

## **IVI-IPO 2004 U.S. Senate Questionnaire**

**Date:** 1/2/03

**Party:** Democrat

**Name:** Gery Chico

**Voting Address:** 814 S. Loomis, Chicago, IL 60607

**Home Phone:** 312-492-7195

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**Campaign Address:** 651 W. Washington, Ste. 105C, Chicago, IL 60661

**Campaign Phone:** 312-681-5310

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**Email:** [gery@gerychicoforsenate.com](mailto:gery@gerychicoforsenate.com)

**Website:** [www.gerychicoforsenate.com](http://www.gerychicoforsenate.com)

**Campaign Manager:** Michael Golden

**Number of petition signatures filed:** 10,000

**Number Required:** 5,000

**A. Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates:**

- ✍ President, Chicago Public School Board, July 1995 to May 2001 (reappointed in 1999)
- ✍ Chief of Staff, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, September 1992 to July 1995
- ✍ Deputy Chief of Staff, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, December 1991 to September, 1992

**B. Other elective office for which you have been a candidate:**

- ✍ None

**C. Principal business, education, professional and civic activities of the past ten years:**

- ✍ Special Counsel, Arnstein & Lehr, July 2003 to present
- ✍ President, Chicago School Board, July 1995 to May 2001
- ✍ Chairman, Altheimer & Gray, April 1996 to July 2003
- ✍ Partner, Sidley & Austin, May 1995 to April 1996
- ✍ Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard M. Daley, September 1992 to July 1995
- ✍ Deputy Chief of Staff, Mayor Richard M. Daley, December 1991 to September 1992
- ✍ General Counsel, Chicago Development Council
- ✍ Vice Chairman, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
- ✍ Board of Directors member, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
- ✍ Trustee, Mexican Fine Arts Museum
- ✍ President and Founder, Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce.
- ✍ Member, of the Commercial Club of Chicago
- ✍ Member, Chicago Committee of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations
- ✍ Board of Directors member, Economic Club of Chicago
- ✍ Board of Directors member, Chicago Urban League.
- ✍ Board of Trustees member, Field Museum
- ✍ Board of Trustees member, Museum of Contemporary Art
- ✍ Board of Trustees member, DePaul University
- ✍ Alumni Board, University of Illinois
- ✍ Member, After School Matters
- ✍ Member, Boys and Girls Club
- ✍ Member, Chicago Metropolis 2020
- ✍ Member, Chicago Scholars Foundation
- ✍ Member, Chicago United
- ✍ Member, El Valor
- ✍ Member, Erikson Institute
- ✍ Member, Loyola University School of Law Dean's Circle
- ✍ Member, MADO – Mexican American Democratic Organization
- ✍ Member, National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
- ✍ Outstanding Leadership Award, Latinos 2000, 2003
- ✍ Person of the Year Award, Latin American Police Association, 2003

- ✍ Man of the Year Award, Sheriffs Hispanic Officers United Together (SHOUT), 2003
- ✍ President's Award, National Association of Hispanic Publishers, 2003
- ✍ Lifetime Achievement Award, University of Illinois, 2001
- ✍ Distinguished Award for Excellence, Illinois Bar Foundation, 2000
- ✍ Citizen of the Year, City Club of Chicago, 1998
- ✍ State of Illinois' Outstanding Schools Board President Award for Outstanding Public Service, 1997.
- ✍ Champion of the Public Interest by Business and Professional People for the Public Interest, 1996
- ✍ *Chicago Magazine's* 1995 Chicagoans of the Year

**D. What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?**

I received a BA degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois and a JD from Loyola University of Chicago Law Schools.

My experience at the Mayor's Office and as President of the Chicago Public Schools gives me a firsthand knowledge of how government affects the everyday life of residents. Applying those experiences at Senator, I would develop legislation that addresses pressing social needs, provide adequate resources to enact such bills, and strive to make government more open and accountable to its citizens.

Too many career politicians fail to remember that what is important in holding office is not merely passing a bill or issuing an executive order, but how that order or bill will directly affect individuals and institutions. As President of the Chicago Public Schools and Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard Daley, I was directly responsible for implementing legislation passed by a number of institutions. Too often, I saw legislation motivated by politics developed into poor policy, and poor policy implemented with negative impact on residents. My goal at the City of Chicago and at the Chicago Public Schools was to open up city government and make it more progressive on behalf of and accountable to its residents.

At the Chicago Public Schools and the Mayor's Office I implemented legislation in the manner that best served the community, as well as developed new constituent services to address societal needs. This experience gives me two key strengths over the other Democratic candidates.

First, I bring to the office a track record of listening to constituents, responding to the needs of communities, and developing and implementing practical solutions and services. I have repeatedly made decisions that were not always universally popular, but were the right thing to do. My greatest concern as a Senator would be developing bills that addressed social needs – not political needs.

At the Chicago Public Schools, one of the most pressing issues in our high schools was the number of teenage pregnancies. Despite the protests of conservative groups, I invited Planned Parenthood into the high school classes to provide scientifically accurate sexual education and help students make better decisions. As a result, the number of teenage pregnancies dropped and students were able to make responsible decisions. Additionally, we opened clinics and daycares in several high schools to provide post-natal care and help teenage parents continue their education. These actions, while not universally popular, addressed an urgent social need and demonstrate the risks that I would take as Senator to do what is right as opposed to what is politically expedient.

Second, I believe that every piece of legislation must be passed in a responsible matter. It is unacceptable to burden local communities with determining how legislation must be enacted and not provide appropriate funding.

The Illinois Legislature relinquished control of the Chicago Public Schools to Mayor Daley in July, 1995, providing no guidance or additional funding, but expecting increased student performance. Working with Mayor Daley and later hiring Paul Vallas to serve as CEO, we turned the Chicago Public Schools into a model for school reform. Together, we turned a projected \$1.3 billion deficit into a \$345 million surplus, raised \$3 billion for school construction, provided summer school and after-school programs for hundreds of thousands of students, and increased student performance.

For smaller communities, however, changes as dramatic as those in Chicago would be impossible without federal and state assistance. Similarly, the federal government has left communities with unfunded mandates for national security and the No Child Left Behind Act. I believe that these actions are irresponsible and as Senator, I would fight to provide resources to municipal and state governments to enact federal legislation.

