



NALEO NEWS

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials

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NALEO URGES SWIFT SENATE CONFIRMATION OF LABOR SECRETARY-DESIGNATE HILDA L. SOLIS

With dire economic climate, America needs leadership of Solis at Labor Department

LOS ANGELES – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), the leadership organization representing the nation’s more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials, today issued the following statement urging the United States Senate to vote on the confirmation of Labor Secretary-Designate Hilda L. Solis:

“The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) today is calling for the United States Senate to act swiftly to confirm Labor Secretary-Designate Hilda Solis.”

“At a time when our national economic situation requires the federal government to fully focus on America’s workers and economy, it is imperative that Labor Secretary-Designate Solis be confirmed so that we can begin to find solutions to these issues. Our own polls and dialogue with the Latino community echoes what an overwhelming majority of Americans say: Fixing our economy should be the top priority for Congress. Our country cannot afford for the Labor Secretary position to remain vacant when a successful economic recovery plan requires the collaborative efforts of the entire Cabinet, particularly the Labor Secretary.”

“The 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials of NALEO recognize the urgency that the Secretary-Designate’s nomination requires as the communities which they represent are in dire economic straits. While the national unemployment rate is 7.2%, unemployment among Latinos exceeds 9% nationally and is significantly higher in some areas. As Congress negotiates an economic recovery plan for the country, it is imperative that the Secretary of Labor be involved in those very negotiations.”

“It is clear to us that in President Obama’s inspired choice of Hilda Solis as his Secretary of Labor, he chose a person dedicated to working with both parties to rebuild our middle class and ensure that workers’ rights are protected. Labor Secretary-Designate Solis is eminently qualified to defend and protect the needs and rights of America’s workers throughout the country and is ready to do so now. Her confirmation will demonstrate the tremendous leadership role that Latino leaders are ready to offer our nation. We strongly urge the United States Senate to confirm Labor Secretary-Designate Solis immediately.”

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About NALEO

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) is the leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.