

State Senator Rene Garcia is the son of Cuban exiles, who was born and raised in the City of Hialeah. Senator Garcia is a Florida International University alumnus, obtaining his bachelor's degree in Political Science and completed a master's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Health Policy and Management from the University of Miami.

He was first elected to the City of Hialeah Council in 1997. In 2000, Senator Garcia was elected to the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate in 2010. Throughout his years of public service, he has been a relentless advocate for children, elderly, the disabled and veterans, working tirelessly to ensure all Floridians have access to quality healthcare. As former Chair of the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee in the Florida Senate and Chair of Health Policy in the Florida House of Representatives, he's gained a unique perspective and understanding of the interrelationship of policy and appropriations.

He started his professional career working for CAC Care Plus (A Medicare HMO) as Director of Community Affairs, where he served as patient advocate for the health plans. Subsequently, after obtaining his MBA, he completed an Administrative Fellowship at Cedars Hospital. During his fellowship program, he gained the knowledge and experience about the management of the day-to-day operations of a major hospital with over four-hundred beds in South Florida. In his role, he worked collaboratively with Cedars' medical staff and administrative personnel to ensure patients were receiving the highest quality of care and services. After completing his Fellowship at Cedars, he went on to work at Mercy Hospital as Senior Vice President of External Affairs, overseeing the hospital's marketing and public relations department. Currently, he works as Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations at New Century Partnership, a firm he co-founded, that specializes in healthcare services management, business development and compliance.

Senator Garcia has come full circle in his political and professional career, ending his tenure in the Florida Legislature, serving as Chair of the Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee. Throughout his career, he's been consistent with the same message, **government should be the voice for the voiceless**. In 2020, Senator Rene Garcia was elected to the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners where he serves as a Commissioner for District 13.