**E. Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.**

- ✍ Vice President Al Gore, 2002 presidential race, fundraiser
- ✍ Senator Evan Bayh, 2002 Indiana re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Senator Jay Rockefeller, 2001 West Virginia re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Senator Tom Harkin, 2002 Iowa re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Congressman Rahm Emanuel, 2002 campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Congressman Luis Gutierrez, 2001 re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, 2002 California re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Congressman Ed Pastor, 2000 Arizona re-election campaign, fundraiser
- ✍ Governor Rod Blagojevich, 2002 Illinois gubernatorial race, advisor, fundraiser, Co-Chairman of the Transition Education Taskforce
- ✍ Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, 2003 California gubernatorial race, fundraiser and jointly developed school construction plan
- ✍ Congressman Glen Poshard, 1998 gubernatorial race, fundraiser
- ✍ Mayor Richard Daley, 1995 Chicago mayoral race, coordinated re-election campaign

**F. Please list all endorsement you have received so far.**

**ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

- ✍ Arab-American Police Association
- ✍ Baptist Ministers Fellowship of Chicago and Vicinity  
(representing more than 230 churches throughout the Chicago and suburban area)
- ✍ BOLDPAC (Congressional Hispanic Caucus PAC)
- ✍ Hispanic-American Labor Council
- ✍ Hotel, Motel, Club, Cafeteria Restaurant Employees and Bartenders (HERE)  
Local 450
- ✍ Illinois Hispanic Democratic Council
- ✍ International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and  
Reinforcing Iron Workers Local #1
- ✍ International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #1031
- ✍ Italian-American Labor Council
- ✍ Italian-American Police Association
- ✍ Korean-American Leadership Council
- ✍ Lesbian and Gay Police Association
- ✍ Mexican Administrators in Education
- ✍ Mexican-American Police Organization
- ✍ Network of Hispanic Administrators in Education
- ✍ Polish American Police Association
- ✍ Puerto Rican Police Association
- ✍ Sheriffs Hispanic Organization United Together (S.H.O.U.T.)
- ✍ Shomrim Society of Illinois
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local #17
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local #63
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local Union 1011
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local Union 1744
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local Union 2154
- ✍ United Steelworkers of America Local Union 7234

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ENDORSING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Trustee Bonifacio Aldaco (Summit)  
Mayor Anthony Arredia (Des Plaines)  
U.S. Representative Joe Baca (California)  
Town Supervisor David Barajas Sr. (Sterling)  
Mayor Irv Bock (Hanover Park)  
Alderman Edward M. Burke  
State Representative Dan Burke  
Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante (CA)  
Mayor Tony Calderone (Forest Park)  
Village Clerk Maria Castrejon (Village of Stone Park)  
Ald. Robert Cervantes (Silvis)  
Assembly Member Ed Chavez (CA)  
Mayor Marty Chavez (Albuquerque, NM)  
Mayor Ralph Conner (Maywood)  
City Councilwoman Arcelia Dominguez (East Moline)  
Ald. Carol Doose (East Moline)  
Mayor Paul Farris (Cairo)  
Ald. Tony Figueroa (Waukegan)  
Committeeman Ray Frias  
Park Commissioner Miguel Fuentez (Hanover Park)  
Ald. Eddy Garcia (Northlake)  
Alderman Edward Gonzales (Calumet City)  
Trustee Ruben Guerrero (Village of Summit)  
Former Ald. Bernard Hansen  
Township Supervisor Sheila Hooper (Freeport)  
Ald. Nancy L. Johnson (Rockford)  
Ald. Stephanie Kifowit (Aurora)  
Hon. Jim Laski  
City Councilman Alex Ledesma (Joliet)  
Ald. Patrick J. Levar  
Mayor Bernard J. Maliszewski (Glen Carbon)  
Commissioner Roberto Maldonado  
Mayor Marcia Markwalder (Bartonville)  
Alderman David Marquez (Aurora)  
Trustee Jesse Martinez (Stone Park)  
Trustee Hector Matas (Village of Stone Park)  
Mayor Beniamino Mazzulla (Stone Park)  
Rep. Susana Mendoza  
Former Mayor Tom Menzel (Rolling Meadows)  
Mayor Marilyn Michelini (Montgomery)  
Mayor Joe Moreno (East Moline)  
Commissioner Joseph Moreno

Ald. Luis Moreno (East Moline)  
Mayor Rita Mullins (Palatine)  
Ald. Ricardo Munoz  
Ald. William Ocasio  
Mayor Carl Officer (East St. Louis)  
Mayor John Ostenburg (Park Forest)  
Mayor Frank Pasquale (Bellwood)  
Trustee Marco T. Paz (Village of Stone Park)  
Mayor Richard Pellegrino (Indian Head Park)  
Former Mayor Dan Pierce (Highland Park)  
Ald. John Pope  
Ald. Luis Puentes (East Moline)  
U.S. Representative Ciro Rodriguez  
Mayor Mark Ruby (North Aurora)  
Mayor William Russ (Brookfield)  
State Sen. Martin A. Sandoval  
City Clerk Yvonne Savala-Kletke (Moline)  
Mayor Jeff Schielke (Batavia)  
Mayor John Sirotti (Highwood)  
Ald. Mary Ann Smith  
Ald. Bernard Stone  
Mayor Chester Stranczek (Crestwood)  
Mayor Susan Tutt-Parsons (LaGrange Park)  
Mayor Maria Vachata (Lyons)  
Commissioner Patricia Young

**SCHOOL PRINCIPALS ENDORSING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Antonio Acevedo	Talman Elementary
Dr. Aurelio Acevedo	Lozano Bilingual and International Center
Dr. Bruce Allman	Chappell Elementary
Mr. Lawrence Mcdougald	de Diego Community Academy
Christine Arroyo	Sabin Magnet
Dr. Miryam Assaf-Keller	Llyod Elementary
Dr. Yvonne Austin	Plamondon Elementary
Ms. Lenora Austin	Westcott Elementary
Mr. Thomas Avery	Carnegie Elementary
Mr. Patrick Baccellieri	South Loop Elementary
Joel Bakrins	Rogers Elementary
Mr. Jose Barillas	Marshall Middle School
Jose Barrera	Columbia Explorers Academy
Dr. Addie Belin-Williamson	L. Ward Elementary
Ms. Anne Benavides	Oak Park School, Aurora
Dr. Sharon Rae Bender	Schurz High School
Dr. Beverly Bennett	Simpson Alternative High School
Mr. Alan Berger	McKay Elementary

Mr. Mark Berman  
Mr. Robert Blitstein  
Mrs. Mary Bloom  
Dr. Fanchion Blumenberg  
Ms. Brenda Browder  
Hiram Broyles  
Maria Cabrera  
Karen Carlson  
Ms. Donella Carter  
Analia Chico  
Mr. Michael Connolly  
James Cosme  
Mrs. Sally Culhane  
Ms. Aleen Donaldson  
Ms. Carolyn Draper  
Ms. Stephanie Dunn  
Ms. Gayle Early  
Mr. Joseph Edmonds  
Mr. Herman Escobar  
Ms. Deborah Esparza  
Ms. Naomi Esquivel  
Cydney Fields  
Mr. Stephen Flisk  
Sandra Fontanez-Phelan  
Carol Frericks  
Mr. Donald Fumo  
Rita Gardner  
Salvador Gonzalez  
Mrs. Joanne Gray  
Mr. Edward Guerra  
Dr. Kathleen Hagstrom  
Dr. Barbara Hall  
Dr. Deborah Hammond  
Dr. Steven Hara  
Ms. Patricia Hart  
Mr. Okab Hassan  
Scott Helton  
Eva Helwing  
Judith Hernandez  
Mr. Rick Herrejon  
Mrs. Angelica Herrera-Vest

Portage Park Elementary  
Mayer Elementary  
Ebinger Elementary  
Kennedy High School  
Kellman Corporate Center  
Burbank Elementary  
Belmont/Cragin Community School  
Boone Elementary  
Gregory Elementary  
Robert Healy Elementary School  
Canty Elementary  
James Otis School  
Taylor Elementary  
Casals Elementary  
Cullen Elementary  
Burke Elementary  
East Alton SD 13  
Columbus Elementary  
Nixon Elementary  
Stockton Elementary  
Addams Elementary  
Ray Elementary  
Walsh Elementary  
Kelvyn Park  
Quincy Public Schools District # 172  
Moos Elementary  
Shields Elementary  
Chopin Elementary  
Burnham Academy  
Farragut Career Academy  
Disney Magnet  
Dunbar Vocational High School  
Poe Classical Elementary  
Brennemann Elementary  
Schubert Elementary  
Peck Elementary  
DuPage High School District 88  
Inter-American Magnet School  
Senn Metrol Academy  
Beach Park School District  
de Dominguez Elementary

