and 39 other states.

✓ *Amendatory Veto Overridden.*

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS HB 1878 (YOUNGE/LIGHTFORD): An estimated 720,000 Illinoisans, including 26,000 children each year, have experienced homelessness at some point during their lifetime.¹⁶ Ninety percent of Chicago’s homeless are people of color, 75 percent are Black; and 9 percent are Latino.¹⁷ HB 1878 would create a Homeless Bill of Rights to protect housing, employment, training, medical, financial, and voting rights and opportunities for Illinois’ homeless.

Passed the House. Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE SB 78 (COLLINS)–HB 858 (MOLARO/LINK): The U.S. electoral college system of winner-takes-all dilutes the voting power of communities of color.¹⁸ Thirty percent of Illinois’ voting age population are people of color, including 1.3 million Blacks, 700,000 Latinos, and 270,000 Asians.¹⁹ SB 78 and HB 858 would create the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote; the agreement would be effective once enough states representing the majority of electoral votes opt-in.

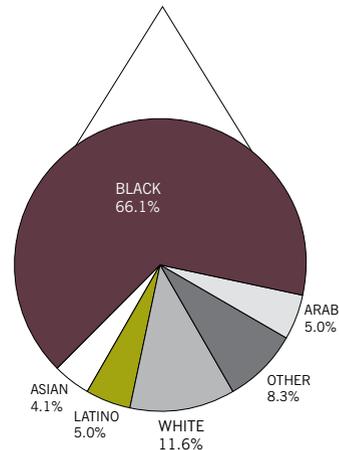
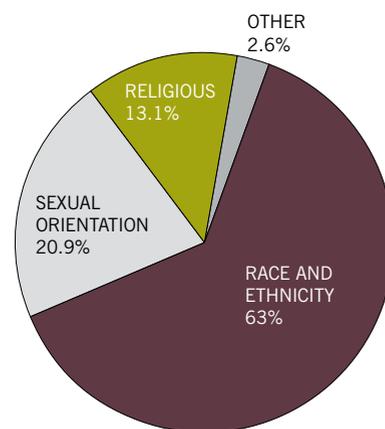
SB 78 Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 858 Passed the House. Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

IMMIGRANT DRIVERS’ CERTIFICATES HB 1100 (ACEVEDO/MUÑOZ): Hundreds of thousands of immigrants who live and work in Illinois have no legal way to drive. An estimated 250,000 immigrant drivers in Illinois are unlicensed.²⁰ HB 1100 would allow the Secretary of State to issue drivers’ certificates to immigrant state residents who pass a written exam enabling them to drive and obtain an individual federal tax identification number, enabling them to drive legally and obtain car insurance.

Passed the House. Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

Nearly Two out of Three Hate Crimes are Motivated by Race and Ethnicity, 2006



Racial Groups Targeted by Hate Crimes

Source: Illinois State Police. “Crime in Illinois 2006 Annual Uniform Crime Report.” Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Between 1970 and 2005, Illinois' prison population grew by 500 percent, from 7,326 to 44,669.²¹ Nationally, there are more Black adult men in prison than in state universities. Racial profiling, combined with discriminatory sentencing, has exacerbated the criminalization and incarceration of people of color.

The incarceration of people of color has become a profitable industry, creating thousands of jobs throughout the state. It is estimated that Black prisoners from Cook County alone generate more than \$500 million in economic development for the predominantly white down-state communities where prison facilities are concentrated.²²

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

TREATMENT OVER INCARCERATION HB 2734 (JEFFERIES/CULLERTON): Fifty-three percent of nonviolent drug offenders return to prison.²³ The cost of incarcerating an adult in Illinois is more than \$22,000 per year.²⁴ While drug use and sales are equally distributed across racial groups, nearly 90 percent of Illinois citizens incarcerated for drug offenses are Black.²⁵ Modeled after a Cook County pilot program with an 85 percent success rate,²⁶ HB 2734 allows State's Attorneys to create treatment programs to provide counseling, education, and other rehabilitation for individuals charged with low-level drug and prostitution offenses, as an alternative to incarceration. This program may save the state more than \$17 million dollars each year²⁷ and provide treatment for thousands of Illinoisans with drug addictions.

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING FOR PROSTITUTION SB 75 (COLLINS/MOLARO): Punitive policies do not address poverty or other root causes that push women into prostitution. An estimated 16,000 to 25,000 Chicago metropolitan area women engage in prostitution every year; 58 percent of them have been homeless.²⁸ These women entered prostitution at an average age of 14.²⁹ Prostitution convictions in Cook County doubled between 2002 and 2003.³⁰ Black women accounted for three quarters of prostitution arrests.³¹ SB 75 permits courts to sentence anyone without a felony prostitution record to conditional 24-month probation. Eighty percent of those arrested for prostitution are women of color.³²

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS STUDY SJR 9 (HUNTER/FROEHLICH): Illinois is the state with the highest number of people exonerated by DNA evidence in non-capital cases.³³ Prosecutorial and police errors, false confessions, informants, police torture, and racial profiling³⁴ contribute to Illinois' high level of wrongful convictions that

disproportionately affect people of color. SJR 9 creates the Illinois Justice Study Committee to identify the causes of wrongful convictions and recommend legal and policy solutions.

✓ *Adopted by Both Houses.*

EX-OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE HJR 8 (HOWARD/COLLINS): Individuals with past criminal convictions are prohibited from obtaining licenses in 57 occupations in the state—from beautician to land surveyor.³⁵ This has limited job opportunities and resulted in high unemployment and recidivism rates among Illinoisans with criminal convictions. HJR 8 reauthorizes the Legislative Task Force on Employment of Persons with Past Criminal Convictions to research and make policy recommendations to improve the employment outlook for ex-offenders, reduce recidivism, and improve housing opportunities for the increasing number of Illinoisans with criminal convictions, nearly two-thirds of whom are people of color.³⁶

✓ *Adopted by Both Houses.*

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

ABOLITION OF DEATH PENALTY SB 328 (HENDON): Illinois has convicted and sentenced to death 18 innocent men since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977.³⁷ In 2000, former Governor George Ryan responded to the death penalty crisis by declaring a moratorium on executions, a necessary step that remains in place today. He commuted the death sentences of all death row inmates shortly before leaving office in January 2003.³⁸ SB 328 would abolish the death penalty in Illinois. In 2006, 84 percent of all capital defendants in Illinois were people of color—69 percent were Black and 15 percent were Latino.³⁹

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SECOND CHANCE ACT SB 49 (CULLERTON): Illinois' prison population is 60 percent Black and 11 percent Latino.⁴⁰ SB 49 would establish a commission in each judicial district to expunge or seal criminal records, waive the bar to employment or licenses that a criminal record imposes, or grant certificates of good conduct.

Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

EXPANDING JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION HB 1518 (COLLINS): In Illinois, 17-year-olds charged with criminal offenses are sentenced as adults. This policy of treating juveniles as adults disparately affects youth of color. In Cook County, for example, 95 percent of 17-year-olds in county jail are youth of color—83 percent are Black.⁴¹ HB 1518 would amend the Juvenile Court Act by raising the age of youth eligible for juvenile status from 16 to 17.

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

\$70,827

Cost to incarcerate a juvenile⁴²

\$21,622

Cost to incarcerate an adult⁴³

\$8,133

Tuition at state university⁴⁴

\$5,334

Education Funding Foundation Level⁴⁵



ECONOMIC JUSTICE

People of color face disproportionately high unemployment rates, chronic underemployment, and over-concentration in low-wage job markets. Workplace discrimination, lower wages, and lower rates of employer-provided healthcare are added barriers to the economic self-sufficiency of families of color in Illinois. The cumulative effects of unequal educational attainment, segregation, discriminatory housing and labor policies, and credit access have caused wide racial disparities in income and wealth.

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

EXPANDING CHILDCARE BENEFITS HB 1009 (HERNÁNDEZ/SANDOVAL): Illinois families who formerly received public assistance report that lack of (or inability to find) childcare is their greatest barrier to gainful employment.⁴⁶ HB 1009 changes the income eligibility level for childcare benefits from 50 percent of the state median income⁴⁷ to 185 percent of the federal poverty level.⁴⁸ In 2008, this will raise the eligibility level from \$26,003 to \$37,821. This change expands eligibility to 51 percent of Black households, 40 percent of American Indian households and 38 percent of Latino households.⁴⁹

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

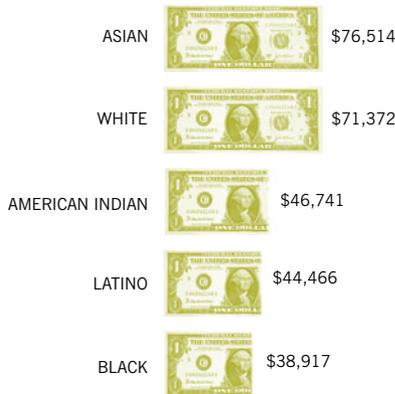
LATINO FAMILY COMMISSION SB 1746 (DELGADO/SOTO): Linguistic and cultural challenges limit Illinois' ability to address the needs of Latinos, who comprise 14.5 percent of the state's population.⁵⁰ The Latino population is the fastest growing in Illinois; it increased by 69 percent between 1990 and 2000, accounting for two-thirds of the state's growth during that period. Illinois now has the fifth largest Latino population in the country.⁵¹ This community falls behind on many social and economic measures, including educational attainment, employment, and health access.⁵² SB 1746 creates the Illinois Latino Family Commission to examine and report on solutions to the problems facing Illinois' Latino communities.

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

MINORITY BUSINESS GRANTS HB 1241 (POE/COLLINS): People of color are 35 percent of the state population⁵³, but own only 16 percent of all businesses statewide, accounting for only 2 percent of total sales.⁵⁴ In Chicago, 35 percent of businesses are owned by people of color, but these businesses generate only 3.9 percent of sales.⁵⁵ HB 1241 amends the Build Illinois Act to increase the authorized amount of small-business loans to minority and women owned businesses from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

Median Family Income Gap by Race, 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey." 2006

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

REDEFINING PAYDAY LOANS SB 1468 (LIGHTFORD/MILLER)–HB 1437 (MILLER):

Payday loans are high interest, short-term loans that use postdated checks as collateral. Illinois has more payday loan stores than state-chartered banks.⁵⁶ Payday lenders target minority communities, locating stores in communities of color more than three times as often as in white communities.⁵⁷ SB 1468 would strengthen the Payday Loan Reform Act of 2006—which capped interest charges on loans up to 180 days—by expanding the definition of “payday loan” to include all loans with annual percentage rates of 36 percent or higher.

*SB 1468 Passed the Senate. Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.
HB 1437 Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.*

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC BENEFITS HB 949 (JEFFERIES/HUNTER):

Illinois provides significantly lower public assistance grants than most states with similar median incomes. Illinois’ cash assistance grant level is 6th out of 7 Midwest states,⁵⁸ even though in its gross domestic product Illinois is 5th in the nation.⁵⁹ Cash grants for families with minor children have fallen from 79 percent of the federal poverty level in 1973 to 29 percent in 2006; between 1994 and 2006, grants increased only once, by a meager 5 percent.⁶⁰ HB 949 would increase grants by 15 percent, helping lower-income families and families of color stabilize their economic and housing circumstances. Nearly 90 percent of Illinois families receiving cash assistance are people of color: 82 percent are Black and 6 percent are Latino.⁶¹

Passed the House. Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

REGULATING TITLE LOANS SB 549 (DELGADO):

Title loans are short-term loans that use automobiles as collateral. Between 2002 and 2004, the number of title loan stores in Illinois increased by 16 percent. These stores charge an average annual percentage rate of 256 percent.⁶² The majority of these lenders are located in communities of color.⁶³ Of the 11 states with specific legislation governing title lending, only Illinois lacks a single consumer protection provision.⁶⁴ SB 549 would create the Title Loan Regulation Act to license and regulate the title loan industry.

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

LABOR RIGHTS FOR ALL SB 134 (SANDOVAL):

The National Labor Relations Act of 1935 excludes agricultural and domestic workers, who are predominantly people of color.⁶⁵ In Illinois, most of the nearly 32,000 migrant farm workers are Latino.⁶⁶ SB 134 would create a state Labor Relations Act to protect the rights of workers not covered by existing federal laws.

Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

INCREASING LOW INCOME BENEFITS SB 12 (COLLINS/CURRIE)–HB 557 (CURRIE):

Among states that offer an earned income tax credit, Illinois’ is the lowest. The state credits in nearby Wisconsin and Minnesota are nearly ten times as large as in Illinois. In 2006, the EITC returned an average of \$220 to 765,000 working Illinois families.⁶⁷ SB 12 would increase the Illinois earned income tax credit from 5 percent of the federal EITC to 7.5 percent in 2008 and 10 percent in 2009, extending the average credit to \$330 per family in 2008 and \$440 in 2009. Forty-two percent of households of color are eligible for the EITC.⁶⁸

*SB 12 Passed the Senate. Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.
HB 557 Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.*



EDUCATION EQUITY

Racial disparities in education are deep and persistent. Most students of color attend segregated schools; have fewer opportunities to learn; are disproportionately punished, suspended, and expelled; and are more likely to leave school early. Inequitable resources and unequal opportunities affect educational achievement and perpetuate racial disparities in wages and assets. They also limit students' opportunities to develop their full human potential and deny them access to tools for full civic participation.

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

EMPOWERING LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCILS HJR 71 (GOLAR): Chicago's Local School Councils (LSCs) are small elected bodies of community members, including parents, that make important budgetary, educational, and administrative decisions related to their local schools. LSCs were created to make individual schools more accessible and accountable to their communities.⁶⁹ LSC members comprise the vast majority of elected officials of color in Illinois.⁷⁰ LSCs have played a vital role in school improvement in Chicago. HJR 71 supports the continued empowerment and function of Chicago's Local School Councils. Over 90 percent of Chicago public school students are students of color and 85 percent are low-income. LSCs offer communities of color a voice.

✓ *Resolution Adopted.*

EXPANDING LANGUAGE ACCESS SB 1446 (SANDOVAL/HERNÁNDEZ): One in 10 Illinoisans struggles with speaking English, and more than three quarters of English language learners are people of color.⁷¹ In 2001, the Illinois Board of Education noted a statewide shortage of over 4,000 bilingual teachers. SB 1446 creates the We Want to Learn English Initiative to provide instruction to help immigrants and refugees participate fully in society. Yet, state funding for community colleges has been cut each of the last four years.⁷²

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

INCREASING YOUTH EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT HB 202 (ARROYO/LINK): Youth of color have disproportionately high unemployment rates. In 2002, 38 percent of Black youth and 25 percent of Latino youth were unemployed, compared to 15 percent of white youth.⁷³ HB 202 amends the Youthbuild Act by requiring the Secretary of Human Services to make grants to educational and employment programs for Illinois youth. The bill also adds youth in foster care, juvenile offenders, children with disabilities, children of incarcerated parents, and migrant youth as target groups for those programs. Among youth aging out of foster care, 60 percent are Black or Latino, and 30 percent are unemployed.⁷⁴

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

GROW YOUR OWN FUNDING HB 3654 (GOLAR/MARTINEZ): Illinois public schools face shortages of qualified teachers and teachers of color; 61 percent of schools with the highest concentration of minority students had teacher quality scores in the bottom 10 percent.⁷⁵ The Grow Your Own Teacher Education initiative was designed to increase the number of qualified and experienced teachers, especially teachers of color, in low-income communities and communities of color. HB 3654 would have provided more flexible funding to the Grow Your Own Initiative, which aims to add 1,000 teachers and increase retention of teachers in hard-to-staff schools in the next 10 years. Statewide, 85 percent of Illinois teachers are white, and between 1998 and 2006, the percentage of Black teachers in Chicago dropped by 9 percent.⁷⁶

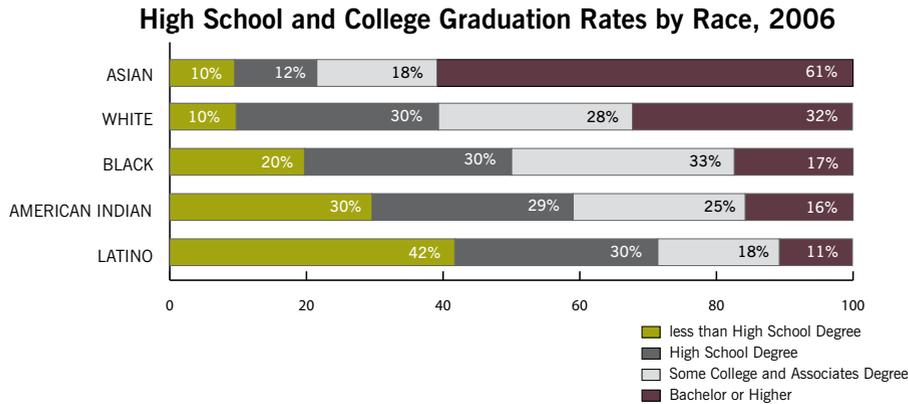
Total Veto Stands—No Positive Action Taken.

EDUCATION FUNDING EQUITY SB 750 (MEEKS)—HB 750 (MILLER): Illinois’ system of funding public schools is the most inequitable in the country, due to an over-reliance on property taxes.⁷⁷ The wealthiest school districts spend up to \$19,000 more per pupil than the poorest school districts.⁷⁸ The average Black child in public school receives \$1,153 less each year in school funding than the average white child.⁷⁹ SB 750 would create the School District Property Tax Relief Fund to reduce reliance on property taxes, equalize and increase per pupil expenditures, and increase special programming expenditures.

*SB 750 Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.
HB 750 Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.*

SCHOOL CLOSURE ACCOUNTABILITY HB 200 (SOTO): School closings harm students. Since 2000, the Chicago Board of Education has closed 33 public schools, almost all in communities of color. These closings have largely been the unilateral decision of the Board of Education, with little community or parent input. HB 200 would require any future school closing to be in the best interest of the community’s children, require criteria for school closings to be developed in consultation with Local School Councils, and create mechanisms for greater community participation.

Tabled by Sponsor.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. “American Community Survey.” 2006



HEALTH EQUITY

For millions of Illinoisans, access to healthcare is a matter of life or death. People of color in Illinois are more likely to live, work, and attend schools in proximity to environmental toxins and hazards and less likely to have access to healthy foods, health insurance, and quality healthcare. People of color are disproportionately uninsured, and immigrants face language barriers that prevent them from receiving quality health care, further exacerbating racial health disparities. Closing racial health gaps requires a multifaceted approach.

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

LANGUAGE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE SB 544 (DELGADO/HERNÁNDEZ):

Language barriers reduce the overall quality of healthcare.⁸⁰ Patients whose English proficiency is limited and who receive language assistance report better understanding of how to take prescription medications.⁸¹ Twenty-seven percent of patients who needed an interpreter but did not receive one said they did not understand their medication instructions.⁸² SB 544 increases health care providers’ obligations to make language assistance available so that proper healthcare information reaches all patients and their communities. This will ensure higher quality health care for the 665,000 Latino and 111,000 Asian Illinoisans who struggle in speaking English.⁸³

✔ *Signed by the Governor.*

EXPANDING SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS SB 715 (TROTTER/FEIGENHOLTZ):

Preventable health care problems, such as oral health and asthma, are among the leading causes of absenteeism for Illinois students.⁸⁴ Low-income students and children of color, especially those who are uninsured, rely on school health centers for immunizations, physical exams, nutritional counseling, substance abuse counseling, and mental health counseling. The centers can reduce emergency room visits, preventable illness, and other health related costs. SB 715, the School Health Care Center Act, creates 20 new school health centers and expands the capacity of existing centers. Nationally, 22 percent, 14 percent and 11 percent of Latino, Black and Asian children are uninsured compared to 7 percent of white children.⁸⁵

