

Short Biography of Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez (D-IL-4), Updated May 2013

Now in his eleventh term, Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez is the senior member of the Illinois delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is an experienced legislator and energetic spokesman on behalf of his constituents in Illinois' Fourth District in the heart of Chicago, who first elected him to his seat in 1992.

Rep. Gutierrez is nationally recognized for his tireless leadership championing issues of particular importance to Latino and immigrant communities. He has been at the center of every major legislative debate on immigration reform and immigration issues for more than a dozen years.

Highlights:

- Dean of the Illinois Delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives;
- Chairman, Immigration Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus;
- House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence | Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence Subcommittee;
- Judiciary Committee | Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee;
- Judiciary Committee | Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee;
- Financial Services Committee (Leave of Absence during 113th Congress); served as subcommittee Chairman and conferee on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform bill
- Co-Author of McCain/Kennedy/Flake/Kolbe/Gutierrez, the first bicameral, bipartisan comprehensive reform bill in 2005;

At the beginning of the 113th Congress in January 2013, Rep. Gutierrez took a leave of absence from the House Financial Services Committee, where he was the third ranking Democrat, to take a less senior position on the Judiciary Committee. He did this so that he could work directly on two signature issues that have defined his career: gun violence prevention and comprehensive immigration reform. He serves on the Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations Subcommittee and on the Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee. This gives Congressman Gutierrez a seat at the table as legislation on guns and immigration make their way through Congress.

Married and both a father and grandfather, Rep. Gutierrez was born and raised in Chicago to parents who had themselves migrated to Chicago from Puerto Rico in the early 1950s. He previously served as an Alderman in the City of Chicago and has been a teacher, a social worker and a cab driver, among other diverse experiences.