Dr. Arline Hersh  
Douglas Higgins  
Mr. Stuart Hott  
Mr. Clifton Hunt  
Anthony Mr. Jelinek  
Dr. Glenda Johnson  
Dr. Geraldine Johnson  
Ms. Sandra Jones  
Mr. Joseph Kallas  
Dr. Joyce Kenner  
Barbara A. Kent  
Ms. Patricia Kent  
Constantine P. Kiamos  
Mrs. Karen Koegler  
Mr. Chris Kotis  
Mr. Roger Kriewaldt  
Mr. Arthur Kubic  
Mrs. Margaret Lalley  
Dr. James C. Lalley, Jr.  
John Lewis  
Mr. Fausto Lopez  
Mr. Natividad Loredo  
Mrs. Jill Machina-Besenjah  
Diane J. Maciejewski  
Mrs. Nora Malloy  
Ms. Beverly Martin  
Mr. Avelino Martinez  
Mrs. Sandra Mawrence  
Kathleen L. Mayer  
Rebecca McCabe  
Kevin M. McCann  
Mrs. Rebecca McDaniel  
Mr. Lawrence Mcelherne  
Mrs. Julie Mcglade  
Mrs. Dariel McGrath  
Martha Medina  
James Menconi  
Dr. William Meuer  
Michael Milkie  
Martha Miranda  
Ms. Patricia Monroe-Taylor

Armstrong G. Elementary  
School District 156  
  
Jefferson Elementary  
Hibbard Elementary  
Brighton Park Elementary  
McClellan Elementary  
West Park Academy  
Peterson Elementary  
Whitney M. Young Magnet High School  
Burley Elementary  
Penn Elementary  
Steinmetz Academic Centre  
Onahan Elementary  
Beaubien Elementary  
Johnsburg CUSD 12  
Dore Elementary  
Dawes Elementary  
Northside College Prep  
Libby Elementary  
Bowen High School  
Benito Juarez High School  
LeMoyne Elementary  
Edgebrook Elementary  
Frazier Elementary  
Swift Elementary  
Prescott Elementary  
Hawthorne Scholastic Academy  
Carson Elementary  
Leal School  
Jamieson Elementary  
Suder Elementary  
Las Casas High School  
Garvy Elementary  
Riverside School District 96  
Barbour Language Academy  
Monroe Elementary  
Norwood Park Elementary  
Noble Street Charter High School  
Salazar Elementary  
Arai Middle School

Ms. Geraldine Moore  
Mr. Dan Moore  
Mrs. Sandra Morrow  
Ms. Mary Neely  
Dr. Claudia Newman  
Christine V. Ogilvie  
Mrs. Kathlene Orr  
Mr. Robert Pales  
Dr. Noble Pearce  
Dr. Roy Pletsch  
Dr. Mary Ann Pollett  
Mr. Harry Randell  
Mary R. Ravid  
Ms. Rachel Resnick  
Mr. Tomas Revollo  
Reynes Reyes  
Mrs. Marcey G. Reyes  
Bettye J. Richardson  
Mrs. Rochelle Riddick  
Amanda Rivera  
Ms. Virginia Rivera  
JoAnn Roberts, Ph.D.  
Mrs. W. Delores Robinson  
Mr. Jack W. Rocklin  
Mrs. Amirita Rodgers  
Sylvia Rodriguez  
Ed Ruyack  
C. Scott Rzechula  
Dr. Carmen Sanchez  
Mr. Donald Schmitt  
Mrs. Judith Schroeder  
MELVER L. SCOTT  
Mrs. M. Graciella Shelley  
Mr. Arthur Slater  
Ms. Beverly Slater  
Katherine Smith  
Ms. Yvonne Smith  
Mr. Kenneth Staral  
Dr. Thelma Sylvester  
Ms. Janell Taylor  
Dr. Larry J. Thomas

Beidler School  
Eggar County CUSD 6  
Graham Training Center  
Lawndale Community Academy  
Brookfield SD 95  
Warren Elementary  
Grissom Elementary  
Henson Elementary  
Attucks Elementary  
De La Cruz Elementary School  
Montifiore Elementary  
Yates Elementary School  
Thorp Scholastic Academy  
Office of Management and Budget  
Waters Elementary School  
Brentano Elementary  
Seward Communication Arts Academy  
Dunne Elementary School  
Davis Developmental Center  
Teacher's Academy  
McCormick Elementary  
Donoghue Elementary  
Sumner Math & Science Academy  
Cleveland Elementary  
Park Manor Elementary  
Manuel Perez Junior  
Chicago Public Schools  
Reily Elementary School  
Irving Park Middle School  
Ryerson Elementary  
Southside Occupational Academy  
Crane Tech Prep Common School  
Darwin Elementary  
Kenwood Academy  
Gillespie Elementary  
Gage Park High School  
Hayt Elementary  
Ogden Elementary School  
Johns Community Academy  
Sengstacke Transition Center  
Coles Model for Excellence

Andrew J. Tinich	Abraham Lincoln School
Mr. Charles Trevino	J.N. Thorp Elementary
Miguel Trujillo	Kilmer School
Ms. Patricia Turner	Stewart Elementary
Mrs. Gladys Vaccarezza	Blaine Elementary
Florecita P. Valignota	Cameron Elementary
Mr. Alfonso Valtierra	Galileo Scholastic Academy
Dr. Pierce Vaughn	Overton Elementary
Dr. Miguel A. Velazquez	Chicago Public Schools
Mrs. Katherine Volk	Pershing Magnet
Ms. Gail Ward	Walter Payton School
Dr. Amy Weiss-Narea	LaSalle Language Academy
Mrs. Patricia Wells	Franklin Fine Arts Center
Mrs. Sharon Wilcher	J. Ward Elementary
Denise P. Winter	Stone Scholastic Academy
Mr. Carl Woodruff	Harvard Elementary
Ms. Diann Wright	Haines Elementary
Mrs. Dorothy Young	Delano Elementary
Dr. Loretta Young-Wright	Proctor Academic Prep Center
Dr. Mary L. Zeltmann	Chicago Board of Education

**SUPERINTENDENTS SUPPORTING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Guy Banicki	Vermilion County
Tom Bock	Mclean County
Bruce Brown	Cook County
James Burgett	Madison County
Joe Ciaccio	Grundy County
Neil Codell	Cook County
Lawrence Daker	Cook County
Blondean Davis	Cook County
Glenn Decker	Wabash County
Tom Dobrich	Bureau County
James Dunnan	Peoria County
Sherry Eagle	Kane County
Craig Fiegel	Cook County
Ken Geraghty	Cook County
Nancy Gibson	Dewitt County
James Gray	Cook County
Don Hahn	Mclean County
Robert Hamerski	Livingston County
Douglas Hamilton	Cook County
Michael Harris	Calhoun County
Doug Hesbol	Champaign County

