

CIVIL RIGHTS

Today's obstacles to the full civic engagement of the Latino community come from both institutional and purposefully discriminatory actions. NHLA is dedicated to protecting the civil and constitutional rights of all persons within the United States.

PRINCIPAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

DEMOCRACY AND VOTING RIGHTS

- Oppose the unconstitutional attempts to restrict or end birthright citizenship.
- Amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to require pre-clearance review of election changes by historic offenders, and require pre-clearance of election changes most associated with voter discrimination, to protect against future discrimination.
- Oppose excessive documentary requirements that disenfranchise Latino citizens.
- Support same-day registration and early voting options.
- Ensure federal investigations and prosecutions of voter discrimination.
- Rein in unlimited corporate money to prevent it from distorting the democratic process.
- Expand absentee and early voting to protect higher-risk populations from COVID-19.

CENSUS

- Oppose any effort to exclude non-citizens from the total population count used to apportion congressional seats and votes in the Electoral College.
- Adequately fund the Census Bureau and support the American Community Survey.
- Ensure that the Census Bureau increases Latino representation in its workforce, enhances its engagement with Latino stakeholders, strengthens its linguistically and culturally appropriate outreach, and includes Puerto Rico in all of its data sets.
- Protect door-to-door Census data collectors from spreading COVID-19 in low-income communities that did not complete the Census online, and provide an extended time period to complete the census if necessary due to the impact of the pandemic.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND MASS IMPRISONMENT

- Reform policing to address issues of systemic racism and excessive use of force.
- Reduce the number of people in local jails, state, and federal prisons to stop the rapid spread of COVID-19 among incarcerated people.
- Require law enforcement to better report statistics on hate crimes, and require social media platforms to combat the dissemination of hate and White nationalist rhetoric.
- Adopt guidelines from the American Bar Association (ABA) on a uniform Spanish translation of Miranda rights for Spanish dominant persons.
- Restore the right to vote and access to federal financial aid to all persons regardless of convictions, and reduce the criminal bars to naturalization.
- Require ethnic and racial classifications in all relevant criminal justice data collection.
- Implement pre-trial reforms that reduce excessive bail, bonds, and civil forfeiture.
- Enact trial and sentencing reforms to diversify juries and reduce overly harsh sentences.
- Improve educational, employment, and civic engagement opportunities for the re-entry population.
- Reform juvenile justice systems to break down the school-to-prison pipeline.

JUDICIARY

- Confirm judges who have demonstrated records of preserving or expanding civil rights protections and who reflect the country's growing diversity, and improve the representation of Hispanics in the federal judiciary.
- Reject any representations that judges of Latino ancestry are somehow biased and unfit to serve on the judiciary or preside over specific cases.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

- Support the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) enforcement actions against employment discrimination.
- Update and improve the EEOC's guidance on national origin discrimination.

LANGUAGE AND INTEGRATION

- Oppose legislation to establish English as the national language and other measures that discriminate against language minorities.
- Support "English-Plus" legislation and language assistance standards for those with limited English proficiency skills receiving federally supported services.

PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND TOLERANCE IN THE MEDIA

- Promote media ownership diversity, and collect diversity data on media ownership and employment.
- Address hate speech in the media and investigate its correlation to hate crimes.