

Friday, July 31 2020

## COVID-19 Health and Economic Recovery Policy Forum

### Speaker Biographies



#### **Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID Director**

Dr. Fauci was appointed director of NIAID in 1984. He oversees an extensive portfolio of basic and applied research to prevent, diagnose, and treat established infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, tuberculosis and malaria as well as emerging diseases such as Ebola and Zika. NIAID also supports research on transplantation and immune-related illnesses, including autoimmune disorders, asthma and allergies. The NIAID budget for fiscal year 2020 is an estimated \$5.9 billion.

Dr. Fauci has advised six presidents on HIV/AIDS and many other domestic and global health issues. He was one of the principal architects of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a program that has saved millions of lives throughout the developing world.

Dr. Fauci also is the longtime chief of the Laboratory of Immunoregulation. He has made many contributions to basic and clinical research on the pathogenesis and treatment of immune-mediated and infectious diseases. He helped pioneer the field of human immunoregulation by making important basic scientific observations that underpin the current understanding of the regulation of the human immune response. In addition, Dr. Fauci is widely recognized for delineating the precise ways that immunosuppressive agents modulate the human immune response. He developed effective therapies for formerly fatal inflammatory and immune-mediated diseases such as polyarteritis nodosa, granulomatosis with polyangiitis (formerly Wegener's granulomatosis), and lymphomatoid granulomatosis. A 1985 Stanford University Arthritis Center Survey of the American Rheumatism Association membership ranked Dr. Fauci's work on the treatment of polyarteritis nodosa and granulomatosis with polyangiitis among the most important advances in patient management in rheumatology over the previous 20 years.

Dr. Fauci has made seminal contributions to the understanding of how HIV destroys the body's defenses leading to its susceptibility to deadly infections. Further, he has been instrumental in

developing treatments that enable people with HIV to live long and active lives. He continues to devote much of his research to the immunopathogenic mechanisms of HIV infection and the scope of the body's immune responses to HIV.

In a 2019 analysis of Google Scholar citations, Dr. Fauci ranked as the 41st most highly cited researcher of all time. According to the Web of Science, he ranked 8th out of more than 2.2 million authors in the field of immunology by total citation count between 1980 and January 2019.

Dr. Fauci has delivered major lectures all over the world and is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the highest honor given to a civilian by the President of the United States), the National Medal of Science, the George M. Kober Medal of the Association of American Physicians, the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service, the Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, the Robert Koch Gold Medal, the Prince Mahidol Award, and the Canada Gairdner Global Health Award. He also has received 45 honorary doctoral degrees from universities in the United States and abroad.

Dr. Fauci is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society, as well as other professional societies including the American College of Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the American Association of Immunologists, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. He serves on the editorial boards of many scientific journals; as an editor of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine; and as author, coauthor, or editor of more than 1,300 scientific publications, including several textbooks.



### **Congressman Raul Ruiz (CA), M.D.**

U.S. Representative Raul Ruiz, M.D., grew up in the community of Coachella, California, where both of his parents were farmworkers.

Dr. Ruiz achieved his lifelong dream of becoming a physician through public education. After graduating from Coachella Valley High School, Dr. Ruiz graduated magna cum laude from UCLA. He went on to Harvard University, where he earned his Medical Degree, as well as a Masters of Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government and a Masters of Public Health from the School of Public Health, becoming the first Latino to earn three graduate degrees from Harvard University. He completed his Residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh and a Fellowship in International Emergency Medicine at Brigham

and Women's Hospital. During his training, Dr. Ruiz served as a consultant to the Ministries of Health of both Serbia and El Salvador.

Dr. Ruiz returned home after completing his medical training and began working as an Emergency Room doctor at Eisenhower Medical Center. Recognizing the physician shortage crisis in the Coachella Valley, Dr. Ruiz started a pre-medical mentorship program for young aspiring doctors, which has grown to include over 100 local students.

The program became part of the University of California, Riverside School of Medicine, where Dr. Ruiz served as a Senior Associate Dean. Through the group Volunteers in Medicine, he helped to open a free clinic to help underserved communities in the Coachella Valley.

