

Responses of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton for DC/ Latino Caucus Endorsement Meeting

1. Discuss what you have done or will do to work collaboratively with other elected officials on issues important to the Latino community.
 - Established the first ever Latino Congressional Council for the District of Columbia to advise and assist me on addressing Hispanic issues in Congress. (see attached release)
 - Appointed Latinos to my Federal Law Enforcement Nominating Commission, which helps me select the U.S. Attorney, federal judges, and other federal law enforcement officials in D.C.
 - Issued call for immediate injunction against Arizona law that discriminates against Hispanics. (see attached release)
 - Issued statement in support of comprehensive immigration reform at national rally in the Nation's Capital. (see attached release)
 - Wrote Police Chief Cathy Lanier opposing the use of the secure communities program. (see attached letter)
 - Signed onto a letter to President Barack Obama urging him to take leadership in passing comprehensive immigration reform this year. (see attached letter)
 - The following are my 2011 Appropriations Requests for the Latino community:
 - Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School
 - 2011- \$75,000 – School Expansion
 - GALA Hispanic Theatre
 - 2011 - \$150,000 – GALA Inc Grupo de Artistas Latinoamericanos
 - 2006 – Awarded \$39,489

Mary's Center

- 2011 - \$50,000 – Mental Health and Home Visitation Programs

National Hispanic Council on Aging

- 2011 - \$50,000 – Salud y Bienestar (Diabetes Prevention Program)

La Clinica del Pueblo

- 2011 - \$30,000 – Entre Amigas (Between Girlfriends)

Latin American Youth Center

- 2011 - \$50,000 – J.F. Cook School Project
- 2006 – Awarded \$100,000 for Youthbuild Program

Latino Student Fund

- 2011 - \$30,000 – Tutoring Program

Vida Senior Centers

- 2011 - \$188,129 – Vida Senior Centers

- Some of the major bills Congresswoman Norton has sponsored to improve conditions for the Hispanic community:
- Comprehensive Immigration Reform ASAP Act of 2009 (H.R. 4321)
- Drug Sentencing Reform and Cocaine Kingpin Trafficking Act of 2009(H.R. 265)
- Justice Integrity Act of 2009 (H.R. 1412)
- Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education Act (H.R. 1064)
- Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 (Public Law No. 111-24)
- Strengthen and Unite Communities with Civics Education and English Skills Act of 2009 (H.R. 3249)

- PRIDE Act (H.R. 3753)
- Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act (H.R. 1215)
- American Dream Act (H.R. 1751)
- Reuniting Families Act (H.R. 2709)
- Every Person Counts Act (H.R. 3855)

2. Describe what your policy agenda would be, including ways you would improve the economic and social condition of Latinos and their families, if elected.

The Hispanic community is a major part of my Congressional agenda because much of the promise and the future of our country, this region and our city depend on greater focus on this very energetic and growing population here and throughout the country. Beyond the issues referred to in my responses to questions 1 and 3, I am giving special priority to a number of issues. For example, as a member of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over the 2010 Census, I am having events and am involved in hearings to ensure an accurate Hispanic count. I will work for the renewal of Temporary Protected Status for 250,000 Hispanics. I will ensure that Hispanics are employed on the projects that I bring to D.C., including the \$3.4 billion Department of Homeland Security headquarters construction project on the St. Elizabeths Hospital campus. This project is expected to bring 38,000 construction jobs during the next eight years. I will work to secure unrestricted access to benefits by all entitled to receive them. I will seek higher education opportunities for immigrants and for the children of undocumented residents, including a greater effort by the University of the District of Columbia. I will oppose "official English" bills. I will work with our U.S. Attorney and other law enforcement officials to stop the kidnapping of relatives of my constituents, allegedly by MS-13 and other transnational organizations.

3. What is your position on D.C. implementing the secure community program, and what is your position on comprehensive immigration reform.

I am opposed to the secure communities program because it will result in the profiling of Hispanics and because it will lead to further discrimination against Hispanics in the criminal justice system. (See #1 above concerning my letter to D.C. Police Chief Cathy Lanier)

I believe that comprehensive immigration reform is the only fair and effective way to address immigration concerns in the U.S. today. I have sponsored immigration reform legislation and have written to President Obama asking him to take leadership to obtain passage of an immigration reform bill this year. (see #1 above)