

## OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The Lieutenant Governor is the second-highest executive office in Illinois and first in line for succession to the governorship. Under the Illinois Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor becomes the Acting Governor if the Governor is unable to discharge the duties of the office. In addition to being prepared to lead the state, the Lieutenant Governor exercises the powers delegated to him/her by the Governor and those prescribed by law, including serving as the state's top advocate for rural communities, military families and river conservation.

### Inspiring Better Government

Working alongside the Governor, Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti is committed to creating a more efficient Illinois. The state currently has nearly 7,000 units of local government. This statistic is the highest in the country by more than 1,800 units. According to the Lieutenant Governor's office, these layers of government create bureaucratic waste and inefficiency and contribute to the reason Illinois residents pay some of the highest local government taxes in the nation, including the second-highest property tax and 10th-highest sales tax.

There are also hundreds of unfunded mandates placed on local governments in Illinois which cost taxpayers billions per year. These unfunded mandates make it more difficult for local governments to provide core government services to their residents. Governor Bruce Rauner signed Executive Order – 15-15 on Feb. 13, 2015, which created the Local Government Consolidation and Unfunded Mandates Task Force. The mission of this task force is to reduce the heavy burden on Illinois taxpayers by empowering citizens and local government officials to streamline local government through consolidation and eliminating unnecessary state mandates. The Lieutenant Governor oversees this task force.



**In an effort to continue to protect Illinois waterways, Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti attends a meeting at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and the Waterways Users Board. The Brandon Road Study, led by ACE, evaluates potential control options and technologies regarding invasive species while preserving waterborne commerce.**



**Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti attends a briefing on statewide efforts of the Illinois National Guard with Adjutant General Hayes at Camp Lincoln during the Interagency Military Base Support and Economic Development Committee meeting.**

After the completion of 16 task force meetings and testimony from more than 30 experts representing government associations, nonprofit think tanks, researchers and state agencies, the task force endorsed 27 recommendations from the more than 85 proposals received on topics relating to consolidation and unfunded mandates. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor worked with legislators to introduce 11 bills based on the recommendations of the task force.

### **Advocating for Rural Communities**

Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti leads the Governor's Rural Affairs Council (GRAC). GRAC serves as a link between state and local agencies to improve the delivery of state services, support innovative rural development initiatives and recommend programs and policies that help improve the quality of rural life in Illinois. As chair of GRAC, Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti collaborates with a group of government agencies, academic institutions and rural advocacy groups dedicated to improving the economy, environment and health of Illinois' rural communities. These communities are home to 1.6 million Illinoisans.

### **Representing Military Families and Bases**

Illinois has three active military base installations, including Scott Air Force base near Belleville, Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island and Naval Station Great Lakes near North Chicago. There are more than 50 other military installations associated with the Illinois National Guard and Illinois Air National Guard. The military and defense industry directly and indirectly contributes nearly 150,000 jobs and \$13.4 billion in economic activity across Illinois, as of 2013. The Lieutenant Governor serves as chair of the committee and is an

advocate for retaining and developing the state’s military bases and their surrounding communities. Sanguinetti is also collaborating with public and private partners to conduct an assessment of Illinois’ military infrastructure. This will help determine how Illinois can better align its facilities with the National Security Strategy and help retain and expand the economic development benefits of the military in our state over time.

**Protecting Illinois Rivers**

Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti serves as chair of the Illinois River, Mississippi River and Wabash and Ohio Rivers Coordinating councils. The three councils unite citizens, river enthusiasts and commercial interests. In addition, the councils collaborate with state and federal agencies to coordinate policy and initiatives for the preservation, restoration and economy of the watersheds. She works with the members of each council to lay out a 2015 River and Watershed Integrated Management Strategy that protects Illinois’ economic interests while preserving environmental priorities.

**Supporting Greater Opportunities for All**

Coming from a family of immigrants — her mother a Cuban refugee and her father an Ecuadorian immigrant — Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti understands the importance of being a part of a welcoming environment. Since taking office, she has spoken about her mission of advancing the Hispanic community and creating an environment where every race and ethnicity has the opportunities necessary to succeed.

**Lieutenant Governor’s Staff Members**

- Brian Colgan.....*Chief of Staff*
- Brian Costin .....*Policy Director*
- Susan Bence.....*Springfield Director; Legislative Liaison*
- Enneddy Rivera.....*General Counsel*
- Marcela Cartagena.....*Communications Director*