



CHC Lower Costs, Grow Opportunity Agenda

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) is proud to adopt the Lower Costs, Grow Opportunity Agenda as its unified economic platform. This framework reflects a simple but urgent reality: Hispanic families and working families across the country are being squeezed from every direction. Rising tariffs are driving up the cost of everyday essentials, making groceries, housing materials, household goods, and energy more expensive at a time when families are already struggling to keep up. Combined with rising costs for health care and child care, these pressures are outpacing wages and placing enormous strain on household budgets. At the same time, immigration policy uncertainty and workforce barriers continue to suppress opportunity, destabilize families, and weaken the broader economy. Informed by the UnidosUS Economic Prosperity Agenda, this framework focuses on delivering immediate cost relief while expanding long-term economic opportunity for Latinos.

Groceries & Everyday Costs

The CHC supports policies that lower the price of groceries, increase take-home pay, end illegal tariffs, and strengthen tax credits so families can afford basic necessities. Low-income Latino families in the U.S. often face high food insecurity, with some spending roughly 33% of their monthly income on groceries. Rising food prices and inflation create severe food insecurity for about 1 in 6 Hispanics, who are 2.5 times more likely to face this challenge than other groups. Moreover, immigrant workers are central to the food supply chain, from agriculture to processing to retail, and immigration instability drives labor shortages and price pressure. An immigration system with work authorization pathways is therefore essential to stabilizing food costs and strengthening household purchasing power.

Energy Costs

The CHC supports targeted investments and consumer protections that lower household energy costs, expand access to energy assistance programs, and protect families from price spikes. An alarming 27 percent of Hispanic households have high energy burdens with 1 in 5 households spending more than 6% or more on energy bills. Reducing monthly utility bills is one of the fastest ways to put money back in people's pockets.

Housing Affordability

The CHC is committed to expanding housing vouchers, lowering rent, increasing the supply of affordable housing, and improving access to homeownership. The Latino homeownership rate stands at 49% — a record 9.8 million households — but still 23.7 percentage points below the white non-Hispanic rate of 72.7%. Hispanic families who own their homes have 26.4 times the net worth of those who rent. Latinos are projected to represent 70% of all net new U.S. homeowners by 2040. At the same time, mixed-status families face barriers to credit, assistance, and long-term stability, requiring housing policy that reflects the realities of immigrant-driven population growth. Housing policy is Latino economic policy.

Health Care Costs

The CHC supports lowering out-of-pocket costs, expanding coverage, and strengthening programs that reduce the cost of prescription drugs and care. Latino marketplace enrollment grew 185% from 2020 to 2025. One in two Latino children were excluded from the full Child Tax Credit before the American Rescue Plan expansion — the highest exclusion rate of any ethnic group. The expanded credit cut the supplemental Latino child poverty rate from 20% to 8% in a single year. Moreover, immigrant families are more likely to face coverage gaps due to eligibility restrictions and fear-based under-enrollment, while immigrant health care workers are essential to addressing workforce shortages. Expanding access and aligning immigration policy with health care labor needs are both critical to lowering system-wide costs.

The CHC's Lower Costs, Grow Opportunity Agenda affirms that economic stability, wage growth, and immigration reform are the same fight, and must be treated as such.

Legislative Map: Over 100 CHC-led Bills Delivering Cost Relief and Expanding Opportunity

