



CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

117th Congress

February 10, 2021

LEADERSHIP

Rep. Raul Ruiz, M.D. (CA-36)
Chair

Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán (CA-44)
First Vice-Chair

Rep. Adriano Espaillat (NY-13)
Second Vice-Chair

Rep. Darren Soto (FL-09)
Whip

Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (NM-3)
Freshman Representative

MEMBERS

- Rep. Pete Aguilar (CA-31)
- Rep. Salud Carbajal (CA-24)
- Rep. Tony Cárdenas (CA-29)
- Rep. Joaquin Castro (TX-20)
- Rep. Lou Correa (CA-46)
- Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)
- Rep. Jim Costa (CA-16)
- Rep. Henry Cuellar (TX-28)
- Rep. Antonio Delgado (NY-19)
- Rep. Veronica Escobar (TX-16)
- Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-07)
- Rep. Sylvia R. Garcia (TX-29)
- Rep. Jesús G. "Chuy" García (IL-04)
- Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34)
- Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (TX-15)
- Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (AZ-03)
- Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49)
- Sen. Ben Ray Luján (NM)
- Sen. Bob Menendez (NJ)
- Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (CA-32)
- Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14)
- Sen. Alex Padilla (CA)
- Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40)
- Rep. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (MP)
- Rep. Linda T. Sánchez (CA-38)
- Rep. Michael F.Q. San Nicolas (Guam)
- Rep. Albio Sires (NJ-08)
- Rep. Norma J. Torres (CA-35)
- Rep. Ritchie Torres (NY-15)
- Rep. Lori Trahan (MA-03)
- Rep. Juan Vargas (CA-51)
- Rep. Filemon Vela (TX-34)
- Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez (NY-07)

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

We are eager to work to restore professionalism and humanity in our immigration system. In the last few days before your confirmation, we received reports there was an uptick in deportations and we were alarmed to hear that some individuals may not have been afforded due process prior to their planned deportations. We urge you to immediately suspend efforts to deport these individuals and ensure that they receive a full opportunity to have their claims for relief heard.

On January 20, 2021, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a memorandum setting forth interim enforcement priorities, pending a full review of Department policies and practices on immigration enforcement. The interim enforcement priorities went into effect on February 1, 2021. Those priorities include individuals who (1) present a threat to national security; (2) were apprehended while attempting to enter without inspection after November 1, 2020 or who were not physically present in the United States on November 1; or (3) were convicted of an aggravated felony and present a threat to public safety.

We understand that a recent court ruling has blocked the “Immediate 100-Day Pause on Removals” articulated in section C of that memorandum. Therefore, to the extent that the Department is proceeding with current and future planned removal of individuals, we urge you to adhere to these interim enforcement priorities until revised priorities are developed and implemented.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Chair

Nanette Diaz Barragán
First Vice-Chair

Adriano Espaillat
Second Vice-Chair

Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” García
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress

Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress