

Claim	Backup
<p>Democrats in IL-3 need to see at home and on the go that Gil Villegas will invest in our communities to make them stronger, safer, and more affordable</p>	<p><u>“State Rep. Delia Ramirez and Chicago Ald. Gilbert Villegas emerge as frontrunners for 3rd Congressional,” Mariah Woelfel, WBEZ, 5/13/2022</u></p> <p>On a recent Monday at a union building downtown, Villegas told members of SEIU Local 1 the story of his father dying suddenly when he was 8 years old, leaving his single mom to care for him and his brother. He’ll channel that experience, and the experience of growing up in subsidized housing afterward, he said, to fight for working families in Washington.</p> <p>“I know what it’s like to struggle, so this campaign is personal to me,” Villegas said, “Because I can think about my mom being concerned about childcare... so that’s why I’ve always stood for working families because I am you. I’m not going to forget where I came from.”</p> <p>In an interview, Villegas calls himself a “pragmatic progressive,” saying he’ll work across the aisle in Washington.</p>
<p>while Delia Ramirez will make crime worse.</p>	<p>Note: @delia4staterep was the twitter handle for Ramirez’s state representative campaign. The handle is now @delia4congress.</p> <p><u>@UWFillinois, Twitter, 7/18/2020</u></p> <p>↓ Statement condemning police violence tonight from @taylorfor20th @rossanafor33 @sigchofor25 @cdrosa @delia4staterep @lakesia4the9th @robertjpeters . Presser tomorrow to #DefundCPD.</p> <p>“This must end. We are ready to work to defund the Chicago Police Department immediately, and we call on our colleagues of conscience to join us.”</p> <p><u>“Murders are spiking. Police should be part of the solution,” German Lopez, Vox, 9/27/2021</u></p> <p>There is solid evidence that more police officers and certain policing strategies reduce crime and violence. In a recent survey of criminal justice experts, a majority said increasing police budgets would improve public safety. The evidence is especially strong for strategies that home in on very specific problems, individuals, or groups that are causing a lot of crime or violence — approaches that would require restructuring how many police departments work today.</p>
<p>Gil has dedicated his life to creating opportunity for others. He helped small businesses create thousands of jobs,</p>	<p><u>“Ald. Gilbert Villegas launches congressional bid in new heavily Hispanic district in Illinois,” Lynn Sweet, Chicago Sun Times, 11/9/2021</u></p> <p>After Alpha, Villegas worked for the Illinois Department of Transportation, where he was the deputy director of business and workforce development. From there, Villegas was an associate director of the Hispanic American Construction Industry Association, which led to the Illinois Capital Development Board, where he was chief of staff.</p> <p><u>“Hispanic American Construction Industry Association,” LinkedIn</u></p> <p>A 501 (c) (6) organization founded in 1979, the Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA) works to ensure the equitable participation of its constituents in the construction industry, while also promoting the growth, quality of work, professionalism and integrity of these individuals and businesses. HACIA is a not-for-profit business organization works to provide technical assistance to MBE, WBE and DBE firms with the goal of developing long-term sustainability & capacity. HACIA represents more than 300</p>

