Springfield, Ithinois

SECRETARY OF STATE

**EXECUTIVE ORDER** 10-02

## EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS

WHEREAS, 12% of Illinois' population are immigrants and 20% of the state's population is either an immigrant or children of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, immigrants contribute to the economic, social, and political vitality of the United States and Illinois; and

WHEREAS, immigration policy is set at the federal level, but the actual benefits and challenges of immigration are felt at the state and local levels; and

WHEREAS, a proactive policy for New Americans at the state level will maximize the benefits immigrants bring to the state and its municipalities, while helping immigrants overcome the challenges they face; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial for new immigrants, the host communities, and the state, to work cohesively providing new Americans with the opportunities they need in order to become fully integrated; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois plays a vital role in building upon the strengths of immigrants, enabling their speedy transition to self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has historically been a national leader in creating innovative state initiatives that assist immigrants in integrating into life in the United States; and

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor, do hereby order as follows:

- 1. The State of Illinois shall maintain and continue to develop a New Americans Immigrant Policy that builds upon the strengths of immigrants, their families, and their institutions, and expedites their journey towards self-sufficiency. This policy shall enable State government to more effectively assist immigrants in overcoming barriers to success, and to facilitate host communities' ability to capitalize on the assets of their immigrant populations.
- 2. The Governor's Office of New Americans shall identify strategic partnerships with State agencies in an effort to implement best practices, policies, and procedures and make recommendations for statewide policy and administrative changes.

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- 3. State agencies shall develop New Americans plans that incorporate effective training and resources, ensure culturally and linguistically competent and appropriate services, and include administrative practices that reach out to and reflect the needs of the immigrant and Limited English Proficient population. State agencies shall consider the New Americans Immigrant Policy Council's recommendations in creating the agencies' plans. Agency plans should be submitted to the Governor for approval.
- 4. Executive Order Number 10 (2005) is hereby revoked and rescinded effective as of this date of issuance.

## **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Executive Order shall be in full force and effect upon its filing with the Secretary of State.

Pat Quinn Governor

Issued by the Governor: March 31, 2010

Filed with the Secretary of State: March 31, 2010

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IN THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE