



# The Making of Law for Safer Roads

# A report from the DHC Community Social Justice Subcommittee

By Charito Calvachi-Mateyko and Tanisha Merced, Co-Chairs

# VICTORY # 1

Senate Bill 59



Our Delawarean youth spoke up at the Rally and Senate Hearing while the older generations smile at him.

Miguel Tapia was driven by her unlicensed brave Mom to school. He became a student of Columbia University.



# Immigrants of all nations united for DE!

Rally before Senate Hearing. Senators Townsend and Marshall, Rep. Keeley and Javier Torrijos spoke.



Javier Torrijos , Chair of the Delaware Hispanic Commission and Darlene Battle from DACA lead the effort for safer roads in Delaware.



Immigrants of all walks of life demonstrate their support for safer roads.

June 10, 2015 at East side of Legislative Hall in Dover, Delaware.



Fifty organizations supported the bill among them: ADA, DACA, Limestone Presbyterian, LACC, La Esperanza, Casa, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, COPAD et al.

Mothers, workers of the lawn industry, professionals, Hispanic Media radio and print, elected officials attended the Rally.



The Senate Public Safety Committee Hearing, in the Senate Caucus Room.





The Coalition United for Safer Roads, DACA, the League of Women Voters, Casa de Maryland, Wilmington City Council et al, spoke in behalf of SB 59.





Senator Robert Marshall opens the Hearing.



Maria Matos, Executive Director of the Latin American Community Center in Wilmington testified in favor of SB59.



Deborah Torrijos, prepares herself to translate for immigrants at the Hearing.



Senator David McBride expressed his support of the bill.

# VICTORY # 2

Senate Bill 59 at full SENATE HEARING



Senator Bryan Townsend and three other leaders witnessed the voting at the Senate Hearing 17 YES, one NO and three abstentions.

# VICTORY # 3

Senate Bill 59 at HOUSE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



Senate Bill 59 passed from House Public Safety Committee to the full House.

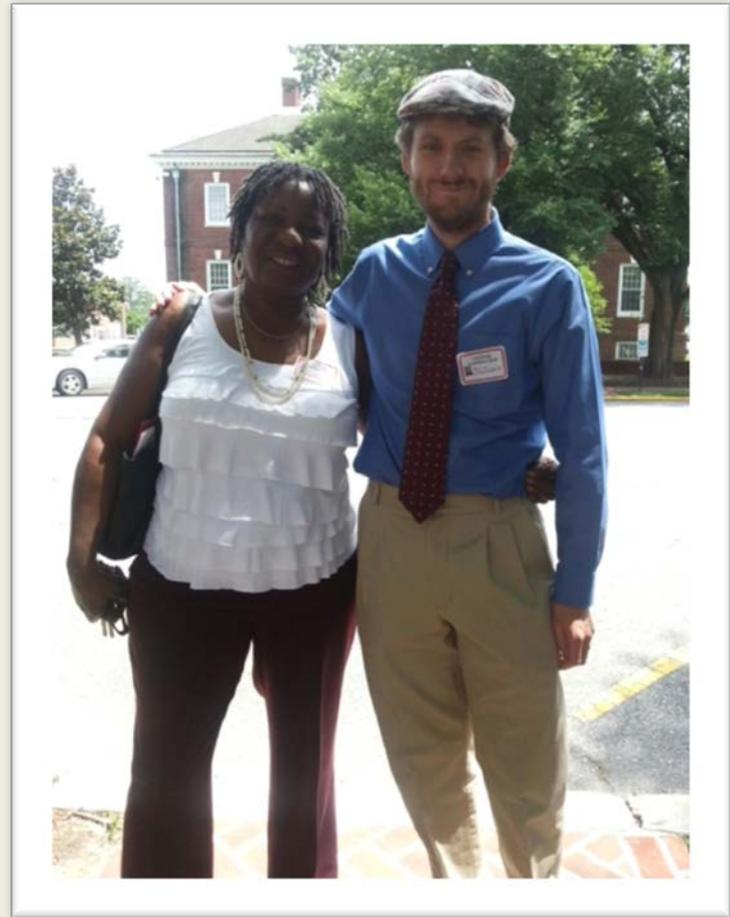
Sonia Aguilar, and Charito Calvachi-Mateyko both Co-Chairs of the Hispanic Commission celebrated the success with Gilberto Rodriguez, a resident of Delaware for the past 20 years.



Jazmin Buke, from La ZMX Radio came with her family to show her support.



Charito Calvachi-Mateyko and Darlene Battle show the symbol of victory.



Drew Serres from ADA attended the Senate Committee hearing.

# VICTORY # 4

Senate Bill 59 at full HOUSE HEARING



The first group who came to support the bill toured Legislative Hall greeting Legislators in their way to the House balcony.

Then they participated in a Rally with members of ADA, before the House session.





Rally with ADA before House vote to promote Safe Roads for all Delawareans.





The full House opened the session around 7:30 pm.

Senate Bill 59 was in 24<sup>th</sup> place to be discussed.

Once Senator Townsend visited the balcony and saw the Latino community with children in their laps, he went to speak with the House leadership to make them aware of their presence.

As a result, SB 59 was moved from 24<sup>th</sup> on the Agenda to 3<sup>rd</sup>!...



The Representatives with the greater Latino population under their care voted NO: Rep. Stephen Smyk (Milton/Lewes) and Rep. Ruth Briggs-King (Georgetown.)