	<p>companies that include everything from professional service firms to construction-related businesses, collectively employing approximately 7,000 workers with an annual economic impact of over \$400 million.</p>
<p>expanded affordable housing,</p>	<p><u>“Ordinance O2022-431,” Chicago City Council, 2/23/2022</u> Authorization of financial assistance and conveyance of City-owned property to RS Affordable I LLC to rehabilitate or construct affordable housing units at various locations and development of The National Public Housing Museum at 919-925 S Ada St</p> <p>Villegas, Gilbert – YEA</p> <p><u>“O2019-9419,” Chicago City Council, 1/15/2020</u> Villegas, Gilbert – Yea</p> <p>WHEREAS, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation ("Developer"), through a to-be-formed limited partnership (the "Borrower"), of which either Rockwell Community Development, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, or another entity affiliated with, related to, or with overlapping ownership interests in the Developer or Borrower, is anticipated to be the general partner, intends to acquire certain property located generally at 2602-2638 North Emmett Street in the City (the "Property"); and</p> <p>WHEREAS, Developer has proposed a certain low-income housing development project on the Property consisting of a new construction of one seven-story elevator building and of approximately 100 affordable rental units therein, along with certain common areas, associated parking spaces and other building amenities (the construction and equipping of the real estate and the building, including the residential dwelling units and associated areas in the building, shall be known as the "Project"); and</p> <p>WHEREAS, Developer has requested that the City issue multi-family housing revenue bonds, notes or other indebtedness in an amount not to exceed \$22,500,000 (the "Bonds") for the purpose of financing a portion of the Project costs; and</p> <p><u>“Chicago announces \$1 billion investment across 24 affordable housing projects,” Matt Hickman, The Architect, 12/8/2021</u> Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot and the city’s Department of Housing (DOH) Commissioner Marisa Novara announced on December 6 a historic \$1 billion investment to bolster the amount of affordable housing through the \$1.2 billion “once-in-a-lifetime” Chicago Recovery Plan, approved as part of Lightfoot’s 2022 budget.</p> <p><u>“SO2021-4238,” Chicago City Council, 10/27/2021</u> Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2022, as amended Villegas, Gilbert – Yea</p>
<p>and led efforts to put money directly in the pockets of low-income families.</p>	<p><u>“State Rep. Delia Ramirez and Chicago Ald. Gilbert Villegas emerge as frontrunners for 3rd Congressional,” Mariah Woelfel, WBEZ Chicago, 5/13/2022</u> Villegas, a former union truck driver and U.S. Marine veteran, touts what he sees as his progressive credentials as well. On the campaign trail, he tells voters about his work that led to the city of Chicago creating a universal basic income pilot program, which will send \$500 to 5,000 low-income families in the city for 12 months.</p>
<p>In Congress, Gil will fight to lower costs,</p>	<p><u>“Issues,” Gil Villegas for Congress, Accessed 5/13/2022</u></p>

	<p>The Covid-19 pandemic created unprecedented economic challenges for working families. Small businesses and large corporations alike have struggled to get back up and running; supply chain issues have hampered a speedy recovery; and rising gas and grocery prices have created substantial hardship in our community. While the Paycheck Protection Program, American Rescue Plan, and other Covid-19 relief legislation helped save us from falling into a depression, so much work remains to be done to move our economy, and our country, forward.</p> <p>As your representative in Congress, I will do all I can to get our economy back to full strength and put the Covid-19 pandemic behind us for good, putting Americans, and American businesses, back to work.</p>
<p>protect a woman’s right to choose,</p>	<p><u>“Issues,” Gil Villegas for Congress, Accessed 5/13/2022</u></p> <p>Not since the passage of Roe v. Wade nearly 50 years ago has the right to choose been at greater risk in America. Lawmakers in states across the country – and Republicans in Congress – are intent on rolling back the clock on women’s reproductive health care. We can’t let that happen.</p> <p>With the U.S. Supreme Court signaling an openness to overturning the constitutional right to an abortion – or, at a minimum, chipping away at those protections – it is past time for Congress to act now to codify the right to choose with the passage of strong pro-choice legislation. We also need to pass federal legislation that preempts the extreme anti-abortion laws being enacted in states such as Texas and Mississippi – laws that are so restrictive that they essentially ban abortion outright. The Women’s Health Protection Act, which narrowly passed the House last year but continues to face Republican opposition, would do just that. Finally, Congress must do more to support access to reproductive health care, including by ensuring that it is included in all health care coverage; and by providing more support and funding for essential services like Planned Parenthood.</p> <p>As your representative in Congress, I will fight to protect a woman’s right to choose and prevent Republicans’ attacks on women’s health care and their efforts to enact extreme anti-choice legislation.</p>
<p>and increase public safety.</p>	<p><u>“Issues,” Gil Villegas for Congress, Accessed 5/13/2022</u></p> <p>The fact is, we need smarter policing, not less policing, and that means more funding for programs that we know work and that not only improve community-police relations but also reduce crime, particularly violent crime. We cannot ask police departments to improve the way they police our communities and get better outcomes for everyone by stripping away their funding.</p> <p>We need more investments in officer training and officer safety, including de-escalation and domestic violence training. And we should provide more funding, including grants, for both officer recruitment and officer retention. We also should increase community-oriented policing grants; and we need to expand investments that get at the root causes of crime, including poverty, mental health, and addiction treatment. We simply cannot continue to ignore these underlying factors and expect lasting results.</p> <p>As your representative in Congress, I will be a voice for real criminal justice reforms while also supporting smart, targeted investments in police and public safety in order to reduce violent crime rates, drug trafficking, and illegal guns in our communities in order to keep all of us safe.</p>