Groceries & Everyday Costs

- H.R.2974 – Training and Nutrition Stability (Espaillat)
- H.R.1589 – American Dream and Promise Act of 2025 (Sylvia Garcia)
- H.R.5168 – Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act (Hernández)
- H.R.2800 – Boost the Middle Class Act (Vasquez)
- H.R.4666 – Baby Clothing Tax Relief Act (Gomez)
- H.R.4640 – Stop AI Price Gouging and Wage Fixing Act (Casar)
- H.R.5226 – Deceptive Downsizing Prohibition Act (Correa)
- H.R.2402 – No Hungry Kids in Schools Act (Aguilar)
- H.R.5840 – Feed the Community Act (Barragán)
- H.R.5675 – Degrees Not Debt Act (Carbajal)
- H.R.1826 – Child Care Workforce Act (Carbajal)
- H.R.2804 – Protecting Small Business Competitions Act (Velázquez)
- H.R.5867 – Plant-Powered School Meals Pilot Act (Velázquez)
- H.R.7032 – Pay Paraprofessionals and Support Staff Act (Chuy Garcia)
- H.R.1509 – Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act (Trahan)
- H.R.1697 – Child Tax Credit Relief for Puerto Rican Families Act (Hernández)
- H.R.6479 – Puerto Rico ACA Exchange Act (Soto)
- H.R.6237 – Repairing Social Security Act (Norma Torres)
- H.R.3374 – Pink Tax Repeal Act (Norma Torres)
- H.R.3911 – Choose Medicare Act (Gomez)
- H.R.6354 – Cut the Burden, Keep the Benefits Act (Cisneros)
- H.R.7154 – Streamlining Small Business Contracts Act (Cisneros)
- H.R.7774 – FERRIES Act (Randall)
- H.R. 6077 – Healthcare Education in AI Literacy Act (Barragán)
- H.R.7917 - Fair Wages for Home Care Workers Act (Ocasio-Cortez)
- H.R.6406 – Parental Workforce Training Act (Menendez)
- H.R.2949 – Working Families Task Force Act of 2025 (Menendez)
- H.R.4318 – Head Start for Our Future Act (Castro)
- H.R.7865 – American Consumer Tariff Rebate Act of 2026 (Cuellar)
- H.Con.Res.56 – Recognizing the significance of equal pay and the disparity in wages paid to Latina women in comparison to White, non-Hispanic men (Leger Fernandez)
- H.R.5774 – Every Child Deserves a Head Start Act of 2025 (Leger Fernandez)
- H.R.1788 – Fair Grocery Pricing Act (Frost)
- H.R.2710 – People Over Parking Act of 2025 (Robert Garcia)
- H.R.1164 – Fair Disaster Assistance Act of 2025 (Robert Garcia)
- H.R.7828 – Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act of 2026 (Grijalva)
- H.R.6010 – Enhanced Premium Tax Credit bill (Liccardo)
- H.R.7986 – Save the World Cup Act (Pou)
- H.R.6224 – Servicemember Student Loan Affordability Act of 2025 (Ramirez)
- S.3780 – Give America a Raise Act (Gallego)
- S.4101 – Grocery, Farm, and Food Worker Protection Act of 2026 (Luján)
- S.3892 – Stop Price Gouging in Grocery Stores Act of 2026 (Luján)
- S.3281 – Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025 (Luján)
- S.3071 – Keep SNAP and WIC Funded Act of 2025 (Luján)
- S.1948 – POST GRAD Act (Padilla)
- HR 5351- NSF AI Education Act (Salinas)
- HR 3784- Farmers Feeding America Act of 2025 (Salinas)
- HR 4347- SNAP E&T Data and Technical Assistance (DATA) (Salinas)
- HR 3254- Disaster Relief for Farm Workers Act (Salinas)
- H.R. 2496 - The Dairy Nutrition Incentive Program Act (DNIPA) (Costa)
- H.R. 5227 - Unleashing Low-Cost Rural AI Act (Costa)
- H.R.3217 – Stop Child Hunger Act (Levin)

- H.R.7259 – Military Dependents School Meal Eligibility Act (Levin)

Energy Costs

- H.R.6851 – Lowering American Energy Costs Act (Espaillat)
- H.R.2714 – Puerto Rico Energy Generation Crisis Task Force Act (Hernández)
- H.R.6983 – PRICE Act (Menendez)
- H.R.7977 – Energy Bills Relief Act (Levin)
- S.3722 – Lowering Home Energy Costs Act (Cortez Masto)
- S.2182 – Community Solar Consumer Choice Act (Luján)
- H.R.7080 – Waste Heat to Wattage Act (Vasquez)
- H.R. 6615 – Climate Justice Grants Act (Barragán)
- H.R. 1449 – Energy Resilient Communities Act (Barragán)
- H.R. 5673 – Stop the Trump Electricity Price Hikes Act (Barragán)
- H.R. 5964 – Integrated Resource Planning Modernization Act (Leger Fernandez)
- H.R.8439 - Commission on Natural Disaster Risk Management and Insurance Act (Carbajal)