✔ *Signed by the Governor.*

HEALTH EQUITY: PEOPLE OF COLOR DISPROPORTIONATELY UNINSURED, 2005

	WHITE	BLACK	LATINO	MULTIETHNIC	LATINO CITIZEN	LATINO NON-CITIZEN
Illinois	12%	26%	30%	13%	20%	52%
Chicago	15%	32%	35%	15%	27%	57%
Chicago Metro	8%	19%	27%	11%	17%	46%
Downstate	15%	20%	27%	18%	12%	78%

Source: Gilead Outreach and Referral Center. The Face of the Uninsured: A Detailed Description of Illinois Uninsured. A Project of United Power for Action and Justice. March 2007.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

RACIAL HEALTH DISPARITIES CURRICULUM SB 558 (HUNTER): Cultural and linguistic factors contribute to racial disparities in medical treatment.⁸⁶ In Illinois, racial and ethnic health disparities mean shorter life spans and higher rates of infant mortality for people of color.⁸⁷ American Indians have a diabetes rate three times that of whites; Asians suffer from a liver cancer rate more than three times that of whites; Latinos have twice the diabetes rate of whites; and Blacks have triple the infant mortality rate of whites and accounted for 56 percent of all new HIV cases between 1999 and 2003.⁸⁸ SB 558 would amend the Medical School Curriculum Act by requiring cultural competency instruction designed to address race-based and gender-based disparities in medical treatment decisions.

Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE HB 311 (FLOWERS): Every day, more Americans are unable to afford the rising costs of health care. There are 1.75 million uninsured Illinoisans, including one in four Blacks and one in three Latinos; 940,000 people of color are uninsured.⁸⁹ HB 311, the Healthy Illinois Act, would insure all Illinois residents under the Illinois Health Services Program.

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

ILLINOIS COVERED SB 5 (TROTTER): In 2004, Illinois undertook a bipartisan process to achieve health care for all through the Health Care Justice Act. Based on recommendations resulting from the Act, SB 5 would create the Illinois Covered Act to establish new public and private health insurance options for the uninsured and underinsured. Over half of Illinois' uninsured are people of color: 24 percent are Black, and 23 percent are Latino.⁹⁰

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

DISCRIMINATORY HOSPITAL PRICING SB 1237 (DELGADO)–HB 684 (MAY): Illinois' uninsured pay as much as twice what insured patients pay for medical services.⁹¹ Latinos (29 percent) and Blacks (23 percent) are far more likely than whites (11 percent) to be uninsured.⁹² In Cook County, uninsured patients paid 148 percent more than the average insured patient who benefited from insurance company negotiated health care discounts, a cost difference of more than \$7,000.⁹³ In Chicago, uninsured residents pay 51 percent more than the federal government pays for the same drugs.⁹⁴ SB 1237, the Hospital Discriminatory Pricing Act, would prohibit hospitals from charging uninsured patients more than 110 percent of the Medicare reimbursement rate.

*SB 1237 Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.
HB 684 Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.*



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Continuing gentrification of low-income neighborhoods has displaced communities of color and contributed to a growing affordable housing crisis. Subprime lending targeted at communities of color has also perpetuated segregation, exacerbated foreclosures, and deepened disparities in home ownership, asset accumulation, and debt.

RACIAL EQUITY BILLS

TENANTS' FORECLOSURE RIGHTS SB 258 (CROTTY/RILEY): In 2006 alone, foreclosure actions were filed against more than 72,000 properties in Illinois.⁹⁵ Approximately 20 percent of subprime loans made in Illinois in 2006 will end in foreclosure.⁹⁶ SB 258 prevents the eviction of tenants in a foreclosed building for 120 days, providing the tenants are current in their rent payment. Of the eight Chicago-area zones where foreclosure rates were highest, seven are overwhelmingly Black.⁹⁷

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

ENERGY ASSISTANCE OUTREACH SB 175 (SANDOVAL/HERNÁNDEZ): Increasing energy costs disproportionately affect low-income communities of color. In Illinois, energy costs increased more than 42 percent between 2000 and 2005.⁹⁸ Low-income households spend 14 percent of their income on energy, compared to 3.5 percent for other households.⁹⁹ With the recent end of the electrical rate freeze, most bills are projected to increase more than 20 percent—some as much as 55 percent.¹⁰⁰ SB 175 amends the Energy Assistance Act by creating a Department of Health and Family Services outreach program for low-income minority households.

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SB 220 (MARTINEZ/YARBROUGH): In Illinois, 1.1 million households have experienced one or more housing problems as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.¹⁰¹ People of color are 53 percent of Illinoisans who spend at least half their income on rent.¹⁰² In addition, one million renters need housing assistance but the state has only 230,000 assisted housing units.¹⁰³ SB 220 gives a school-funding bonus incentive to communities that approve and develop multifamily affordable housing developments. Eighty-one percent of Illinoisans who hold vouchers in the Section 8 program, the federal assistance program that subsidizes private housing for low-income people, are Black.¹⁰⁴

✓ *Signed by the Governor.*

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

PROPERTY TAX CAP SB 13 (LINK/MADIGAN): Rising property taxes have forced many low-income homeowners to sell their houses, expediting gentrification in many communities of color. Due to regressive tax policies, the one-fifth of Illinois residents who earn less than \$15,000 per year—nearly half of them people of color¹⁰⁵—pay twice as much of their income in property taxes as the state’s wealthiest one percent whose income averages \$1.2 million.¹⁰⁶ SB 13 extends the existing 7 percent cap on property tax increases and raises the homeowner’s exemption from \$4,500 to \$20,000 and up to \$60,000 in some counties.

Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee for Concurrence.

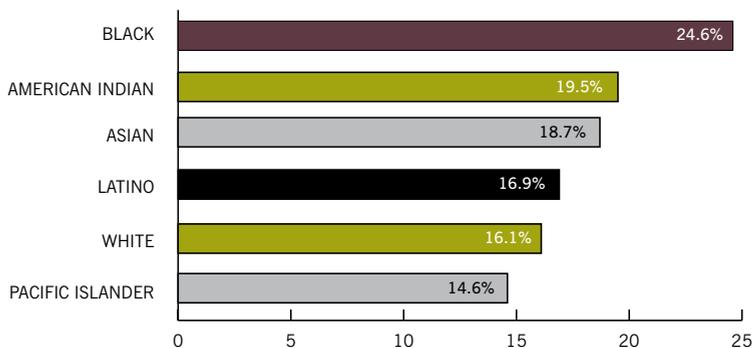
BORROWERS’ RIGHTS HB 1478 (BURKE): Predatory lending practices have devastated communities of color through unmanageable debt and foreclosures. Nationally, subprime loans are five times more prevalent in Black neighborhoods than white neighborhoods.¹⁰⁷ Experts estimate that between 35 and 50 percent of subprime borrowers could have qualified for prime loans.¹⁰⁸ HB 1478 would strengthen borrowers’ rights by limiting predatory lending in the mortgage industry.

