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Iowa LULAC to host Latino Legislative Day on Feb. 17

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DES MOINES – The League of United Latin American Citizens of Iowa will host the third annual Latino Legislative Day on Feb. 17 at the Iowa State Capitol.

"This is a day for members of our community to learn about issues in the legislature that affect Latinos, and for us to lobby our elected leaders to ensure they understand the issues that are important to the Latino community," said Joe Enriquez Henry, state director of LULAC of Iowa.

The day will begin with breakfast from 7 to 9 a.m. in State Dining Room 15. Tamales, pastries and other Hispanic foods will be served. Afterward, there will be several speakers, both elected leaders and civil rights activists, who will give presentations about bills being considered by the state Legislature, and an update of events held the previous week at the LULAC National Legislative Conference & Awards Gala in Washington, D.C.

Iowa LULAC's top legislative priorities for 2015 include:

- Affordable and increased access to health care
- Increased money for education, specifically for programs for students who are not native English speakers and low-income students
- Economic development and jobs
- Driver's licenses for immigrants
- An increase in the state's minimum wage

Anyone is welcome to attend. Spanish-speaking translators will be at the event.

Founded in 1929, the League of United Latin American Citizens is the oldest Latino civil rights organization in the United States. There are more than 880 local LULAC councils, which hold voter registration drives, provide awareness to residents about language and immigration issues, sponsor programs and advocate for Latinos.

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