



## Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs

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January 9, 2017

Honorable Governor Branstad,

The Commission of Latino Affairs consists of seven Iowans appointed by your office whose job, in part under [Iowa Code 216A.12](#), is to make recommendations to the Governor's office and legislators on issues that impact the Latino population of Iowa.

The Commission of Latino Affairs formally recommends that Iowa joins the 12 other states to ensure public safety through driver licenses for all residents regardless of immigration status.

Benefits of driver licenses for all:

### Safer Roads

- Licensed drivers are safer. They are trained, know the rules of the road, register their cars and are insured.
- Licensed drivers are more likely to stay at an accident scene to help police/EMTs and exchange insurance information

### Safer Community

- Officers will be able to check identity, traffic/other records of the people they contact
- Immigrant crime witnesses and victims will be more likely to trust police and report crimes
- There will be more organ donors through driver's license registration

### Financial Benefits

- Save public resources in court time for driving without license/insurance
- State receives revenue from registered drivers
- Stimulates the economy-immigrants can better get to work, school, make large/small purchases
- Decrease insurance rates due to fewer uninsured motorist costs

We would like to set up a time to meet with you and your staff to further discuss this matter. We thank you in advance for your consideration and are eager to hear your response.

Respectfully,

Michelle Reuss, Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs Chair

Jeannette Martinez, Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs Co-Chair

Marlu Abarca, Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs Secretary

Alejandro Pino

Juan Rodriguez

Sal Alaniz