At the Senate Hearing, Senator Bryan Pettyjohn (Georgetown) abstained. Senator Ernesto Lopez (Lewes) voted YES.



Even though it is not permitted to show any type of support for new legislation passed, all attending irrupted in applause when Senate Bill 59 received 22 of the 21 votes needed to become law.



The excitement of the moment after the vote gathered at the steps of Legislative Hall. But no one left, because the Governor announced that he will sign the bill in 30 minutes, that same night, to honor the Latinos families present.





Hard working Latinos left work to come with their children from 1:00 pm to 9:05 pm. The law was passed, and at 9:35pm, signed by Governor Jack Markell on June 30, 2015 making history!





Two members of the Undocumented Safety and Insurance Motorist Task Force, in the middle, Prison Commissioner Robert M. Coupe.



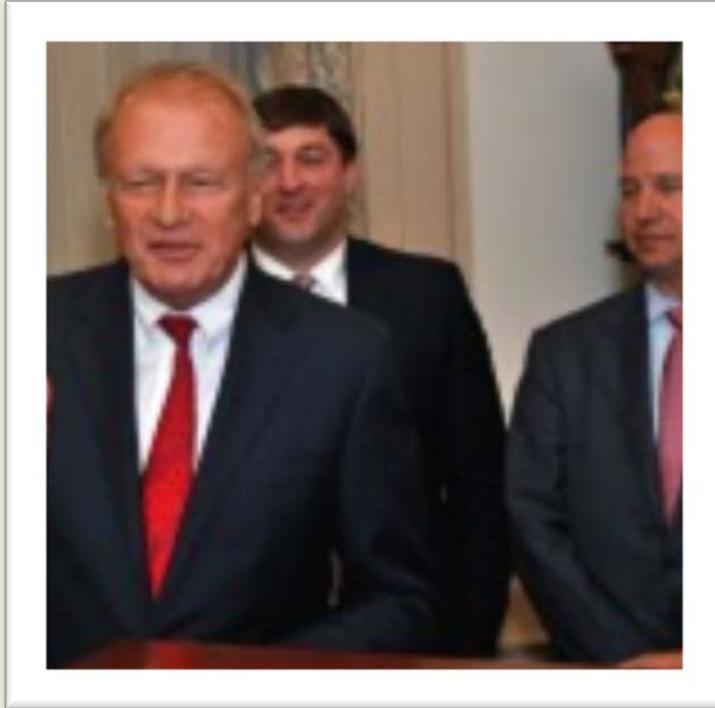
Gilberto Rodriguez, businessman; Javier Torrijos, Chair of the Delaware Hispanic Commission; and Representative Joseph Miro.

# THE SIGNING

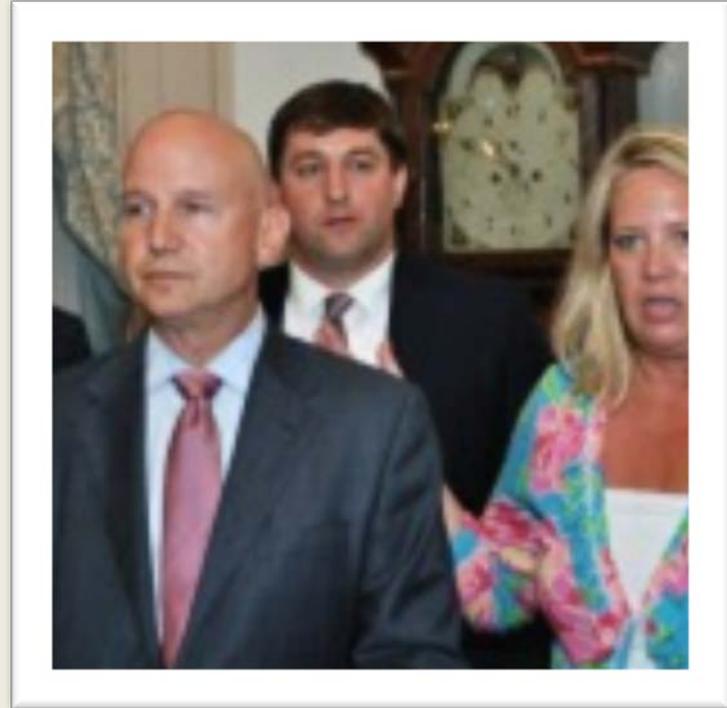
Senate Bill 59 signed by Governor Jack Markell on June 30 , 2015



Representative Joseph Miro speaking at the beginning of the signing ceremony



Senator Robert Marshall  
addressing the public.



Representative Helene Keeley  
speaking about the bill.



- Governor Jack Markell speaking in Spanish before the signing.



Governor Markell showing the bill signed.



Governor Markell showing the bill signed.



Governor Markell showing the bill signed to all the Latino families who waited to witness the event and get a snap shot of the signing of the Senate Bill 59.



Governor Markell allowing time for everyone to get a picture.



Governor Markell with our young student Leader, Miguel Tapia.



Governor Markell with some of the children who attended.



The Leader legislators with Miguel Tapia.



Governor Markell with a father and her daughter.



Senator Bryan Townsend and Javier Torrijos



Governor Jack Markell with the Delaware Hispanic Commission Leaders



The DHC leadership flanked by community grassroots displaying the sign of VICTORY!