John Hurley	Winnebago County
Robert Isom	Alexander County
Marlene Kamm	Cook County
Thomas Leahy	Adams County
Connie Lower	Carroll County
Linda Marks	Cook County
Kenneth Maurer	Woodford County
Richard Morgan	Saline County
John Musgrave	Bureau County
Robert Nielsen	McLean County
Marian Nipper	Franklin County
Ronald Patton	Cook County
Allen Price	Crawford County
Garry Raymond	Grundy County
Kathryn Robbins	Cook County
James Rosborg	St. Clair County
William Schewe	Dupage County
Michael Smith	Kankakee County
Lantz Stein	Lasalle County
Dennis Stonewall	Lake County
Sally Tucker	McLean County
Wesley Wells	Peoria County
Kathleen Williams	Cook County
Phyllis Wilson	Will County
B.J. Wolf	Whiteside County
Yousseff Yomtoob	Lake County

**EDUCATIONAL LEADERS SUPPORTING  
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Vincent A. Allocco  
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 Dr. Cozette Buckney  
 Dr. Blondean Davis  
 Dr. John Gelsomino  
 Rikki Jones  
 Jonathan Kleinbard  
 Toni McCarty  
 Rev. John P. Minogue  
 Stephanie Pace Marshall, Ph.D.  
 Rich Paul  
 Dr. Belkis M. Santos  
 Paul Vallas

**NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY LEADERS SUPPORTING  
GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

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 Rev. Stanley L. Davis

Jean M. Franczyk  
Rick Garcia  
Barbara Gold  
Jonathan Kleinbard  
Patrick Salmon  
David Schulz  
Fred Siegman  
Carol Spizziri  
Erma Tranter  
Father Bruce Wellems  
Loy Williams

**HISPANIC-AMERICAN COMMUNITY LEADERS  
SUPPORTING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

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Maggie Aguilar  
Victoria Almeida  
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James Arce  
Joel Arce  
Ed Arce  
Daniel Arce  
Ray Arias  
Maria Bechily  
Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante  
Rita M. Cardoso  
Ruben R. Cardoso  
Rene M. Cardoso  
Roger M. Cardoso  
Ruben M. Cardoso  
Lupe M. Cardoso  
Gloria Castillo  
Daniel Chico  
Antonio Chico  
Joseph Chico  
The Hon. Henry Cisneros  
Vilma Colom  
Leticia Davis  
Len Dominguez  
Cesar Dovalina  
Moctesuma Esparza  
Ann Maria Fernandez-Haar  
Jorge Ferraez  
Luis Flocco  
Ald. Ray Frias  
Jim Fuentes  
Phil Fuentes

Jose Garcia  
Hector Garcia  
Rick Garcia  
David P. Gomez  
Chuck Gonzalez  
Mike W. Gonzalez  
Mary Gonzalez-Koenig  
Ray Gonzalez  
George Herrera  
Leticia Herrera  
Gregorio Huerta  
Mickey Ibarra  
Gloria Kazanova  
Maria Esther Lopez  
Bill Luna  
Stephen Martinez  
Victor Maruri  
Francisco Menchaca  
Juan M. Mendez  
Rico Mirabelli  
Irene Mojica  
Zeke Montes  
Carlos Montoya  
Commissioner Joseph Moreno  
George Munoz  
Ald. Ricardo Munoz  
Juan Ochoa  
Jorge Oclander  
Damaso Ramirez  
Benjamin Reyes  
Netza Roldan  
Hipolito "Paul" Roldan  
Luis H. Rossi  
Jacinto E. Rubinos  
Daniel Sanchez  
Manny Sanchez  
Martin Sandoval  
Carlos Signoret  
Alejandro Silva  
Isabel Tellez  
Carlos Tortolero  
Pepe Vargas  
Helen Velasquez  
Arturo Velazquez  
Arthur R. Velasquez  
Raul Yzaguirre

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY LEADERS  
SUPPORTING GERYCHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Adrienne Archia  
Rev. Leonard Barr  
Ernest Brown  
Warren K. Chapman  
Mayor Ralph Conner  
Bo Daniels  
Dr. Blondean Davis  
James Deanes  
Brian W. Ellis  
Rev. Clay Evans  
Betty Hancock Perry  
Phillip Jackson  
Johnetta James  
Yves Jeanty  
Louis Jones  
Rikki Jones  
Chuck Kelly  
Avis LaVelle  
Coretta McFerren  
Rev. John Miller  
Grayson Mitchell  
Renault Robinson  
Rev. Willie Runnels  
Dereck L. Shelton  
Rhea Steele  
John Tennial  
Jonathan H. Webb  
Latham Williams  
Otis Wilson  
Tim Wright  
James Wright

**ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY LEADERS  
SUPPORTING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Dr. Tariq Butt  
David Chang  
Raymond M. Chin  
Dong Choi  
Corwin Eng  
Luanne Eng  
Jimmy D. Lee  
Helen Lee  
Raghu Nayak  
Sarah Pang  
Niranjan Shah

Tina Woo  
Malcolm Woo

**GREEK-AMERICAN COMMUNITY LEADERS  
SUPPORTING GERY CHICO FOR U.S. SENATE**

Andrew A. Athens  
Elenie Hountoulas  
Spiro Hountoulas  
Elizabeth Kocek  
Paul Kopulos  
George Kopulos  
William Kopulos  
Robert Kopulos  
James Kopulos  
Gordon Kopulos  
Tom Leontios  
Arlene Kopulos-Nowicki  
Dean T. Maragos  
John Marks  
James Regas  
Dean Vallas  
Paul Vallas

**G. As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidates. What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?**

With ongoing conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan and a burgeoning federal deficit, too little attention and a corresponding low level of resources are directed toward the states. This problem has been exacerbated for Illinois by the ineffectiveness of Senator Fitzgerald. Under his leadership, Illinois ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the amount of taxes paid to the federal government, but 47<sup>th</sup> in the amount of federal dollars received. Illinois needs a Senator with bold ideas and the ability to bring dollars home for priorities such as education.

More than the other candidates, I have a track record of doing what Senator Fitzgerald has not: producing results. In my nearly two decades of work, I am proud of the measures I have instituted to make government more progressive, responsive, and accountable to its citizens. These measures include:

- ✍ Extending benefits to domestic partners at the City of Chicago
- ✍ Revising the non-discrimination code at the Chicago Public Schools to protect the GLBT community
- ✍ Awarding half of all contracts at the Chicago Public Schools to women-owned and minority-owned businesses
- ✍ Raising over \$3 billion to build 76 new school structures and 1,136 new classrooms
- ✍ Putting 1,000 more police officers on Chicago's streets

- ✍ And developing the infrastructure program now called Neighborhoods Alive! that repairs city streets, sidewalks, and sewers and improves parks and open areas

As Senator, my priority is bringing greater resources back to Illinois to address pressing needs. I have specifically called for:

- ✍ Amending the No Child Left Behind Act and increasing funding to implement the Act
- ✍ Fully funding special education at the 40% level mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- ✍ Implementing the “TI Bill,” or Teacher Initiative Bill to recruit and retain teachers
- ✍ Providing federal funding for school construction
- ✍ And condensing six years of federal transportation money into a two year program to create jobs by immediately investing in Illinois’ roads, bridges, public transit, and schools.

