



State of Connecticut
Latino and Puerto Rican
Affairs Commission

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Monday, March 18th, 2013

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
U.S. Senator
90 State House Square, 10th, Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

On behalf of the Connecticut General Assembly's Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC) we are reaching out to you seeking your counsel to ensure that your colleagues in Congress remain committed to passing Comprehensive Immigration Reform this year.

The United States of America has always been at the forefront of building this nation through the efforts of immigrants who entered this country and embraced the American dream. With the growing number of immigrants entering this country from Latin America and the Caribbean in the last decade and their rapid internal growth, it is even more imperative that any reform considered by Congress should remain grounded in equal treatment and ensure due process under the law to everyone seeking to adjust their immigration status, including seasonal farm workers, refugees and those seeking asylum. We are confident that you will also help us ensure that the immigration reforms ultimately considered by the Senate will remain grounded in civil and human rights and most importantly that you urge national leaders to seek an immediate moratorium of deportations of families that do not pose a threat to public safety.

LPRAC, for the record, is both supportive of the recommendation provided by a bipartisan group of U.S. senators that include Chuck Schumer, John McCain, Dick Durbin, Lindsey Graham, Robert Menendez, Marco Rubio, Michael Bennet, and Jeff Flake and the framework outlined by the President of the United States in his remarks to the nation about the need to create a 21st Century Immigration system earlier this year. Those basic pillars of reform are: (1) the creation of a path to earned citizenship; (2) strengthening border security; (3) crack down on employers that hire undocumented workers; & (4) a revised process which streamlines our legal immigration system. These principles, as listed herewith, are of paramount importance to the Latino community in the State of Connecticut that we at LPRAC would like to see included in forthcoming legislation.

LPRAC is a nonpartisan policy agency within the Legislative branch of government created in 1994 by an Act of the Connecticut Legislature. Under Public Act 09-07, LPRAC consists of 21 appointed volunteers who are mandated to advise the General Assembly and the Governor on policies that foster progress in the Puerto Rican and Latino communities residing in Connecticut.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please do not hesitate to reach our agency at 860-240-0097.

Sincerely,

Werner Oyanadel

Werner Oyanadel
LPRAC Acting Executive Director

Isaias Diaz

Isaias T. Diaz., Esq.,
LPRAC Chairman