



# National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

June 17, 2014

**RE: Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Hearing on the Nomination of the Honorable Julian Castro to serve as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of the 37 preeminent national Latino organizations in the country, we write to request your support in the hearing, committee vote and final nomination vote to confirm Mayor Julian Castro as the nation's next Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We also ask that this letter be included in the congressional record for Mr. Castro's nomination hearing on June 17, 2014.

We are confident Mayor Castro will bring a wealth of knowledge to this position. As a three-term mayor of America's seventh largest city, San Antonio, Texas, he is armed with the experience of leading urban-core revitalization, economic growth, and education reform. He is a natural fit to lead a department that is central to serving all Americans with a variety of housing needs -- ensuring access to fair mortgages, helping in community development efforts following natural disasters, combating homelessness, especially for veterans, and a host of other issues.

We seek a swift confirmation vote to confirm Julian Castro as Secretary of HUD so he can assume his new post on the President's Cabinet, where he will become the third Latino to serve in a Cabinet-level post in the President's second term. As Secretary, Julian Castro will undoubtedly help HUD to continue to revitalize our housing market, help those who are financially prepared to own and keep their homes, and support those seek affordable housing.

We have already sent several press releases (which you can view at [nationalhispanicleadership.org/headlines](http://nationalhispanicleadership.org/headlines)) to congratulate Mayor Castro on his nomination and to show our support.

Moving forward on this nomination, it is our intent to score all votes associated with this nomination in our NHLA Congressional Scorecard on the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. The NHLA Congressional Scorecard rates members of Congress on votes taken in the House and Senate that our membership deems important to the social, economic, and political advancement and quality of life of Hispanic Americans.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Hector E. Sanchez  
Chair, National Hispanic Leadership Agenda  
Executive Director, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- American G.I. Forum
- ASPIRA Association
- Avance Inc.
- Casa de Esperanza
- Cuban American National Council
- Farmworker Justice
- Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
- Hispanic Federation
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
- Latino Justice PLDEF
- League of United Latin American Citizens
- MANA, A National Latina Organization
- Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
- National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities
- National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives
- National Association of Hispanic Publications
- NALEO Educational Fund
- National Association of Latino Independent Producers
- National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
- National Council of La Raza
- National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
- National Hispana Leadership Institute
- National Hispanic Council on Aging
- National Hispanic Environmental Council
- National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- National Hispanic Media Coalition
- National Institute for Latino Policy
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
- National Puerto Rican Coalition
- SER Jobs for Progress – National
- Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
- United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
- United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
- U.S.- Mexico Foundation