

# **National Hispanic Leadership Agenda**

March 11, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
Capitol Building, S-230  
Washington, DC 20510-7010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Minority Leader  
Capitol Building, S-221  
Washington, DC 20510-7020

## **Re: NHLA Support for John King for Secretary of U.S. Department of Education**

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Reid:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of 40 leading national Latino nonpartisan civil rights and advocacy organizations, we write to urge you to support John King for Secretary of Education.

Latino children make up over twenty-five percent of all public school students in the United States, underscoring the need for leadership reflective of the changing demographics of our country. As a Latino and African American, Mr. King would bring an important perspective to the role of Secretary of Education. Having started his career teaching high school civics in Puerto Rico, Mr. King understands the diverse educational experiences in America, and the necessity for the Department of Education to meet the needs of all American children.

Furthermore, we owe it to our country's 50.1 million public school students to confirm the most qualified individual to take the helm of leadership and we believe that Mr. King is exceptionally qualified for the position of Secretary of Education. He is an attorney with a J.D. from Yale Law School and has a doctorate in Education from Columbia University. He has spent the last year as the Principal Senior Advisor to former Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, and before that was the Commissioner of Education in New York.

NHLA strongly supports the nomination of John King as the next Secretary of Education, and urges your vote to confirm. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Teresa Acuña, NHLA's Director of Policy and Leadership Programs at (202) 508-6919 or [teresa@nationalhispanicleadership.org](mailto:teresa@nationalhispanicleadership.org).

Sincerely,



Hector Sanchez  
Chair, NHLA  
Executive Director, LCLAA



Thomas A. Saenz  
Vice-Chair, NHLA  
President and General Counsel, MALDEF

cc: Members of the United States Senate

## **MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

Alianza Americas  
American G.I. Forum  
ASPIRA Association  
Avance Inc.  
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network  
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute  
Cuban American National Council  
Farmworker Justice  
Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities  
Hispanic Federation  
Hispanic National Bar Association  
Inter-University Program for Latino Research  
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement  
Latino Justice PRLDEF  
League of United Latin American Citizens  
MANA, A National Latina Organization  
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund  
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 Hispana Leadership Institute  
National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators  
National Hispanic Council on Aging  
National Hispanic Environmental Council  
National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts  
National Hispanic Media Coalition  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Institute for Latino Policy  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National Puerto Rican Coalition  
Presente.org  
SER Jobs for Progress National  
Southwest Voter Registration Education Project  
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute  
United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce  
U.S.- Mexico Foundation