Housing Affordability

- H.R.4874 – Affordable Housing Resident Services Act (Aguilar)
- H.R.8047 – Manufactured Home Communities Ownership Act (Frost)
- H.R.3964 – Affordable Housing Equity Act (Gomez)
- H.R. 3472 - Housing Stability for Dreamers Act (Vargas)
- H.R.4369 – End Tenant Credit Screening Act (Frost)
- H.R.4100 – End Junk Fees for Renters Act (Frost)
- H.R.5728 – Rural Homeownership Continuity Act (Costa)
- H.R.7647 – MORE Homeownership Act (Gonzalez)
- H.R.1791 – Credit Union Lending for Business Growth Act (Gonzalez)
- H.R.7556 – Pensions for All Act (Ramirez)
- H.R.7584 – Multigenerational Family Tax Credit Act (Rivas)
- H.R.1696 – Puerto Rico Low-Income Housing Support Act (Hernández)
- H.R.6390 – Make Housing Affordable and Defend Democracy Act (Gomez)
- H.R.4575 – Jobs in the Woods Act (Gluesenkamp Perez)
- H.R.5363 – Expanding Childcare in Rural America Act (Gluesenkamp Perez)
- H.R.1889 – Child Care Red Tape Act (Gluesenkamp Perez)
- H.R.4969 – Keep Mobile Homes Affordable Act (Vasquez)
- H.R.4003 – Border Economic Opportunity Act (Vasquez)
- H.R.2236 – Healthy Foods for Native Seniors Act (Vasquez)
- H.R.7344 – Affordable Housing Supply Chain Clarity Act (Sylvia Garcia)
- H.R.6772 – Housing Construction Standards Study Act (Sylvia Garcia)
- H.R.6477 – Housing to Homes Act (Salinas)
- H.R.5529 – Fair Housing for Disabled Veterans Act (Sánchez)
- H.R.5591 – RESIDE Act (Liccardo)
- H.R.1477 – Housing for All Act (Padilla)
- H.R.1415 – Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act (Padilla)
- H.R.7374 – Housing Without Fear Act (Rivas)
- H.R.7057 – Returning Home Act (Barragán)
- H.R.7152 – Yes in God’s Backyard Act (Barragán)
- H.R.2064 – Home of Your Own Act of 2025 (Leger Fernandez)
- H.R.4023 - American Dream for All Act (Carbajal)
- H.R.4060 – Service Member Housing Relief Act (Levin)
- H.R.4568 - Supporting Upgraded Property Projects and Lending for Yards (SUPPLY) Act (Liccardo)

Health Care Costs

- H.R.6672 – Mental Health Workforce Loan Repayment Act (Salinas)
- HR 1096- HOPE and Mental Wellbeing Act (Salinas)
- H.R.5139 – EPIPEN Act (Frost)
- H.R.5039 – Wheelchair Right to Repair Act (Frost)
- H.R.6160 – Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act (Ruiz)
- H.R.7047 – Health Care for Homeless Veterans Act (Ruiz)
- H.R.4960 – Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification 2.0 (Ruiz)
- H.R.8629 – Developing the Community Health Workforce Act (Ruiz)
- H.R.7144 – Food Rescue Act (Ritchie Torres)
- H.R.6545 – Anesthesia for All Act (Ritchie Torres)
- H.R.6455 – Health Insurance Premium Fairness Act (Levin)
- H.R.2366 – American Families United Act (Escobar)
- S.2085 – Postpartum Lifeline Act (Gallego)
- S.3221 – First Responders Medicare Buy-In Act (Gallego)
- S.3387 – One Fair Price Act (Gallego)
- S.2347 – Equal Health Care for All Act (Padilla)
- S.2446 – Mental Health for Latinos Act (Padilla)
- S.3840 – Health Investment Zones Act (Padilla)
- S.1608 – Supporting New Businesses Act (Cortez Masto)
- S.1643 – Ground Ambulance Access Act (Cortez Masto)
- S.1372 – Tax Cut for Workers Act (Cortez Masto)
- H.R. 3136 – Protect our Public Health Workforce Act (Barragán)
- H.R.6839 – Vaccine Transportation Access Act (Barragán)
- H.R.1901 – Children’s Health Insurance Program Permanency Act or the CHIPP Act (Barragán)
- H.R. 843 – Prompt Approval of Safe Generic Drugs Act (Barragán)
- H.R.3302 – Healthy Start Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Ocasio-Cortez)
- H.R.7478 – Patient Debt Relief Act (Vasquez)
- S.1511 – Affordable Housing Bond Enhancement Act (Cortez Masto)
- S.1203 – Housing Vouchers Fairness Act (Gallego)
- S.2867 – Uplifting First-Time Homebuyers Act of 2025 (Gallego)
- H.R.6031 – Medicare Advantage Integrity Act (Hernández)
- H.R.7064 – AI in Health Care Efficiency and Study Act (Hernández)
- H.R.6030 – Puerto Rico Substance Use and Health Data Collection Act (Hernández)
- H.R.2632 – TRICARE Equality Act (Hernández)
- H.R.6030 – Puerto Rico Substance Use and Health Data Collection Act (Hernández)
- H.R. 6301 – Violence Impact and Vulnerabilities Assessment Study Act (Hernández)