



## **Honorable Luis G. Fortuño Buset**

Governor of Puerto Rico

Since taking office in January of 2009, Governor Luis Fortuño's top priority has been to revitalize Puerto Rico's economy by putting the government's fiscal house in order and pushing forward a series of major reforms and state-of-the-art infrastructure projects that support sustained economic growth.

Among his achievements during the first two years of his drive to propel Puerto Rico's economic rebound, Fortuño saved the island's credit rating on Wall Street. In 2010, Puerto Rico received the highest credit rating increase of any other state or territory in the Nation. In recognition of the effectiveness of his policies, in November of 2010 the island also received its first positive credit outlook in nearly three decades.

Under Fortuño's leadership, Puerto Rico right-sized its government and reined in previously out of control deficit spending. In two years, Fortuño reduced the budget deficit he inherited more than any other Governor in the Nation.

As a result of his fiscally responsible policies, in 2010 Fortuño also presented legislation implementing the biggest tax cut in Puerto Rico's history. Thanks to Fortuño's tax cuts, the tax burden on individuals in Puerto Rico will be reduced by an average of 50 percent, and the tax burden on businesses by 30 percent.

Governor Fortuño's peers recognize him as a leader among leaders. He is President-elect of the Council of State Governments and Second Vice President of the Southern Governors Association. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Center for Best Practices of the National Governors Association, as well as the President's Bipartisan Council of Governors.

Prior to his election as Governor, Fortuño represented the people of Puerto Rico in Congress, as their sole elected representative to the Nation's highest legislative body. During his four years in Congress, Fortuño championed both fiscally and socially conservative policies. He also successfully advocated on behalf of more equitable treatment for Puerto Rico in federal programs, including securing Puerto Rico's first increase in Medicaid funding in over nine years.

From 1994 to 1997, Fortuño served as Puerto Rico's Secretary of Economic Development and Commerce. He also simultaneously served as Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Tourism Company and President of the Hotel Development Corporation. In those capacities, Fortuño spearheaded the adoption of the Uniform Commercial Code, the revamping of Puerto Rico's General Corporations Law and an aggressive investment package to grow the island's tourism industry.

Governor Fortuño was born and raised in the capital city of San Juan, the oldest city under the American flag. He earned his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and obtained his Juris Doctor (JD) at the University of Virginia School of Law. He and his wife, attorney Lucé Vela, are the proud parents of triplets María Luisa, Guillermo Luis and Luis Roberto.