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND SB 445 (MARTINEZ)–HB 728 (TURNER): More than 1 million Illinois households have struggled to find affordable housing.¹⁰⁹ Forty-two percent of Blacks spend nearly one third of their income on rent, compared to 33 percent of whites.¹¹⁰ Illinois could lose an additional 39,000 subsidized housing units in the next five years.¹¹¹ SB 445 and HB 728 would raise \$44 million dollars for affordable housing by increasing the state real estate transfer tax—the lowest of the 37 states with transfer taxes¹¹²—on properties worth over \$1 million, while reducing the tax for all properties under 1 million, which constitute 98 percent of all properties.

*SB 445 Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.
HB 728 Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.*

Percent of Households Spending Over Half of Their Income on Rent by Race, 1999



Source: U.S. Census 2000.

LEGISLATING INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

Public policies reinforce institutional racial inequities when they result in adverse outcomes for communities of color, regardless of intent. As demographics change, legislative leadership is needed to ensure equity and fair treatment for all Illinoisans—regardless of race or citizenship. The following bills, had they passed, would likely have perpetuated or aggravated existing racial inequities.

DNA RACIAL PROFILING HB 1901 (MENDOZA/DILLARD)–SB 1315 (CLAYBORNE): Racial profiling is a continuing problem in Illinois. In 2006, motorists of color were stopped at a rate 13 percent higher than white drivers.¹¹³ In 1999, 72 percent of drug users were white, while 70 percent of those arrested for drug violations were Black.¹¹⁴ HB 1901 and SB 1315 would require a DNA sample from every person arrested for a felony in Illinois. Considering the racially disparate practices of Illinois criminal justice authorities, the bill essentially creates a DNA database of people of color.

*HB 1901 Passed the House. Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.
SB 1315 Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.*

DAY LABOR FEES HB 1631 (GRANBERG): In 2005, the Day and Temporary Labor Services Act was enacted to protect the rights of Illinois' 300,000 day laborers.¹¹⁵ This Act included legal protections from exploitation and prohibited employers from charging workers for transportation. HB 1631 would amend the Act to allow employers to charge day laborers up to 8 percent of their daily wages for round trip transportation to and from the worksite, even if the charge reduced the day laborer's wages below the state's minimum wage. Nationally, over 90 percent of day laborers are from South or Central America.¹¹⁶

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

PUNISHMENT TO PRISON HB 305 (HAMOS/LIGHTFORD): While 45 percent of Illinois students are students of color, 65 percent of those suspended and 64 percent of those expelled are students of color.¹¹⁷ In Illinois, the rate of suspension for Black students is double their representation in public schools. HB 305 would permit schools to prohibit suspended or expelled students from being within 100 feet of school grounds, potentially allowing their arrest and increasing the criminalization of communities of color.

Passed the House. Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

DENYING JUVENILE DRIVING HB 1080 (FORTNER/SANDOVAL): Youth of color account for 58 percent of all arrests in Illinois, despite being only 35 percent of the juvenile population.¹¹⁸ Black youth account for 57 percent of youth arrests, a rate three times their representation in the overall population.¹¹⁹ HB 1080, as originally introduced, would have limited the employment opportunities of Illinois juveniles by denying driving privileges for any juvenile adjudicated for a crime considered to further gang activity. Approximately 69 percent of working Illinois youth drive to work.¹²⁰

✓ *Signed by Governor.*

MANDATORY INMATE HIV TESTING HB 546 (FLOWERS): Mandatory HIV testing violates individuals’ civil rights. Increased HIV education programs and policies, like the African American HIV/AIDS Response Act passed in 2005, have contributed to the 475 percent increase in voluntary HIV testing in prisons since 2005.¹²¹ HB 546 would require all Illinois inmates to be tested for HIV at entry and exit from the criminal justice system. Seventy-two percent of Illinois adult inmates are people of color—60 percent are Black.¹²²

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

MANDATORY STUDENT HIV TESTING HB 193 (FLOWERS): HIV is a growing problem in Illinois—Blacks accounted for 56 percent of all new HIV cases between 1999 and 2003.¹²³ While increasing resources for HIV education is important, any form of mandatory or “opt out” HIV testing violates an individual’s civil rights. HB 193 would require HIV testing for every child during regular school health examinations necessary to enroll in kindergarten or 1st grade, 5th grade, and 9th grade unless the child’s parent affirmatively opted out of the test.

Re-referred to the House Rules Committee.

NATIVIST HOUSING SB 224 (BRADY): Illinois’ 800,000 immigrants—about half of whom are undocumented—deserve access to housing opportunities. SB 224 would amend the Illinois Housing Development Act to prohibit the Illinois Housing Development Authority from contracting with individuals or lending institutions to provide loans for anyone who is not a citizen or legal resident of the United States.

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

NATIVIST EMPLOYMENT AND ELIGIBILITY SB 103 (LAUZEN): Fourteen percent of Illinoisans are foreign born. Immigrants work and live throughout the state, contributing to the state’s economic and social growth—\$5.35 billion per year to Chicago’s economy alone.¹²⁴ SB 103 would create the State Employee Proof of Citizenship Act, requiring proof of citizenship to begin state employment, to register to vote, and to present identification documents to cast a vote. The bill also would prohibit eligibility for Illinois Housing Development Authority loans and for the Covering ALL KIDS Health Insurance Act.

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

EXPANDING GANG DATABASE SB 709 (MURPHY): Law enforcement should be able to conduct intelligence work without racial profiling or racially biased identification systems. Illinois already hosts one of the most racially disparate criminal justice systems in the country for both adults and juveniles.¹²⁵ SB 709 would exacerbate the targeting of communities of color by expanding the Statewide Organized Gang Database, increasing statewide access to the system for State’s Attorneys, and requiring all law enforcement agencies across the state to join the system.

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

Levels of Racism

Racial Justice is the proactive reinforcement of policies, practices, attitudes, and actions that produce equitable access, opportunities, treatment, impacts, and outcomes for all. Equitable impacts and outcomes across race are the indicators of racial justice.¹²⁶

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
MICRO LEVEL	
Individual/Internalized Racism 	Individual or internalized racism: racial bias <i>within individuals</i> —one’s private beliefs, attitudes, and prejudices about race.
Interpersonal Racism 	Interpersonal racism: racial bias <i>between individuals</i> —the way people publicly express their racial beliefs when they interact with others.
MACRO LEVEL	
Institutional Racism 	Institutional racism: racial bias <i>within institutions and systems of power</i> —the unfair policies and practices of particular institutions that produce racially inequitable outcomes.
Structural Racism 	Structural racism: racial bias <i>among institutions and across society</i> —the cumulative and compounded effects of history, ideology and culture, and the interactions of institutions and policies that systematically privilege white people and disadvantage people of color.