**H. Please outline the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender, and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees.**

I strongly support the Shakman Decree for regulating the hiring and promoting of public employees in Chicago. At the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools, I annually oversaw budgets in excess of \$4.5 billion and staff numbering more than 45,000. My priority in hiring was to reflect the diversity of the city in my staff. At least half of all key positions were held by minorities and women. Likewise, half of all contracts at the Chicago School Board were awarded to women-owned and minority-owned businesses.

I support Affirmative Action to compensate for historic disadvantages of minority communities. I have extended non-discrimination codes to include sexual orientation as a protected category and extended benefits to domestic partners.

**I. What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?**

Our campaign budget for the primary is approximately \$4 to 5 million for the primary. At the end of Quarter 3, (September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003) we had raised more money than any other Senate campaign, \$2.83 million. Quarter 4 looks to be another strong fundraising quarter.

**J. How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?**

The Chico for Senate campaign currently employs 14 full-time employees and provides fully paid health care insurance. We anticipate hiring 25 to 30 more employees before the March primary. To date, there are more than 3,000 volunteers throughout the state.

**Foreign and Military**

**1. a. What should be the US role in multi-national alliances such as the UN, NATO, and the International Criminal Court?**

Under the Bush administration, the U.S. has acted without exhausting diplomacy or building true international coalitions. The result has been a lack of support in military enterprises and increased resentment toward the United States' foreign policy. As the world's sole superpower, I believe we have a responsibility to foster international cooperation and I support the U.S. once again taking a leading role in multi-national alliances.

**b. What should be the policy of the IMF and the World Bank toward countries that are essentially bankrupt?**

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank provide two forms of vital aid, which should be addressed separately.

Proposed at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944 following World War II, the International Monetary Fund was developed to prevent international depressions such as the Great Depression in the 1930s. The IMF still performs that role, annually evaluating the economies of the 184 member countries and providing recommendations. Additionally, the IMF provides loans to stabilize the economies of developing countries.

The IMF must continue to aid the poorest countries. Without such assistance, the world economy would suffer, as well as the already impoverished citizens of developing countries. However, there have been instances where the IMF's stringent "free market" policies have been self-defeating in their efforts to improve the economic conditions of some countries, particularly in South American. Additionally, the U.S. should use its voting power in the IMF in support of policies that help developing countries emerge from indebtedness.

The development of countries is often hampered by disease and an uneducated workforce. As the largest provider of HIV/AIDS and education assistance, the World Bank fills needs that would otherwise go unaddressed and continue to challenge economic development. With a total annual budget of only \$18.3 billion (in comparison, the U.S. alone contributes \$37.1 billion to the IMF), the World Bank must continue its cost-effective and desperately needed work.

Both organizations should work to forgive some of the overwhelming debt of developing countries.

**2. What should be Congress' role in formulating foreign policy?**

During the George W. Bush era, U.S. foreign policy has made a startling and increasingly dangerous U-turn, swerving sharply from cooperative internationalism to belligerent unilateralism in virtually every phase of global relations.

Constitutionally, Congress is given a strong role formulating foreign policy by approving treaties, declaring war, and appropriating funds for foreign aid and multi-national organizations. Under the Bush Administration, however, Congress has ceded a fair share of its power, passing the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), approving the use of troops in Iraq without a formal declaration of war or international support, and approving \$87 billion to continue military operations and reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan. I believe Congress must take back its power over foreign policy by not renewing TPA when it sunsets in 2005 and demanding that diplomatic conditions are met before authorizing the use of force.

### **3. Should the U.S. wage a war without a declaration from Congress?**

In the past fifty years, the U.S. has waged a number of military operations without a declaration of war, including the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Desert Storm, and operations in Somalia and Kosovo (where a declaration of war was voted down by Congress).

Under the War Powers Resolution of 1973, the President can engage in war for 60 days, provided he notifies Congress he is doing so. Under the Resolution, Congress then has 60 days to declare war or authorize the use of force. If neither occurs, military action must end.

Unfortunately, the War Powers Resolution has never been properly enacted, with the executive branch avoiding declaring a military operation a war in order to avoid opening the 60 day window.

I believe that the voice of the people must be heard in the decision to declare war, and bypassing the War Powers Resolution not only silences that voice, but effectively weakens the constitutionally provided powers of Congress. The War Powers Resolution should be revisited to strengthen its interpretation, and prevent the U.S. from going to war without a Congressional declaration.

### **4. a. Do you support funding to assist conversion of the defense industry to civilian applications?**

Certain technologies developed by the defense industry can benefit civilian applications and even improve the quality of life. The Internet, supercomputers, and drug research are prime examples.

However, certain technologies, when converted to civilian applications, retain dual-use capabilities. I would support funding to assist the conversion of defense industry technology to civilian applications on a case by case basis. We must not endanger our national security by declassifying or disseminating potentially dangerous technologies.

### **b. Do you agree with the current proposed level of funding for the military? If you agree, explain. If you disagree, how would you distribute the funds?**

I believe that while we must maintain the strongest and best trained military, there is a large amount of waste in the Department of Defense (DoD). DoD auditors have repeatedly failed to account for substantial amounts of defense appropriations.

I believe that we can continue to maintain the best military in the world while substantially reducing waste in the DoD. I have called for an independent audit of the DoD and would support reallocating wasted monies to better fund education and health care services.

**5. Do you support**

**a. continued funding for WHISC (the re-named Army School of the Americas)?**

**b. fast-track authority?**

I oppose continued funding for the WHISC. I do not support fast-track authority (TPA) and would not support its renewal when it sunsets in 2005.

**6. Do you support the way the drug war is being carried on, both abroad and at home? What would you change?**

The most effective way to reduce drug use is not by cracking down on supply but by reducing demand.

Education can go a long way in preventing drug use. Children with a solid education are more likely to succeed at school and have better job opportunities, and are consequently less likely to develop drug problems or become drug dealers. At the Chicago Public Schools, we brought employers to the schools and helped students enter vocational and apprentice programs. Additionally, we developed after-school programs at the Chicago Public Schools to keep kids out of trouble in the after-school hours.

Finally, we must provide better treatment for drug addicts and drug related crimes. Simply sentencing an addict or drug dealer to prison time does nothing to reduce their odds of recidivism. Rehabilitation and social services upon release from either treatment or jail can greatly help reduce the number of people who return to drug use or drug dealing.

**7. Do you support**

**a. normalization of relations with Cuba?**

**b. the Helms-Burton Act?**

I do not support lifting the embargo on Cuba or the Helms-Burton Act while a communist dictator controls the country. I am in favor of allowing aid organizations to import food and medicine to the island.

**8. Do you support the environmental policies of the current administration?**

The environmental policies of the Bush Administration put short-term corporate gain ahead of the long-term health of our air, water, and land.

I support neither President Bush's Clear Skies Act nor his "Climate Leaders" program to have industry voluntarily reduce emissions. The United States must join with the other industrialized nations of the world – including China and India – in instituting the Kyoto Accords to substantially reduce greenhouse gases. The United States must also enforce the New Source program, which requires fossil fuel power plants to install modern scrubbers to reduce emissions.

The Bush Administration recently directed state environmental agencies to not enforce Clean Water Act protections on small lakes, wetlands, and ponds that do not feed into major bodies of waters. I support fully enforcing the Clean Water Act, as well as restrictions on levels of substances such as arsenic in drinking water.

