



# National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

## Member Organizations

*American G.I. Forum*

*ASPIRA Association*

*AVANCE, Inc.*

*Casa de Esperanza*

*Cuban American National Council*

*Farmworkers Justice*

*Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities*

*Hispanic Federation*

*Hispanic National Bar Association*

*Labor Council for Latin American Advancement*

*Latino Justice PLDEF*

*League of United Latin American Citizens*

*MANA, A National Latina Organization*

*Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund*

*National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities*

*National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives*

*National Association of Hispanic Publications*

*NALEO Educational Fund*

*National Association of Latino Independent Producers*

*National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.*

*National Council of La Raza*

*National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators*

*National Hispana Leadership Institute*

*National Hispanic Council on Aging*

*National Hispanic Environmental Council*

*National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts*

*National Hispanic Medical Association*

*National Hispanic Media Coalition*

*National Institute for Latino Policy*

*National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health*

*National Puerto Rican Coalition*

*SER Jobs for Progress – National*

*Southwest Voter Registration Education Project*

*United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*

*United States Hispanic Leadership Institute*

July 15, 2013

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid  
The United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell  
The United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear United States Senators,

We, the undersigned Latino organizations, write to respectfully urge you to vote in support of Thomas E. Perez's confirmation as the next Secretary of the Department of Labor.

Just as we take pride in the prospect of Thomas Perez' history-making confirmation as the first Dominican American to a Cabinet-level post, we are also proud to support such an exceptionally qualified individual. He has served the public at the county, state and federal levels -- a unique combination of experience that will enable him to make Labor Department policies work effectively for local communities.

- At the local level, from 2002 to 2006, Mr. Perez was the first Latino ever elected to the Montgomery County Council in Maryland and served as Council President in 2005, where he was an energetic and innovative leader on behalf of the county's working and middle class families.
- Throughout his career he has worked in a bipartisan manner, bringing different sides together dating back to his time as Special Counsel for the late Senator Edward Kennedy, when he worked with Senators Hatch and Faircloth while serving as Senator Kennedy's principal adviser on civil rights, criminal justice and constitutional issues.
- Mr. Perez's work with business and labor communities as Maryland's Secretary of Labor has earned him accolades from the Maryland Chamber of Commerce and the state's largest employers. In this role, Mr. Perez led proactive and reasonable responses to the impending national economic crisis and created a culture of thoughtful and common sense governance.
- As Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, he has stood up for our community, and those who face discrimination, by increasing the Justice Department's productivity in taking on voting rights, hate crimes, human trafficking and racial profiling cases. He achieved record settlements for victims of unfair lending practices and for people with disabilities so that they can be integrated into their communities. He has also been a strong defender of veterans' rights to civilian employment and the rights of students to a school environment free from bullying and harassment.

- Earlier in his career, Mr. Perez spent 12 years in federal public service, mostly as a career attorney with the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division where he moved up the ranks to serve as Deputy Assistant Attorney General and as Assistant Attorney General. He also spent two years as the Director of the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Human Services.
- To help support the next generation of attorneys and public servants, Mr. Perez worked as a law professor for six years at the University of Maryland School of Law and as a part-time professor at the George Washington School of Public Health.

In March of 2009, Thomas Perez was confirmed for his most recent post as Assistant Attorney General at the Department of Justice by a bipartisan 72-22 vote. Now, in 2013, we ask you to join your colleagues in ensuring strong bipartisan support for Thomas Perez's confirmation as the nation's next Secretary of Labor.

Sincerely,

1. *The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda*
2. *American G.I. Forum*
3. *Arizona LULAC Educational Council (AZ)*
4. *ASPIRA Association*
5. *AVANCE, Inc.*
6. *Care for Your Health (MD)*
7. *Casa de Esperanza*
8. *CASA de Maryland (MD)*
9. *CATA - The Farmworker Support Committee (NJ)*
10. *Causa of Oregon (OR)*
11. *Colorado Latino Forum (CO)*
12. *Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association (CT)*
13. *Cuban American National Council*
14. *Dominican American Empowerment Council (FL)*
15. *Dominican American National Roundtable*
16. *Dominican Students Association of the City College of New York (NY)*
17. *Dominican Bar Association*
18. *El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (TX)*
19. *Farmworker Association of Florida (FL)*
20. *Farmworkers Justice*
21. *Harvest America (KS)*
22. *Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities*
23. *Hispanic Coalition, Corp. (FL)*
24. *Hispanic Federation*
25. *Hispanic National Bar Association*
26. *Hispanic National Bar Association, Region II (NY)*
27. *Hispanic Political Action Committee (NJ)*
28. *Labor Council for Latin American Advancement*
29. *Latino Giant*
30. *Latino Justice PRLDEF*
31. *Latinos for a Secure Retirement*
32. *Lawrence Worker Justice Coalition*
33. *League of United Latin American Citizens*
34. *MANA, A National Latina Organization*

35. *Mattos Law Office (MN)*
36. *Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund*
37. *MomsRising.org*
38. *National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities*
39. *National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives*
40. *National Association of Hispanic Publications*
41. *National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund*
42. *National Association of Latino Independent Producers*
43. *National Coalition on Black Civic Participation*
44. *National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.*
45. *National Council of La Raza*
46. *National Dominican Student Conference (NDSC)*
47. *National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators*
48. *National Hispana Leadership Institute*
49. *National Hispanic Council on Aging*
50. *National Hispanic Environmental Council*
51. *National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts*
52. *National Hispanic Medical Association*
53. *National Hispanic Media Coalition*
54. *National Institute for Latino Policy*
55. *National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health*
56. *National Latino Coalition on Climate Change*
57. *National Puerto Rican Coalition*
58. *New Latino Movement*
59. *Northern Bridge Equity Fund (MD)*
60. *Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste/Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United (OR)*
61. *Puerto Rican Bar Association, Inc.*
62. *The Roosevelt Institute Campus Network at City College of New York (NY)*
63. *SER Jobs for Progress – National, Inc.*
64. *Southwest Voter Registration Education Project*
65. *UMOS (WI)*
66. *UNIDAD of Miami Beach, Inc. (FL)*
67. *United Farm Workers*
68. *United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
69. *United States Hispanic Leadership Institute*
70. *WesQuisqueya ~ Dominican Student Association at Wesleyan University (CT)*