<p>Even as violent crime rises in our community,</p>	<p><u>"2021 Ends as Chicago's Deadliest Year in a Quarter Century," NBC 5 Chicago, 1/1/2022</u></p> <p>The year of 2021 ended as one of the most violent on record in Chicago, as a rise in the number of shootings left more people dead than in any single year in a quarter century, according to statistics released by the police department on Saturday.</p> <p>According to the department, 2021 ended with 797 homicides. That is 25 more than were recorded 2020, 299 more than in 2019 and the most since 1996. And there were 3,561 shooting incidents in 2021, which is just over 300 more than were recorded in 2020 and a staggering 1,415 more shooting incidents than were recorded in the city in 2019.</p>
<p>Delia Ramirez has failed to keep our families safe</p>	<p>Note: @delia4staterrep was the twitter handle for Ramirez’s state representative campaign. The handle is now @delia4congress.</p> <p><u>@UWFillinois, Twitter, 7/18/2020</u></p> <p>↓ Statement condemning police violence tonight from @taylorfor20th @rossanafor33 @sigchofor25 @cdrosa @delia4staterrep @lakesia4the9th @robertjpeters . Presser tomorrow to #DefundCPD.</p> <p>“This must end. We are ready to work to defund the Chicago Police Department immediately, and we call on our colleagues of conscience to join us.”</p> <p><u>"Murders are spiking. Police should be part of the solution," German Lopez, Vox, 9/27/2021</u></p> <p>There is solid evidence that more police officers and certain policing strategies reduce crime and violence. In a recent survey of criminal justice experts, a majority said increasing police budgets would improve public safety. The evidence is especially strong for strategies that home in on very specific problems, individuals, or groups that are causing a lot of crime or violence — approaches that would require restructuring how many police departments work today.</p> <p><u>"2021 Ends as Chicago's Deadliest Year in a Quarter Century," NBC 5 Chicago, 1/1/2022</u></p> <p>The year of 2021 ended as one of the most violent on record in Chicago, as a rise in the number of shootings left more people dead than in any single year in a quarter century, according to statistics released by the police department on Saturday.</p> <p>According to the department, 2021 ended with 797 homicides. That is 25 more than were recorded 2020, 299 more than in 2019 and the most since 1996. And there were 3,561 shooting incidents in 2021, which is just over 300 more than were recorded in 2020 and a staggering 1,415 more shooting incidents than were recorded in the city in 2019.</p>
<p>and instead of finding solutions has called to defund the police.</p>	<p>Note: @delia4staterrep was the twitter handle for Ramirez’s state representative campaign. The handle is now @delia4congress.</p> <p><u>@UWFillinois, Twitter, 7/18/2020</u></p> <p>↓ Statement condemning police violence tonight from @taylorfor20th @rossanafor33 @sigchofor25 @cdrosa @delia4staterrep @lakesia4the9th @robertjpeters . Presser tomorrow to #DefundCPD.</p>

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<p>Ramirez also voted for bills in Springfield that would make crime worse and allow people arrested for violent crimes back on the streets.”</p>	<p><u>“HB 3653,” 101st General Assembly, 1/13/2021</u> Ramirez – Yea</p> <p><u>“Criminal justice reform package in IL approved, will head to Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s desk,” Raymon Troncoso, Belleville News Democrat,1/13/2021</u></p> <p>The legislation, an initiative of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, was tied to a new amendment to House Bill 3653, introduced in the early-morning hours Wednesday following mostly private negotiations that stripped down many controversial provisions in the bill.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Effective Jan. 1, 2023, all bail bonds and conditions of bail will be replaced by a system of pretrial release to be developed by the Illinois courts based on a detainee’s alleged crime, their risk of not appearing for their court date, and the threat or danger they may pose to the community if released. “For too long, people in this state have spent time in jail only because they could not afford to pay their bail,” Peters said in a statement released shortly after the successful Senate vote. “The end of that practice is near. I’m thrilled that ending cash bail was part of the package we passed today.”</p> <p><u>“HB 3443,” 102nd General Assembly, 5/31/2021</u> Ramirez – Yea</p> <p><u>“Lawmakers pass follow-up criminal justice bill addressing police concerns,” Capitol News Illinois, 6/2/2021</u></p> <p>Unlike the SAFE-T Act , Sims’ new legislation has the support of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the Illinois State Police and amends some controversial portions of the act that were opposed by law enforcement.</p> <p>In a statement posted to its website, the IACP approved of the amendment’s changes relaxing rules around body cameras, removing some use-of-force restriction language and extending deadlines for new training standards.</p>