



NEWS RELEASE

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Lack of Latino Cabinet Member Marks Historic Step Backwards for Nation

Onus is now on President-elect Donald J. Trump to ensure Latino voices are heard given lack of Latino presence in Cabinet for first time in nearly 30 years

Washington, D.C. – One day before President-elect Donald J. Trump will be sworn in as the 45th President of the United States, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) released a statement from Executive Director Arturo Vargas regarding the lack of a Latino cabinet member in the Trump administration:

“The next time the President of the United States convenes his most senior advisors and deputies in the Cabinet Room, there will not be a single Latino voice or perspective at the table for the first time in nearly 30 years.

“The exclusion of a Latino voice in President-elect Trump’s cabinet is a historic setback for the nation. Latinos are the nation’s second largest population group, one of every four of America’s children, and the highest policy body of the country will now be void of its perspective.

“With the success of the Latino community intrinsically tied to the success of the nation, the onus is now on the President-elect to bring in the voice and perspectives of Latinos into his decision making.

“There is no shortage of talent among the deep bench of Latino qualified candidates in this country, and a Trump administration will need to ensure these individuals are able to put their skills to work for the good of the nation if we want to move America forward in the coming four years.

“More than 4000 appointments will need to be filled in the coming days and weeks, with positions ranging from Under Secretary to Deputy Secretary and on. Given the lack of a Latino voice at the highest levels of the Administration, it is more important than ever that the President-elect makes sure there is full Latino representation in every government department and agency.”

NALEO Educational Fund released a 2017 Presidential Appointments Primer that provides guidance to Latino candidates interested in serving in the Trump administration. The document is available for download [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.