The Bush Administration has enacted equally damaging land management practices. I oppose many aspects of the Health Forests Act, which does nothing to clear dangerous kindling in inhabited areas and exposes old growth trees to commercial logging. The Bush Administration has also failed to request the reinstatement of the Superfund program, which will place the burden of corporate pollution clean-up directly on the backs of taxpayers. This is irresponsible and will greatly limit the extent of environmental clean up.

**9. How do we balance the need to protect the environment with our need for economic development? Your comments should include water resources, air quality, wetlands, coastline development, deforestation, use of public lands, and pesticides and herbicides.**

As the American population and economy continue to grow, we must be ever more careful to protect our natural areas and use resources wisely.

I support the Clean Air Act, the Kyoto Accords, and the Clean Water Act to protect our land and water from pollution.

I support the protection of wetlands and the continuing designation of areas as national forests and wilderness areas. I generally oppose coastline development, including oil drilling in coastal plains. These areas are ecologically sensitive public lands and deserve protection from development and overuse – including in some cases the use of all-terrain vehicles, speed boats and snowmobiles.

I oppose President Bush's Healthy Forests Initiative and would instead favor a program that removed kindling from inhabited areas, protected old growth trees (the least likely to burn in a forest fire) and allowed prescribed burns under the direction of the U.S. Forest Service.

As we have seen in the past decades, the use of herbicides and pesticides can have a devastating effect on wildlife, water quality, and the health of residents in the surrounding area. I support a ban on pesticides and herbicides that cause significant damage to the environment, wildlife, or residents.

**10. Do you support oil drilling in Alaska and other protected wilderness.**

I do not support drilling in ANWR or wilderness areas.

**11. Do you support pollution credit schemes?**

Pollution credit schemes are ineffective in reducing the total amount of pollution and can have disastrous effects on residents near polluters who opt to buy credits and actually increase emissions.

I believe we must return to the Kyoto Accords and reduce the total amount of pollution produced and released into the environment.

**12. What transportation policy do you favor regarding**

- a. infrastructure improvements?**
- b. highways?**
- c. mass transit?**
- d. high-speed rail?**
- e. Amtrak?**
- f. Air transportation, particularly the proposed O'Hare expansion and third airport?**

Transportation is fundamental to economic growth and has been neglected by the federal government for far too long.

My economic development plan calls for condensing the \$360 billion allotted over six years in the proposed TEA-21 reauthorization into a two year spending package. This money would be spent on building and repairing roads, bridges, and public transit systems. Such construction would create thousands of jobs, provide opportunity to traditionally underserved areas, and allow the quick transport of people, goods and services.

Amtrak and high-speed rail are needed services, particularly in areas that are underserved by commercial airlines. I support government subsidies of Amtrak, as well as a thorough audit and restructuring to improve service and cost-effectiveness. As demonstrated in Europe and in the Northeast corridor, high-speed rail is an attractive mode of transportation and should be considered for expansion in the geographically favorable Midwest.

I support the expansion of O'Hare and the development of a third airport in Peotone. Both projects will create quality jobs for the Chicagoland area and help ensure that Illinois remains a center for trade, transit, and commerce.

**13. Do you favor**

**a. a more progressive income tax?**

I support a more progressive income tax at both the state and federal level.

**b. a flat tax?**

I oppose a flat tax.

**c. a national sales tax?**

I oppose a national sales tax.

**d. reduction of the capital gains tax?**

I oppose a reduction of the capital gains tax.

**e. reduction or elimination of the estate tax?**

I support maintaining the estate tax with an exemption for the first \$5 million dollars of the estate.

**f. elimination of the corporate alternative tax?**

I oppose elimination of the corporate alternative tax.

**g. tax cuts on stock dividends?**

I oppose tax cuts on stock dividends.

**h. any other changes in our tax structure? Please explain.**

I am considering several options to help people keep more of their paychecks.

**14. Do you favor a roll-back of the Bush tax cuts?**

The Bush tax cuts are irresponsible in light of our current budget shortfall and unfairly skewed toward the rich. I favor the roll-back of the Bush tax cuts for the upper brackets but would retain them for middle and lower-middle income families. I would oppose any tax cut that does not primarily benefit working families or endangers Social Security.

**15. Do you support total or partial privatization of the Social Security fund?**

Privatization is risky and irresponsible. We cannot risk the long-term retirement security of Americans on the fluctuations of the Stock Market.

Many proposals for privatizing Social Security would take billions from current benefits and the Social Security Trust Fund and risk the pensions of the retired and those approaching retirement.

Social Security is a sacred trust that must be preserved. I am fully committed to providing the benefits promised for this generation of seniors as well finding ways to shore up the system into the future.

**16. What is your position on federal deficit spending vs. a balanced budget?**

Federal deficit spending is irresponsible and threatens to leave our children saddled with massive debt. Congress must work to reduce waste in the federal budget to meet its obligations without increasing taxes. Deficit spending should be an exception in severe economic times or in times of war.

**17. Do you support unfunded mandates to local governments?**

At the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools, I implemented a number of unfunded mandates, often to the expense of other programs. I do not support unfunded mandates and in particular have demanded that the federal government provide the funding it has promised, and failed to deliver, for education programs.

**18. Do you support**

**a. granting consumers the right to an annual free copy of their consolidated credit report, including credit score?**

**b. banning the use of Social Security numbers as identification in consumer transactions?**

**c. federal legislation to cap interest rates on consumer loans?**

**d. federal legislation to regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?**

**e. federal legislation to give banks and finance companies priority over other unsecured lenders in bankruptcy proceedings?**

**f. allowing states to enact consumer laws which go beyond the protection of federal legislation?**

Considering the role of banks and financial institutions in providing easy, high interest rate credit, it would be unwise and unfair to give banks and finance companies any greater preference in bankruptcy proceedings. I support all of the other preceding consumer protection measures, as well as additional regulations on “predatory lenders.”

**19. Do you support term limits? Describe briefly.**

I do not support legislated term limits. Citizens have the right to vote elected officials out of office if they fail to meet expectations. Likewise, citizens have the right to reward elected officials with additional terms if they meet or exceed expectations. I believe the choice to limit an official's time in office should be determined by each public official and by voters through the ballot box, not through legislation.

**20. Do you support**

- a. public financing of Congressional campaigns?**
- b. spending limits?**
- c. abolition of PACS?**

I support public financing of Congressional campaigns, as well as spending limits on Congressional campaigns. I would only support the abolition of political action committees if public financing or spending limits were in place.

**21. Would you support increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting? Why or why not?**

The recent no-bid contracts awarded to firms closely affiliated with the Bush Administration, as well as allegations of over-charging by the same firms, demonstrate the need for Congressional oversight of federal contracting. Congressional oversight would be an important tool in reducing waste and corruption in the awarding of federal contracts.

**22. Do you support comprehensive, universal, single-payer health care? If not, how would you address the need for healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured?**

Currently, almost two-thirds of all Americans have health care coverage. My priority is not to force those Americans with health insurance into a single-payer health care program, but to make insurance affordable and cover all of the uninsured.

For those who are unemployed or remain without coverage, I would support amending the Medicare statute so those under age 65 can participate. But the government must, under all circumstances, step in to stem the constantly rising cost of care for everyone.

