

NHLA 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



National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

December 10, 2013

Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chair
U.S. Senate Homeland Security and
Government Affairs Committee
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Tom Coburn
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Homeland Security and
Government Affairs Committee
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: United States Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee
Wednesday, December 11, 2013 Meeting**

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Coburn,

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, a coalition of the nation's 36 preeminent national Latino organizations, we write to respectfully urge your leadership in advancing to the Senate floor for confirmation the nomination of Alejandro Mayorkas as the Deputy Secretary of United States Department of Homeland Security.

It is our intent to score any votes associated with this nomination in our NHLA Congressional Scorecard on the 113th 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.

Nominated by President Barack Obama in June of this year, Mr. Mayorkas has our full support. He exemplifies the great talent pool the Latino community can offer the Executive branch and has the highest qualifications to serve the office and our nation. Once confirmed, we are confident that Mr. Mayorkas will continue his passion for public service and offer the same high level of leadership he has contributed in his leadership role as Director of the Office of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

We again offer you his qualifications:

- Nominated by President Obama in April 2009 to be Director of USCIS, he was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate in August 2009. As USCIS Director, Mayorkas was charged with overseeing the largest immigration system in the world, and is responsible for an 18,000 member workforce throughout more than 200 offices worldwide and oversees a \$3 billion annual budget.
- He served as a member of O'Melveny & Myers' worldwide governing Policy Committee and as Chair of the firm's Values Awards Committee and the Warren Christopher Scholarship Committee. In 2008, the National Law Journal recognized Mayorkas as one of the "50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America."
- In 1998, Senator Dianne Feinstein recommended Mayorkas to be the United States Attorney for the Central District of California. Nominated by President Clinton and

confirmed by the United States Senate, he became the youngest U.S. Attorney to serve the nation at that time. Mayorkas led an office of 240 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and oversaw the prosecution of cases of national and international significance. He served as the Vice-Chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Civil Rights and as a member of the Subcommittee on Ethics in Government.

- From 1989 to 1998, Mayorkas served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California. Between 1996 and 1998, he additionally served as Chief of the Office's General Crimes Section overseeing the training and trial work of new Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the Criminal Division. Throughout his twelve years as a federal prosecutor, Mayorkas received numerous awards and commendations from federal and local law enforcement officials and agencies.

With the Latino community continuing to be at the center of the historic policy debate around immigration reform, this Administration and Congress cannot afford to be without the unique perspective and voice of Latinos in the Department of Homeland Security and at the highest levels of government.

We urge you to move beyond partisan politics in your consideration of an exceptionally qualified nominee and vote to confirm Alejandro Mayorkas as the next Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

Sincerely,



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



Brent Wilkes
Vice-Chair, National Hispanic Leadership Agenda
National Executive Director, League of United Latin
American Citizens

CC: Members, U.S. Senate