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- Hispanic Federation
- Hispanic National Bar Association

December 3, 2014

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Opposition to the Executive Amnesty Prevention Act of 2014 (H.R. 5759)

Dear Representative:

We write on behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of 39 leading national Latino nonpartisan civil rights and advocacy organizations, to urge you to vote against H.R. 5759, the Executive Amnesty Prevention Act of 2014, and any similar legislation that would repeal or impede the implementation of President Obama’s recent series of administrative actions to address some of the most immediate and damaging flaws in our immigration practices. Furthermore, we strongly encourage you to pass an omnibus appropriations bill that funds *all* aspects of government, including the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies charged with implementing the President’s executive actions.

NHLA’s mission calls for unity among Hispanics nationwide to provide the Latino community with greater visibility and a stronger voice in our nation’s affairs, including the pressing need to reform our nation’s badly broken immigration system. NHLA will closely monitor the result of these votes and may include votes on, or in relation to, bills seeking to restrict administrative actions regarding immigration enforcement in future NHLA congressional scorecards or other informational outreach efforts.

On November 20, 2014, President Obama announced a series of Immigration Accountability Executive Actions, which apply the Executive’s inherent constitutional and administrative authority to make changes to our nation’s immigration enforcement practices. Among these actions was an expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a program of deferred action for parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent resident children, and termination of the ineffective and counterproductive Secure Communities program. While such actions are limited in scope, they represent a critical and long overdue step to reduce some of the suffering caused by our dysfunctional immigration system.


Legislation that would impede the Administration’s ability to fully implement its Immigration Accountability Executive Actions would subject millions of individuals to potential deportation and continued exploitation. Furthermore, if enacted, this legislation would cause irreparable and disproportionate harm to Latino families, who are the primary recipients of current and future grants of deferred action. These bills would also harm the economy by perpetuating the anti-competitive deviations in the underground economy. Instead of attempting to cripple the Administration’s attempts

- Inter-University Program for Latino Research
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
- LatinoJustice PRLDEF
- 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
- Presente.org
- 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

to implement fair and humane immigration practices, Congress must work with the Administration to enact bipartisan, comprehensive, and long-lasting immigration reforms.

Please contact NHLA through Jose Magana-Salgado, of MALDEF, at jmagana-salgado@maldef.org or 202-572-0558, or Bertha Guerrero, of the Hispanic Federation, at bguerrero@hispanicfederation.org or 202-641-7186 regarding this letter. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Saenz
MALDEF, President and General Counsel
NHLA Immigration Committee Co-Chair



Jose Calderón
Hispanic Federation, President
NHLA Immigration Committee Co-Chair