To keep health insurance affordable, we must address the skyrocketing cost of health care and, in particular, the cost of prescription drugs. To determine what is making costs increase so quickly and propose ways to control costs, I support the creation of a special Senate committee or a special session of Congress. This committee or session would have subpoena power to call health care executives, doctors, nurses, hospital administrators, pharmaceutical executives, medical suppliers, insurance companies, and others involved in health care to testify as to the true costs and mechanics of the health care industry. Such action dramatically altered the tobacco industry and I believe can similarly alter the health care industry for the better.

To provide coverage for the 44 million Americans with no insurance today, we need to remember that the vast majority of those people are employed but their employers cannot afford or will not provide insurance. Therefore, we need to make a greater incentive for employers of those people to provide adequate, affordable health insurance. I support a program of tax incentives to aid employers in providing health insurance.

**23. Do you favor funding changes for the following:**

- a. supplemental food programs for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)?**
- b. food stamp allowances?**
- c. Head Start?**
- d. school lunch programs?**

During my years at the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools, I saw how these programs provide a safety net for millions of the poorest Americans – including children and disabled adults. As such, funding modifications to these programs must be made with great care and must not deprive the most needy. I do not support providing funds for the listed programs through federal block grants to states and would be very cautious regarding any other modifications.

**24. Do you support**

- a. increased funding to develop affordable housing?**
- b. restrictions to ensure development of low-income rather than market rate housing?**
- c. a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund to build, rehabilitate, and preserve at least 1.5 million units of primarily rental, primarily deeply targeted housing?**
- d. protection against housing discrimination based on source of income?**

I have publicly supported these initiatives at the Statewide Housing Action Coalition and Chicago Coalition for the Homeless Senate candidate forums.

I have seen firsthand from my time as Chief of Staff to Mayor Daley and President of the Chicago School Board how a lack of safe, decent, affordable housing negatively affects families not only in the immediate sense, but for years in the future. Homelessness and the resulting instability negatively affect an adult's ability to hold a steady job and a child's ability to learn and thrive.

The federal government absolutely has a role in providing safe, decent and affordable housing, including providing funding.

I worked extensively to replace the CHA high-rise units with low-density, mixed-income housing and developed programs to rehab apartment buildings to provide affordable housing. I also developed the Chicago Parade of Homes program that developed large groups of affordable housing throughout the city. The City of Chicago facilitated this by providing financing and infrastructure – sidewalks, curbs, sewers, etc. We were awarded the 1993 City Livability Award by the Conference of Mayors for this work.

But these programs in Chicago alone aren't enough. With the growing demand for affordable housing, a National Housing Trust Fund is vital to provide families with stable housing. I oppose any form of discrimination, including housing discrimination based on source of income.

**25. What services, if any, should be offered to those whose time on Welfare has run out and do not have adequate income to support themselves and their families?**

I believe that one of the benefits of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 was breaking the multi-generational reliance on public aid. This only happened as welfare benefits were discontinued. As a result, I have seen many welfare-to-work mothers who have broken the family pattern of relying on public aid and found quality jobs.

However, in difficult economic times, such as we are seeing now, it is apparent that it is necessary to both broaden and standardize the extensions to the 5 year limit. Since there is no set of uniform federal standards for extensions, states are left to set their own. It is unacceptable that states set more stringent time restrictions and determine which of the limited federal extensions to recognize. I would support measures to expand and standardize the criteria used to determine extensions in federal law to aid those who do not have adequate income to support themselves and their families.

**26. Do you favor**

**a. increased federal aid to public education?**

**b. vouchers, tuition tax-credits or any other direct public support for parochial or private schools?**

I have repeatedly called upon the federal government to increase federal aid for education. The federal government currently provides 7% of Illinois' education dollars, with the remainder provided by the state and local communities.

Nearly 30 years ago, the federal government promised to fund 40% of the cost of educating a student with special needs. To date, they have never provided more than 17% of the cost.

Likewise, the federal government has failed to provide funds to implement the No Child Left Behind Act, construct and repair schools, and assist teachers with on-going professional development. I have called for federal funding for all of these needs in my education plan, "An American Commitment to Education."

These shortcomings have strapped our schools and interfere with student performance, and must be remedied immediately.

I do not support vouchers or similar funding for private or parochial schools. I believe that instead of transferring students from underperforming schools, as the No Child Left

Behind Act calls for, we must instead provide intensive remedial assistance to improve the schools. Such remedial assistance would include after-school and summer school programs, tutoring, smaller classes and longer school days.

**27. Are the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act the appropriate way to advance student achievement?**

The *No Child Left Behind Act* of January 2002 was signed into law to improve the academic achievement of all children. It was designed to help ensure that those groups of children who continually fall behind in state assessment tests in reading and math will not be left behind.

However good the original intentions of NCLB were, the legislation is a failure. NCLB – through its lack of funding for its programs and unrealistic standards – has created a situation where school improvements are considered failures when students’ scores have not met the unrealistically high expectations in *all* “subgroups” - including those with little or no English proficiency and those with disabilities!

It makes good sense to have high expectations and demand accountability from our public education system. But unfunded federal mandates coupled with unrealistically high standards of academic achievement undermine the very real progress that is being made in our schools.

I believe that the concepts of fairness and positive reinforcement are the keys to lifting up all children in our education system. As part of my education plan, “An American Commitment to Education,” I propose the following amendments to the No Child Left Behind Act.

**1. Encourage All Schools – Encourage All Students**

Encourage achievement and success; do not label entire schools a “failure” for the performance of one small “subgroup” – work to help all students improve.

**2. Redefine and Restructure State Academic Growth Assessments**

Redefine at the local level the federally mandated Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) measures to reflect student progress, achievements and needs more accurately.

**3. Fully Fund NCLB Mandates**

Provide proper funding to enable educators to increase student learning. Do not require local governments to pay for federal initiatives.

**4. Transform Failing Schools – Do Not Transfer Students**

Invest in programs to improve lower-performing schools, rather than creating an exodus from our schools and further impeding their ability to make improvements.

**28. Do you support**

**a. the Human Life Amendment?**

- b. parental or spousal notification or consent to obtain an abortion?**
- c. restoration of Medicaid coverage of abortion?**
- d. a ban on so-called partial birth abortions?**
- e. insurance coverage for abortions for federal and military employees and their dependents?**

I oppose the Human Life Amendment, as well as mandatory parental or spousal notification or consent, and am proud to be considered “fully pro-choice” by NARAL.

I support the restoration of Medicaid coverage of abortion and insurance coverage for abortions for federal and military employees and their dependents.

I would oppose any ban on partial birth abortions that does not include exemptions for the health and welfare of the mother.

**29. Do you support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention, and services? Please discuss compulsory licensing of essential drugs where needed, in the US, Africa, Asia and elsewhere.**

During my time at the City of Chicago, we extended HIV/AIDS testing programs and provided HIV/AIDS care for low-income residents through the City Department of Health. I support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention, and services.

I support compulsory licensing of HIV/AIDS drugs for developing countries. Compulsory licensing is one of the few ways parallel importing, which allows countries to buy drugs from a maker besides the patent holder, is possible. Such methods of bypassing patent law make lifesaving drugs more affordable in developing countries. With the HIV/AIDS crisis ravaging many countries, such methods are appropriate.

