

National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

October 18, 2017

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA)—the coalition of the nation's 45 preeminent Latino advocacy organizations in the United States—we **urge you to oppose S. Con. Res. 25, which will be considered as an amendment to House budget resolution H Con. Res. 71. NHLA will closely monitor votes on the House budget resolution, as amended by S. Con. Res. 25, for inclusion in future NHLA scorecards evaluating Senators' support for the Latino community.**

The resolution jeopardizes the basic living standards of millions of hardworking individuals and families by slashing funding for crucial programs to subsidize tax cuts for wealthy individuals and large corporations. With \$5.8 trillion in cuts to public services and investments, non-defense discretionary spending and health care, working families—our nation's economic engine—will find it harder to make ends meet.

NHLA believes that wise investments in programs can position Latinos to make contributions that strengthen our nation's economy. Rather than seek to bolster opportunities for working families to attain the American Dream, the House budget resolution, as amended by S. Con. Res. 25, undermines the progress our country has made by prioritizing corporate interests over those of hardworking American families. If offset by entitlement cuts, the budget resolution could exceed \$1.5 trillion in deficit-increasing tax cuts that would tilt the playing field even more towards the top. Specifically, the top one percent of Americans would receive 80 percent of proposed tax cuts. The Senate budget resolution would pay for these by cutting:

- Over \$1.8 trillion from Medicaid, Medicare, the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) subsidies for health insurance, and other related health programs, impacting 18 million Latinos who obtain health insurance through Medicaid;
- \$700-900 billion from income security programs, including nutrition assistance, refundable portions of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); and
- \$40 billion from taxpaying families, by stripping eligibility for the CTC—a refundable tax credit for low-income workers with children—from immigrants who pay taxes but do not have a Social Security number, harming the livelihood of over 4 million U.S. citizen children.

From nutrition and rental assistance to refundable tax credits, these federal programs keep millions of Latinos out of poverty and help provide basic living standards for Americans struggling to put food on their tables and a roof over their heads.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alianza Americas
American G.I. Forum
ASPIRA Association
Avance Inc.
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
Farmworker Justice
Green Latinos
Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
Hispanic Federation
Hispanic National Bar Association
Inter-University Program for Latino Research
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
LatinoJustice PRLDEF
League of United Latin American Citizens
MANA, A National Latina Organization
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
Mi Familia Vota
National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures
National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives
National Association of Hispanic Publications
National Day Laborer Organizing Network
NALEO Educational Fund
National Association of Latino Independent Producers
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
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/o Psychological Association
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
Presente.org
SER Jobs for Progress National
Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
UnidosUS
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
U.S.- Mexico Foundation
Voto Latino

Recent research by UnidosUS (formerly NCLR) provides evidence of the strong anti-poverty impact of these federal programs and shows that, in 2015:

- The EITC lifted about 2.7 million Latinos out of poverty, including 1.4 million children;
- The CTC lifted an estimated 981,000 Latinos out of poverty, including 560,000 children;
- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) lifted an estimated 1.3 million Latinos out of poverty, including 640,000 children;
- Rental assistance lifted about 720,000 Latinos out of poverty, including 270,000 children; and
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) lifted an estimated 630,000 Latinos out of poverty, including 140,000 children.

The budget resolution would disproportionately benefit the wealthy and corporations at the expense of American workers and families. NHLA strongly urges you to oppose the budget resolution and instead work together to create a budget that will defend the interests of the American people and create economic prosperity not only for the wealthy and corporations, but for all Americans.

If you have any questions regarding NHLA's position on the House budget resolution, as amended by S. Con. Res. 25, please do not hesitate to contact NHLA through Renato Rocha at rocha@unidosus.org.

Sincerely,



Hector E. Sanchez
Executive Director, Labor Council for Latin
American Advancement (LCLAA)
Chair, NHLA



Bruce Goldstein
President, Farmworker Justice
Co-Chair, NHLA
Economic Empowerment and Labor Committee



Eric Rodriguez
Vice President, UnidosUS
Co-Chair, NHLA Economic Empowerment and Labor Committee