



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **NALEO Calls on U.S. Senate to Oppose Nomination of U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions as Nation's Next Attorney General**

**Washington, D.C.** – In a [letter](#) issued to U.S. Senate leadership, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) announced its opposition to the nomination of U.S. Senator Jeffrey Sessions as our nation's next Attorney General:

*“On the basis of his statements and actions as a lawyer and a public official, our organization has concluded that as Attorney General, Sen. Sessions would significantly impair the federal government’s legally-mandated efforts to ensure fair treatment and equal opportunity for historically underrepresented communities.*

*“Sen. Sessions’ actions and votes over the course of his career in public service indicate that as Attorney General, he would direct the DOJ to act in ways that threaten the progress Latinos have achieved toward equality in the electoral arena and full civic participation. Sen. Sessions has expressed skepticism of the vigorous enforcement of federal anti-discrimination laws.*

*“He lauded the Supreme Court’s 2013 VRA-weakening decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* as ‘good news,’ though it has paved the way for adoption of voting law changes that have thus far impaired more than one million eligible Latino voters’ access to the ballot.*

*“Sen. Sessions’ actions and statements concerning immigration policy belie a hostility toward many members of the Latino community in the United States that is unacceptable to our organization, and that should counsel strongly against his confirmation to oversee important aspects of our justice system.*

*“Sen. Sessions advocates reduction in both authorized and unauthorized immigration, and has embraced anti-immigration organizations grounded in white nationalist beliefs. He opposes recognition of the American citizenship of every person born in our country, even though the Constitution has been understood for more than 150 years to grant equal protection and citizenship to all who are native-born.*

*“We cannot afford for our premier law enforcement agency to be led by an Attorney General who will refuse to use its power to further equality, and to advocate fair immigration policies that balance and serve the best interests of all Americans. For this reason, we urge you to reject Sen. Sessions’ nomination to this critical position.”*

To view NALEO's [letter](#) of opposition for Sen. Session's nomination as U.S. Attorney General, click [here](#).

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**About NALEO**

*The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the non-partisan leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,100 Latino elected and appointed officials.*