LANGUISHING LEADERSHIP

“A budget should reflect the priorities of the people who elected us to make their lives better.”¹²⁷

—GOVERNOR BLAGOJEVICH

The 95th General Assembly held much promise. Following an accomplished first term that included the passage of access to health care and affordable preschool programs for all children in Illinois, Governor Rod Blagojevich entered his second term with an ambitious agenda featuring universal health care, increasing education funding, and reforming the state’s pension system. With Democrats dominating both houses of the legislature and holding the Governorship as well as all constitutional offices, opportunities to move a policy agenda to advance racial equity seemed ripe.

Instead, the first year of this session has been marked not only by a lack of political leadership, but also by the absence of basic legislative cooperation and communication. While the Governor proposed a generous budget full of worthy items, he cut off the state’s most viable options to pay for these programs. Further posturing by political leadership—including fellow Chicago Democrats Speaker of the House Michael Madigan and Senate President Emil Jones—brought policymaking to a standstill, while ongoing budget stand-offs produced the longest overtime session in Illinois history.

While a blanket of blame can be spread across Springfield, a few key political decisions directly disrupted this session’s potential. First, Governor Blagojevich made campaign promises to not increase sales or property taxes. Illinois already has one of the most regressive tax systems in the country, which has produced the state’s long-standing structural deficit—meaning the state does not generate enough tax revenue to cover the inflationary costs of maintaining current levels of public services, let alone new programs. By cutting off the state’s most viable revenue options, the Governor left the General Assembly with limited options to fund programs on which communities of color throughout the state rely. The Governor banked his budget on a gross receipts tax (GRT) proposal but was unable to muster even a single vote for it in the House. Other alternative funding sources, like leasing the lottery and gambling taxes, are not sustainable solutions for working Illinoisans.

Governor vetoes 1500 projects totaling \$500 million, many vital programs mischaracterized as “pork.”

Second, constant political fighting within and between the leadership of both parties has degenerated into new levels of political posturing, seriously compromising the General Assembly’s policymaking ability. The leadership has been unable to craft viable proposals and achieve the political consensus necessary to address the state’s deepest structural problems, including an equitable tax system to fund vital programs such as education, health care, and transportation. Beyond passing a budget for the next year, the dysfunction of Illinois’ current political leadership has long-term consequences for the quality of life for people of color across the state.

Racial equity requires restructuring resources and revenue. Illinois’ proud plans to provide health care to the uninsured, increase education spending, and address the state’s longstanding structural deficit should be applauded. However, the reality is that all of these items require more than just redistributing existing resources—they require restructuring the state’s inequitable tax system to create sustainable revenue. The Governor proposed to cut “pork”—but many targeted line items were vital services for communities of color (see sidebar). This made it even more evident that revenue generation, rather than spending, is the state’s most critical budgetary problem. The state’s ability to meet its residents’ basic needs and to reduce racial disparities depends on the public and political will to make Illinois’ tax structure more equitable.

Illinois’ school funding system—the most inequitable in the country¹²⁸—illustrates the dire consequences of inaction. This system shortchanges Black children \$1,100 per pupil, compared to white students, each year.¹²⁹ Over-reliance on local property taxes to fund schools has left roughly 80 percent of school districts with deficits.¹³⁰

But solutions exist. For example, Senator James Meeks and Representative David Miller have proposed SB 750 and HB 750, which would reduce dependence on property taxes by increasing income taxes by 2 percent and expanding sales taxes to some consumer services, while ensuring that the bottom 60 percent of income earners would not pay more in taxes. Equitable solutions that restructure the state’s tax system to provide quality services are essential to Illinois’ progress—but they require action.

During the 95th Illinois General Assembly, the top political leadership has, thus far, failed to deliver on the most pressing policy matters affecting the most vulnerable communities in the state, especially communities of color. Crucial issues of education funding, skyrocketing electricity rates, and mass transit were inadequately addressed as personal politics trumped responsible policymaking. The Governor, as well as Illinois’ legislative leadership, could do more with the power of the pulpit and purse strings to lead the way towards more fundamental restructuring to reduce long-standing racial disparities.

\$6.5 million

for CeaseFire: A violence prevention program concentrated in communities of color.

\$5 million

for classroom crowdedness relief: Children of color are disproportionately in overcrowded schools.

\$4.7 million

for after school and youth programs: Youth of color disproportionately rely on public after school programs.

\$2 million

for juvenile justice programs: 50 percent of Illinois’ incarcerated juveniles are Black.¹³¹

\$2.1 million

in grants for prenatal services and high-risk infants: The Black infant mortality rate is 15.9 per 1,000 live births, compared to the white rate of 5.7 per 1,000.¹³²

\$1.2 million

for HIV/AIDS programs: People of color account for 73.1 percent of Illinois’ new AIDS cases.¹³³

\$1.2 million

for local health clinics: Blacks and Latinos are more than twice as likely as whites to be uninsured¹³⁴

\$300 thousand

for food programs for the needy: 90 percent of Chicago’s homeless are people of color.¹³⁵

LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

GRADING METHODOLOGY

Members of the 95th General Assembly were graded based on their voting records and leadership on 56 bills deemed to have positive or negative impacts on racial equity. A new comprehensive grading system was created for the 2007-2008 Legislative Report Card on Racial Equity to more accurately assess both favorable and unfavorable votes, as well as lead-sponsorships of legislation. In order to compare legislators' grades in the current and previous legislative sessions, full data sets for both the new and former grading methodology are available at www.arc.org.

VOTING: Each legislator received a score based on a 90 point scale. Legislators were graded based on their key votes on racial equity legislation voted on by the 95th General Assembly.¹³⁶ A “yay” vote on a racial equity bill and a “nay” vote on an institutional racism bill are counted as votes in support of racial equity. A “no vote,” a “present” or an “absence” is counted as a vote against racial equity, as passage of a bill requires a majority vote of the entire body, not a majority of a quorum. An “excused absence” does not positively or negatively impact a legislator’s overall score.

LEADERSHIP: Lead-sponsorship on a bill is worth 5 points. For each lead sponsorship on a racial equity or an institutional racism bill, 5 points is added or subtracted, respectively, from the legislator’s total score

FINAL GRADE: Each legislator received a final letter grade based on their voting record and leadership. Legislators who earned 100 points received Honor Roll status.

