

February 10, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

CC: Jeff Zients, White House Chief of Staff

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the country's Hispanic community, we urge you to nominate a person of Latino descent to the Federal Communications Commission. Our organizations, which represent a wide and influential variety of interests, are united in the knowledge that such a move is long overdue and increasingly urgent. Nominating a Latino to the FCC would be a powerful sign of your commitment to our community – and your desire to strengthen our impact on American life for decades to come.

It has been 21 years since a Hispanic last served on the FCC. When Gloria Tristani left the Commission in 2001, Hispanics hoped that she would be swiftly replaced with another member of our community, reflecting our rapidly growing population and power in the United States. Instead, more than two decades later, Hispanics still lack an authentic voice in this crucial federal body. Today, more than 62 million Americans of Hispanic and Latino descent are largely being left out of some of the most important policy decisions in the country. It's long past time to right this wrong.

A Latino voice at the FCC would make a real and lasting difference for our community. The FCC would be more likely to champion equitable language access, as well as Hispanic and multicultural content creators, who deserve equal treatment with larger companies. The FCC would also be more likely to enact broadband infrastructure policies that make it easier to expand into un- and under-served areas, especially in rural parts of the country. That would give Latinos more and better access to opportunities in education, employment, health care, and beyond.

Put simply, a Latino FCC Commissioner would help ensure that Latinos can fully participate in and contribute to America's future – socially, economically, and politically.

As President, you have already shown a strong commitment to the Latino community. Nominating a Latino leader to the Federal Communications Commission would perhaps be your most powerful sign yet, while ending the more than two-decade absence of Latino leadership in this pivotal institution.

We, the undersigned, urge you to make this move as soon as possible, for the benefit of every Latino who calls our country home.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Hinojosa, President and CEO, MANA, A National Latina Organization
Lawrence Romo, National Legislative Chairman, American GI Forum of the US
Raul "Danny" Vargas, Founder, Chairman and CEO, American Latino Veterans Association

Patti Tototzintle, President and CEO, Esperanza United (formerly Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network)

Mark Magaña, Founding President and CEO, GreenLatinos

Pamela Anne Quiroz, Executive Director, Inter University Program on Latino Research

Lupi Quinteros-Grady, President and CEO, Latin American Youth Center

Alfredo Estrada, Publisher, LATINO Magazine

CiCi Rojas, President, The Latino Coalition

Domingo Garcia, National President, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Elaine Coronado and Rita Jaramillo, Co-Founders, Leonas

Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund)

Hector Sanchez Barba, Executive Director and CEO, Mi Familia Vota

Al Gallegos, National President, National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives

Brenda Victoria Castillo, President and CEO, National Hispanic Media Coalition

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, MACP, President & CEO, National Hispanic Medical Association

Ignacio Salazar, CEO and President, SER Jobs for Progress National Inc.

Ramiro A. Cavazos, President and CEO, United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Juan Andrade, Jr., President, United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

Maria Teresa Kumar, President and CEO, Voto Latino

Rosa Mendoza, President and CEO, Allvanza