In 2010, Dr. Ruiz started the Coachella Valley Healthcare Initiative, which brought together stakeholders from across the region to address the local healthcare crisis. He has also worked internationally in the medical community. In 2010, Dr. Ruiz flew to Haiti immediately following the 2010 earthquake and served as the Medical Director for the J/P Haitian Relief Organization. The U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne awarded him the Commander's Award for Public Service for his work.

Dr. Ruiz continued his work as an Emergency Room Doctor until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2012. He represents California's 36th District, which includes the entire Coachella Valley, as well as the cities of Banning, Beaumont, Blythe, Hemet and San Jacinto. He resides in Palm Desert, CA.

Dr. Ruiz currently serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.



## **Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto (NM)**

### **President of NHCSL**

Senator Daniel A. Ivey-Soto (NM-15) is the President of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators. Prior to his election on December 5, 2019 he served in the NHCSL leadership as West Region Chair and member of the Executive Committee.

In his state legislature, Sen. Ivey-Soto serves as Senate Parliamentarian, Vice-Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and member of the Rules Committee. He is also currently the Vice-Chair of the Advisory Board to the United States Election Assistance Commission and previously served two terms as Chair of the Elections & Redistricting Policy Standing Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

Sen. Ivey-Soto previously served as Associate Deputy Secretary of State of New Mexico for Elections, Ethics & Legal and was the New Mexico State Elections Director. He was also a prosecutor and has more than a decade of experience in criminal defense.

Sen. Ivey-Soto's first career was in education, as a teacher for grades sixth through twelfth, department chair and teachers union vice president and political action chair.

In addition to his classroom experience, Daniel served as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Graduate Fellow in the office of Senator Edward Kennedy and was the education policy staff lead on the creation of the Hispanic Serving Institution designation for universities.

He is a life member of NALEO and a former Vice-Chair of MARCHA, an international Latino advocacy organization.



**Richard Gannotta, NP, DHA,  
FACHE Senior Vice President, Chief  
Healthcare Administrative Officer Masimo**

Rick Gannotta is the Chief Healthcare Administrative Officer at Masimo, a global technology company that develops and manufactures a variety of innovative noninvasive patient monitoring technology and clinical solution sets designed to improve patient outcomes and reduce the cost of care. In his role Rick is charged with advancing the organization's clinical strategy, hospital and health system partnerships and key product initiatives.

Prior to joining Masimo, Gannotta was the chief executive officer of the University of California-Irvine's Health System where he oversaw Orange County's only academic medical center and the associated clinical and patient-serving operations, including the UCI Medical Center in Orange and ambulatory sites across the county. Before that, he was senior vice president of hospitals at New York's NYC Health + Hospitals, the nation's largest public healthcare system. He also held roles as president of Chicago's Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and as president at Duke Raleigh Hospital, part of the Duke University Health System, and also served as Administrator at North Carolina-based WakeMed Health & Hospitals.

Rick is also Senior Lecturer of Healthcare Administration at NYU Wagner School of Public Service.

Gannotta's areas of research interest include the economic impact of alternative models of care, patient safety, high reliability systems and healthcare disruptors.



## **Johnathan Lozier, Vice President of Stateside**

Johnathan Lozier serves as Vice President at Stateside, where he helps lead the firm's business development and branding efforts. Mr. Lozier also works with clients to navigate the complex policy and political arena of state government affairs on a wide range of issues, leveraging his expertise on advocacy, strategic planning and communications, as well as his extensive network of elected officials.

Mr. Lozier also plays an outsized role in a number of Democratic campaign organizations. He has an integral role in Stateside's Groups Practice, where he utilizes national forums to exchange policy ideas and cultivate relationships on behalf of his clients. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Washington Area State Relations Group (WASRG), and as Chair and Vice Chair on multiple committees for the State Government Affairs Council (SGAC).