A

90-100+

B

80-89

C

70-79

D

60-69

F

0-59

HOUSE

2007 ASSEMBLY	DISTRICT	% POC IN DISTRICT	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
Edward J. Acevedo	D-2	82%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	+5	81	B
Luis Arroyo	D-3	76%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	80	+5	85	B
Suzanne Bassi	R-54	20%	33%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	66	0	66	D
Mark H. Beaubien Jr.	R-52	9%	67%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Daniel V. Bieser	D-111	10%	67%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	69	0	69	D
Patricia R. Bellock	R-47	18%	33%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	61	0	61	D
Maria Antonia Berrios	D-39	71%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Bob Biggins	R-41	13%	50%	75%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	59	0	59	F
William B. Black	R-104	14%	33%	50%	75%	50%	100%	75%	0%	47	0	47	F
Mike Boland	D-71	10%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Mike Bost	R-115	13%	33%	50%	75%	100%	100%	75%	0%	52	0	52	F
John E. Bradley	D-117	3%	83%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	73	0	73	C
Richard T. Bradley	D-40	65%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	80	0	80	B
Dan Brady	R-88	13%	50%	50%	100%	50%	50%	100%	0%	54	0	54	F
Rich Brauer	R-100	6%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
James D. Brosnahan	D-36	24%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Daniel J. Burke	D-23	75%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%	33%	80	+5	85	B
Linda Chapa LaVia	D-83	58%	100%	75%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	73	0	73	C
Franco Coladipietro	R-45	26%	50%	75%	75%	100%	100%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
Sandy Cole	R-62	19%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	66	0	66	D
Annazette Collins	D-10	74%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	86	5	91	A
Marlow H. Colvin	D-33	88%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Elizabeth Coulson	R-17	20%	67%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	73	0	73	C
Fred Crespo	D-44	35%	83%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Tom Cross	R-84	13%	33%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
Shane Cultra	R-105	7%	33%	75%	75%	50%	50%	100%	33%	54	0	54	F
Barbara Flynn Currie	D-25	82%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	86	+5	91	A
John D'Amico	D-15	30%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Monique D. Davis	D-27	69%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	+5	92	A
William Davis	D-30	68%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	67%	83	0	83	B

2007 ASSEMBLY	DISTRICT	% POC IN DISTRICT	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
Lisa M. Dugan	D-79	26%	83%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	76	0	76	C
Kenneth Dunkin	D-5	73%	83%	100%	75%	100%	0%	75%	100%	71	0	71	C
Joe Dunn	R-96	18%	33%	75%	75%	100%	50%	100%	33%	58	0	58	F
Jim Durkin	R-82	11%	60%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	70	0	70	C
Roger L. Eddy	R-109	2%	33%	75%	100%	67%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Sara Feigenholtz	D-12	17%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	+5	88	B
Robert F. Flider	D-101	16%	83%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Mary E. Flowers	D-31	68%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	83	-5	78	C
LaShawn K. Ford	D-8	74%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	0	87	B
Mike Fortner	R-95	19%	33%	100%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	59	-5	54	F
Jack D. Franks	D-63	12%	83%	67%	100%	67%	50%	100%	0%	65	0	65	D
John A. Fritchey	D-11	23%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	82	+5	87	B
Paul D. Froehlich	R-56	20%	100%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	73	+5	78	C
Esther Golar	D-6	89%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	+10	93	A
Careen M. Gordon	D-75	4%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Deborah L. Graham	D-78	30%	100%	100%	100%	100%	—	100%	67%	85	0	85	B
Kurt M. Granberg	D-107	7%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	-5	78	C
Julie Hamos	D-18	31%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	-5	78	C
Gary Hannig	D-98	3%	83%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	33%	76	0	76	C
Greg Harris	D-13	51%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	90	0	90	A
Brent Hassert	R-85	29%	33%	67%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	54	0	54	F
Elizabeth Hernández	D-24	73%	83%	50%	75%	100%	50%	75%	0%	59	+20	79	C
Jay C. Hoffman	D-112	9%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	80	0	80	B
Thomas Holbrook	D-113	15%	67%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	73	0	73	C
Constance Howard	D-34	76%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	+5	92	A
Naomi D. Jakobsson	D-103	28%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Elga L. Jefferies	D-26	73%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	86	+10	96	A
Charles E. Jefferson	D-67	35%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	90	0	90	A
Kevin Joyce	D-35	13%	100%	67%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	72	0	72	C

2007 ASSEMBLY	DISTRICT	%POC IN DISTRICT	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
Renée Kosel	R-81	5%	40%	33%	75%	100%	50%	75%	0%	49	0	49	F
Carolyn H. Krause	R-66	22%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Lou Lang	D-16	40%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
David R. Leitch	R-73	6%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	62	0	62	D
Patricia Reid Lindner	R-50	8%	67%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Joseph M. Lyons	D-19	22%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Michael J. Madigan	D-22	27%	100%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	+5	81	B
Sidney H. Mathias	R-53	13%	80%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	72	0	72	C
Frank J. Mautino	D-76	8%	67%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	69	0	69	D
Karen May	D-58	10%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	82	+5	87	B
Michael P. McAuliffe	R-20	13%	67%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	68	0	68	D
Kevin A. McCarthy	D-37	10%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	33%	80	0	80	B
Jack McGuire	D-86	41%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	80	0	80	B
Susana A. Mendoza	D-1	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	-5	78	C
James H. Meyer	R-48	15%	50%	100%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
David E. Miller	D-29	66%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	67%	83	+10	93	A
Bill Mitchell	R-87	2%	33%	50%	75%	67%	50%	100%	0%	48	0	48	F
Jerry L. Mitchell	R-90	9%	33%	75%	75%	100%	50%	75%	0%	52	0	52	F
Donald L. Moffitt	R-74	7%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
Robert S. Molaro	D-21	23%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	+10	86	B
Rosemary Mulligan	R-65	19%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	76	0	76	C
Ruth Munson	R-43	50%	83%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	73	0	73	C
Richard P. Myers	R-94	3%	33%	50%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Elaine Nekritz	D-57	31%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Joann D. Osmond	R-61	19%	33%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	58	0	58	F
Harry Osterman	D-14	55%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Milton Patterson	D-32	90%	0%	100%	0%	—	50%	100%	—	51	0	51	F
Brandon W. Phelps	D-118	11%	83%	50%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	66	0	66	D
Sandra M. Pihos	R-42	16%	33%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	0%	60	0	60	D