Domestically, I believe we must address the high cost of HIV/AIDS drugs in the special session of congress or special Senate committee that I have proposed. For example, Abbott recently quadrupled the price of the protease inhibitor Norvir (Chicago Tribune, 12/20/03), even though the price for its production has not increased. Such price gouging by pharmaceuticals cannot be permitted.

**30. Do you support**

- a. federal funding for stem cell research?**
- b. legislation prohibiting stem cell research?**

I support federal funding for stem cell research and oppose legislation prohibiting stem cell research.

**31. Do you support:**

- a. admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?**
- b. electronic eavesdropping?**

- c. roving wiretaps?**
- d. capital punishment?**
- e. criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?**
- f. mandatory sentencing?**
- g. criminalization of hate crimes?**

I do not support the admissibility of illegally obtained evidence, nor do I support the expansion on electronic eavesdropping and roving wiretaps as expanded by the Patriot Act.

In very limited cases where, despite the chronological age of the defendant, the evidence shows they were responsible enough to commit heinous crimes, I support the criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults.

Mandatory sentencing performs a useful function in some cases, but I am concerned that the discretion of the judge – the person who has weighed the evidence and the testimony of witnesses – is unreasonably curtailed.

I believe capital punishment should only be permitted for the most heinous crimes and support the reforms passed in Illinois. I support the criminalization of hate crimes.

**32. Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?**

I support legislation prohibiting racial profiling.

**33. Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause? Do you favor giving such detainees access to counsel?**

I oppose detaining suspects and material witnesses without charges or probable cause. In general, I support giving such detainees access to counsel.

**34. Would you support legislation authorizing or prohibiting secret military tribunals? Please explain your position.**

I do not support legislation authorizing secret military tribunals. Closed military tribunals have been found to be Constitutional and may be in order to protect national security. As national security can be protected through closed military tribunals, I do not feel that secret military tribunals are necessary, as they set a dangerous precedent.

- 35. Do you support legislation to ban the manufacture, sale, and possession of**
- a. handguns?**
  - b. assault weapons?**
  - c. ammunitions for handguns and assault weapons?**

I support the Assault Weapons Ban and will support its renewal in Congress. As such, I would support legislation to ban the manufacture, sale, and possession of assault weapons and assault weapon ammunition.

While I would not support a ban on the manufacture, sale, and possession of a handgun, I support enforcing gun control measures already on the books and closing loopholes regulating their sale and possession. Additionally, I would support legislation calling for trigger locks and safer gun storage.

**36. Do you support legislation**

- a. mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the Internet, and through print advertisements?**
- b. increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?**

I fully support both measures.

- 37. a. Should funding for the Legal Services Corporation be increased?**  
**b. What restrictions, if any, should Congress enact or repeal regarding the scope of federally funded services for the poor?**

I support increased funding for the Legal Services Corporation. I fully support repealing the 1996 restrictions on Legal Services Corporation attorneys representing undocumented immigrants and would consider repealing the ban on LSC attorneys filing class action lawsuits and lobbying Congress.

- 38. a. Do you favor repeal of the Patriot Act or any of its provision?**  
**b. Would you vote for Patriot Act II.**

I support the repeal of the Patriot Act and would strongly oppose Patriot Act II.

**39. Do you support**

- a. federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and education?**
- b. repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act?**
- c. a Constitutional amendment prohibiting states from recognizing gay civil unions or same sex unions?**

At the City of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools, I extended benefits to domestic partners (including same sex domestic partners) and included sexual orientation as a protected category in the non-discrimination policy. I publicly supported the Cook County Domestic Partnership registry.

I would support federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, and education, as well as the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act. I do not support a Constitutional amendment prohibiting states from recognizing gay civil unions or same sex unions.

**40. What is your position on gays and lesbians in the military?**

I support the inclusion of gays and lesbians in the military and would allow “out” gay and lesbian servicemen and women to both join and continue in military service.

- 41. a. Do you support prior government restraint of the press?  
b. Do you support State censorship of the arts?  
c. What should be the guidelines in determining government support for the arts?  
d. Should funding for the NEA be increased, decreased, or stay the same?**

I strongly believe in the importance of the arts and cultural enrichment. To provide cultural opportunities, we reinstated and expanded music and arts programs in the Chicago Public Schools.

I fully support First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and oppose state censorship of the arts. NEA awards should be based on artistic merit and not by political or “moral” considerations. I support the current level of funding for the NEA and would consider increasing funding in better economic times.

- 42. Do you support  
a. prayer in public schools  
b. moment of silence**

I do not support prayer in public schools as this blurs the separation of church and state. I would support a moment of silence at the discretion of the local school district.

**43. Do you support mandatory drug testing in private and public employment?**

I support mandatory drug testing in public and private employment only in instances where an employee’s actions may have a direct impact on public safety, for example, testing public transit conductors and drivers.

Otherwise, I oppose mandatory drug testing without reasonable cause in public and private employment as an invasion of privacy.

**44. Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?**

I oppose mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment.

**45. Do you support legislation to redress inequities in pension benefits for women?**

I support legislation to redress inequities in pension benefits for women, as well as repeal of the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset.

**46. Do you support the acceptance of completed ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment?**

I support measures to pass the Equal Right Amendment and would lobby in its favor.

**47. What changes, if any, in the Taft-Hartley Act would you work for?**

I support the rights of labor to organize and take collective action, which are limited by the Taft-Hartley Act and, to a similar degree, by the Landrum-Griffin Act.

In particular, I would work to repeal the provisions allowing states to implement right-to-work laws and employers to petition for a union certification election.

**48. Do you support a prohibition on permanent replacement of strikers?**

I support a prohibition on permanent replacement of strikers.

**49. Do you favor giving federal employees the right to strike?**

I support giving federal employees the right to strike, provided it does not compromise national health or safety.

**50. What is your position on Affirmative Action with specific goals, targets and timetables for federal employment, grants and contracts and as a requirement for federal contractors and grantees?**

I support Affirmative Action and believe that all grants and contracts should contain specific goals, targets, and timetables. At the Chicago Public Schools, we awarded half of all contracts to minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

**51. a. Do you support comparable worth legislation?  
b. What steps, if any, should the government take to monitor pay equity between men and women?**

I support the concept of higher pay for traditionally gender dominated industries such as nursing and teaching. I would certainly consider comparable worth legislation. I support monitoring of pay equity by the Department of Labor.

**52. Do you support a federal living wage law? Please explain why or why not.**

Employees at the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools were paid a living wage that reflected the cost of living in the metropolitan area and allowed them to better support their families.

While it is imperative to raise wages in the United States, particularly for low-wage workers, implementing a federal living wage would be extremely difficult, given the great variances in the cost of living nationwide.

I support the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires a living wage to be paid to workers on federal contracts. Additionally, I support an across the board increase in the federal minimum wage.

The minimum wage has failed dramatically to keep pace with inflation. The real value of the minimum wage peaked in 1968. Since then, worker productivity went up, but wages went down. Productivity grew by 74.2 percent between 1968 and 2000, but hourly wages for average workers fell by 3 percent, adjusting for inflation. Real wages for minimum wage workers fell 35 percent.

If wages had kept pace with rising productivity since 1968, the average hourly wage would have been \$24.56 in 2000, rather than \$13.74. The minimum wage would be \$13.80 - not \$5.15.