Prior to joining Stateside, Mr. Lozier worked at Women In Government (WIG), a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting women state legislators. In this role, he served as the direct lead between elected officials and the organization, overseeing all legislative communication, email campaigns, recruitment efforts and outreach. He developed and lead multiple state policy initiatives including healthcare, energy, and education issues among others. Previously, Mr. Lozier has worked in several different capacities for national and international non-profits such as No Labels and Feed the Children, as part of their policy, communications, grassroots and development teams. Originally from Oklahoma, Mr. Lozier graduated with a B.A. from East Central University, and attended the Institute on Business and Government Affairs (IBGA) 2008 class of The Fund for American Studies (TFAS) at Georgetown University.



## **Senate President Leroy Garcia (CO)**

Leroy Garcia was elected in 2014 to represent Senate District 3, which covers the Cities of Pueblo, Pueblo West and part of the community in Salt Creek.

Senator Garcia has sponsored legislation to help Southern Colorado and improve the lives of citizens across the state. He was named Assistant Minority Leader at the start of the 2017 Legislative Session and Senate President at the start of the 2019 Legislative Session.

During his time in the Colorado State Senate, Senator Garcia passed legislation to create a pilot program for Pueblo and rural Colorado to address the opioid epidemic. He has supported fellow veterans through education and housing programs. He pushed to increase accountability and transparency of the utility provider in his district to help the burden of the disproportionate utility prices in Southern Colorado. He has also secured funding for and defended one of Pueblo's great cornerstones, the State Fair in Pueblo, and continued to protect Southern Colorado's water. Senator Garcia has pushed to explore transportation solutions like a potential rail line along the I-25 corridor through his work with the Southwest Chief and secured funding to make improvements on Highway 50, which runs through Pueblo. Through his leadership he has helped paved the way for a new building for the regional office of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation in Pueblo West, and new offices for the Colorado State Patrol and the Colorado Department of Transportation that will open in the spring of 2018.

Before his work in the Colorado State Senate, Senator Garcia served in the Colorado House of Representatives and was one of the youngest members to be elected and serve on Pueblo City Council.

Senator Garcia also teaches emergency medical services at Pueblo Community College and is a paramedic with American Medical Response in Pueblo.

From 2001 to 2007, Sen. Garcia served in the Marine Corps. Deployed to Iraq as a mortuary affairs specialist, he has a personal understanding of the risks faced by the members of our armed forces, and has a strong commitment to providing for our veterans. He's a member of the Pueblo Veterans Council, VFW Post 15006, American Legion Post 2 and the League of Marines Home of Heroes Detachment.

He's also a parish pianist at St. Joseph and Christ the King churches.

Sen. Garcia grew up around the Pueblo beauty salon his parents have owned and operated for more than three decades, giving him an appreciation for the power of small business in securing the American Dream.

Sen. Garcia is a first-generation college graduate, with a master's degree in organizational management from Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa; a bachelor's in management from the University of Phoenix and an associate's degree in emergency medical services from Pueblo Community College.

A sixth-generation Coloradan, Sen. Garcia lives in Pueblo's south side.



### **Senator Teresa Ruiz (NJ), President Pro Tempore**

M. Teresa Ruiz was elected to the New Jersey State Senate in 2007 to represent the 29th Legislative District, which includes Belleville Township and parts of the City of Newark in Essex County. A first-generation Puerto Rican American, she is the first Latina to serve in the State Senate.

Senator Ruiz serves as Senate President Pro Tempore. She also serves as Chair of the Senate Education Committee and as a member of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

A lifelong resident of Newark's North Ward, Senator Ruiz is active in Essex County government and politics. She is Vice Chair of the Essex County Democratic Party, and Deputy Chief of Staff and former Director of Public Information for Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. A fearless advocate for the people and issues in which she believes, Senator Ruiz uses the skills she learned in county government and the political realm to promote the ideas of justice, inclusion and equality.

Senator Ruiz worked as a Pre-K Teacher after she graduated from Drew University as an English major. She was a First Fidelity Bank Scholar in her junior year of college, and spent six weeks studying art and culture in West Africa. A founding member of the Robert Treat Academy, she has served for over five years as a school Trustee. Senator Ruiz is Co-Chair of the Hispanic Scholarship Program for the North Ward Center. She also served as a Trustee of the Essex County Vocational Technical School Board for five years.