2007 ASSEMBLY	DISTRICT	%POC IN DISTRICT	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
Raymond Poe	R-99	18%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	+5	67	D
Robert W. Pritchard	R-70	14%	50%	50%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Harry R. Ramey Jr.	R-55	18%	33%	50%	100%	67%	50%	100%	0%	52	0	52	F
Dennis M. Reboletti	R-46	23%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
David Reis	R-108	1%	33%	50%	75%	67%	50%	100%	0%	48	0	48	F
Dan Reitz	D-116	8%	83%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Al Riley	D-38	66%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%	87	+5	92	A
Robert Rita	D-28	70%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	67%	83	0	83	B
Chapin Rose	R-110	3%	33%	50%	100%	67%	50%	75%	0%	48	0	48	F
Kathleen Ryg	D-59	25%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	83	0	83	B
Jim Sacia	R-89	6%	33%	33%	50%	100%	50%	100%	0%	47	0	47	F
Angelo Saviano	R-77	31%	67%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	69	0	69	D
Timothy L. Schmitz	R-49	11%	33%	75%	75%	100%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Aaron Schock	R-92	29%	33%	50%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	55	0	55	F
George Scully Jr.	D-80	39%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	33%	79	0	79	C
Michael K. Smith	D-91	4%	83%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	73	0	73	C
Keith Sommer	R-106	5%	40%	33%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Cynthia Soto	D-4	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	76	+15	91	A
Ron Stephens	R-102	6%	33%	50%	75%	67%	50%	100%	0%	48	0	48	F
Ed Sullivan Jr.	R-51	14%	33%	50%	75%	100%	50%	75%	0%	48	0	48	F
Jil Tracy	R-93	6%	50%	75%	100%	67%	50%	100%	0%	59	0	59	F
Michael Tryon	R-64	9%	33%	75%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	59	0	59	F
Arthur L. Turner	D-9	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	90	+5	95	A
Patrick J. Verschoore	D-72	16%	83%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	76	0	76	C
Ronald A. Wait	R-69	11%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	62	0	62	D
Eddie Washington	D-60	69%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	0	87	B
Jim Watson	R-97	4%	33%	50%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	55	0	55	F
Dave Winters	R-68	10%	50%	50%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	54	0	54	F
Karen A. Yarbrough	D-7	73%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	+5	92	A
Wyvetter A. Younge	D-114	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	87	+5	92	A

SENATE

2007 SENATE	DISTRICT	%POC IN DISTRICT	CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
Pamela J. Althoff	R-32	10%	50%	100%	100%	100%	0%	50%	0%	63	0	63	D
Larry K. Bomke	R-50	12%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	67	0	67	D
Michael Bond	D-31	27%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B
Bill Brady	R-44	11%	75%	75%	80%	33%	50%	75%	0%	59	-5	54	F
J. Bradley Burzynski	R-35	12%	50%	100%	60%	67%	0%	50%	0%	51	0	51	F
James F. Clayborne Jr.	D-57	44%	75%	75%	100%	67%	100%	50%	0%	67	-5	62	D
Jacqueline Y. Collins	D-16	90%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+25	111	A
Dan Cronin	R-21	23%	25%	100%	80%	33%	50%	50%	0%	51	0	51	F
M. Maggie Crotty	D-19	18%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+5	91	A
John J. Cullerton	D-6	21%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+20	106	A
Gary G. Dahl	R-38	7%	25%	75%	100%	67%	50%	50%	0%	55	0	55	F
James A. DeLeo	D-10	50%	75%	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	78	0	78	C
William Delgado	D-2	81%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	82	+20	102	A
Deanna Demuzio	D-49	4%	100%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	78	0	78	C
Kirk W. Dillard	R-24	17%	50%	100%	100%	100%	0%	50%	0%	63	-5	58	F
Gary Forby	D-59	8%	100%	75%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	74	0	74	C
Michael W. Frerichs	R-52	20%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	78	0	78	C
Susan Garrett	D-29	17%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	0	86	B
William R. Haine	D-56	13%	75%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	74	0	74	C
Debbie DeFrancesco Halvorson	D-40	44%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	82	0	82	B
Don Harmon	D-39	29%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	0	86	B
Rickey R. Hendon	D-5	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+5	91	A
Linda Holmes	D-42	24%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B
Randall Hultgren	R-48	6%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	67	0	67	D
Mattie Hunter	D-3	76%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+20	106	A
Mike Jacobs	D-36	15%	100%	100%	80%	100%	100%	50%	0%	74	0	74	C
Emil Jones Jr.	D-14	76%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	50%	0%	74	0	74	C
John O. Jones	R-54	4%	50%	75%	80%	100%	50%	75%	0%	63	0	63	D
David Koehler	D-46	18%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B

			CIVIL RIGHTS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	EDUCATION	HEALTHCARE	HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	INSTITUTIONAL RACISM	VOTING POINTS	LEADERSHIP	TOTAL SCORE	GRADE
2007 SENATE	DISTRICT	%POC IN DISTRICT											
Dan Kotowski	D-33	30%	75%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	78	0	78	C
Chris Lauzen	R-25	26%	50%	100%	80%	67%	50%	75%	0%	63	-5	58	F
Kimberly A. Lightford	D-4	80%	100%	100%	80%	100%	100%	100%	0%	82	+5	87	B
Terry Link	D-30	36%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+15	101	A
David Luechtefeld	R-58	10%	50%	75%	80%	100%	50%	75%	0%	63	0	63	D
Edward D. Maloney	D-18	14%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B
Iris Y. Martinez	D-20	16%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	86	+20	106	A
James T. Meeks	D-15	86%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	82	+5	87	B
John J. Millner	R-28	21%	75%	100%	80%	100%	50%	100%	0%	74	0	74	C
Antonio Muñoz	D-1	91%	100%	100%	80%	67%	100%	75%	0%	74	+5	79	C
Matt Murphy	R-27	25%	50%	75%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	70	-5	65	D
Michael Noland	D-22	43%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0	86	0	86	B
Carole Pankau	R-23	27%	50%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	74	0	74	C
William E. Peterson	R-26	19%	75%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	74	0	74	C
Christine Radogno	R-41	23%	50%	100%	100%	67%	50%	75%	0%	67	0	67	D
Kwame Raoul	D-13	90%	100%	100%	80%	100%	100%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B
Dale A. Righter	R-55	8%	25%	75%	100%	67%	50%	50%	0%	55	0	55	F
Dale E. Risinger	R-37	8%	50%	75%	80%	100%	0%	50%	0%	55	0	55	F
Carol Ronen	D-7	16%	75%	75%	100%	67%	100%	100%	0%	74	0	74	C
Dan Rutherford	R-53	9%	50%	100%	60%	100%	50%	75%	0%	63	0	63	D
Martin A. Sandoval	D-12	90%	100%	100%	80%	100%	100%	75%	0%	78	+15	93	A
Jeffrey M. Schoenberg	D-9	53%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	0%	82	0	82	B
Todd Sieben	R-45	3%	75%	100%	60%	67%	50%	75%	0%	63	0	63	D
Ira I. Silverstein	D-8	42%	75%	75%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	70	0	70	C
John M. Sullivan	D-47	8%	75%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	0%	74	0	74	C
Dave Syverson	R-34	24%	50%	100%	60%	67%	50%	75%	0%	59	0	59	D
Donne E. Trotter	D-17	48%	100%	100%	80%	67%	100%	100%	0%	78	+10	88	B
Louis S. Viverito	D-11	57%	100%	100%	60%	100%	100%	100%	0%	78	0	78	C
Frank C. Watson	R-51	10%	75%	50%	80%	100%	50%	75%	0%	63	0	63	D
Arthur J. Wilhelmi	D-43	35%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	82	0	82	B

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