In addition, she was the first Puerto Rican woman to sit as a member of the Essex County Improvement Authority Board of Commissioners. Senator Ruiz served as an elected delegate for John Kerry at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, and was also elected as a Clinton delegate in 2008.

Recognized by the Hispanics for Progress of the Oranges for her dedicated service to the Latino community, and honored by the Essex County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce with its Public Service Award, Senator Ruiz was also awarded the Star of Essex during the County's Hispanic Heritage Celebration in 2005. In 2006 she was named Woman of the Year by Newark's Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Inc.

Senator Ruiz's parents settled in Newark in the 1950s. She has one sister, a niece and a large extended family. The most recent addition to her family is Samuel Gonzalez to whom she was married in September of 2005.



### **Senator Gustavo Rivera (NY), Chairman of Committee on Health**

State Senator Gustavo Rivera has represented the 33rd Senate District in the Bronx since November of 2010. The 33rd Senate District includes the neighborhoods of Kingsbridge Heights, East Tremont, Crotona Park, Fordham, Mount Hope, Belmont, Van Nest, Claremont, and Morris Park.

Since taking office, Senator Rivera has focused his efforts on addressing issues of health inequity both legislatively and on the ground. In 2011, Senator Rivera launched the Bronx CAN (Changing Attitudes Now) Health Initiative. The goal of this community oriented health initiative is not only to encourage Bronx residents to develop healthy behaviors, but to shape policies that will help tear down some of the institutional barriers that stand in the way of Bronxites having a healthier lifestyle.

In 2018, his passion to improve the health of New Yorkers lead Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins to appoint Senator Rivera as the Chair of the New York State Senate's Health Committee. As the Chair, Senator Rivera's goal is to collaborate with his colleagues, stakeholders, and constituents to improve health outcomes, increase access to coverage, and ensure a financially viable system for the 20 million New Yorkers he proudly serves.

Prior to his appointment to Chair, Senator Rivera served as the ranking member of the Senate Health Committee for six years. As a sitting member of the committee, Senator Rivera passed three laws to ban smoking around schools, afterschools, and libraries, and has been a champion of public health and harm reduction policies. In March 2017, he became the main sponsor of the "New York Health Act," an innovative bill to create a single payer health system in New York State.

Previously, Senator Rivera served as the ranking member of the Crime Victims, Crime and Corrections Committee. During that time, he introduced and passed legislation to allow charitable organizations throughout the state to post bail bonds for individuals who cannot afford to do so

themselves and was able to secure the transfer of the Fulton Correctional Facility to the Osborne Association to be converted into a comprehensive reentry center during the 2013-2014 State Budget.

Senator Rivera has also championed and empowered Latino communities across New York State and the United States. In 2018, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) elected Senator Rivera to serve an initial three-year term on the nonpartisan organization's 35-member Board of Directors. NALEO'S mission looks to foster civic engagement in Latino communities, increase the effectiveness of Latino policymakers, and promote policies that advance Latino political engagement. For over a decade, Senator Rivera has also served as a mentor for the annual Model State Senate program, "Somos El Futuro", sponsored by CUNY, SUNY, the NY State Assembly, and the Puerto Rican Hispanic Task Force.

Prior to becoming an elected representative, Gustavo worked as a community organizer for several local and state candidates including Jose Marcos Serrano and Andrea Stewart-Cousins' campaigns for State Senate, as well as Fernando Ferrer's 2001 campaign for Mayor of New York City. In early 2008, SEIU hired Gustavo to manage their activities on behalf of then-presidential candidate Barack Obama in several crucial primary states. Gustavo traveled to Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Texas, and his home of Puerto Rico on behalf of Senator Obama. Gustavo was then tapped by Senator Obama to serve as his Constituency Director in the crucial swing state of Florida. After the election, Gustavo returned home to New York State to serve as the Director of Outreach for U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. Additionally, Gustavo has also served as an adjunct professor at Pace University and Hunter College, where he has taught courses in political science.

Gustavo was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico. In 1998, Gustavo graduated from the University of Puerto Rico and moved to New York to begin a doctoral program in political science at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. A proud Bronxite, he has lived in Kingsbridge Heights for almost 20 years.