



## NEWS RELEASE

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**Contact:** Amanda Bosquez, [abosquez@naleo.org](mailto:abosquez@naleo.org)  
(202) 546-2536, (361) 548-6989 (cell)

Paula Valle Castanon, [pvalle@naleo.org](mailto:pvalle@naleo.org)  
(213) 747-7606 ext. 4414, (323) 253-6431 (cell)

### **Balance of Humane Treatment of Immigrant Community and Advancement of National Security Interests Needed in Immigration Policy**

*Border wall executive actions would institute a costly and ineffective policy that is in direct opposition to immigration principles set forth by bipartisan group of Latino leaders*

**Washington, D.C.** – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) released a statement from Executive Director Arturo Vargas regarding the immigration related executive actions signed by President Donald Trump today:

“With Inauguration Day now behind us, the time has come for President Donald Trump to govern responsibly and bring our nation together.

“Modernizing our nation’s immigration system continues to be one of the top issues for Americans, making it critical that President Trump and Congress to work together to fix a problem that has been ignored for far too long.

“While we appreciate efforts by President Trump to begin this process in his first week in office, the executive actions signed into law today are a misguided first step. The construction of a wall between the United States and Mexico would not only be costly and ineffective policy, but also a divisive act that is contrary to our history as a nation of immigrants.

“As outlined in the NALEO immigration [principles](#) set forth by a bipartisan group of Latino elected officials and leaders, overhauling our immigration system will require a plan that balances both national security interests and the humane treatment of immigrants.

“The executive action signed today does not balance these two ideals, flying in direct opposition to NALEO’s immigration [principles](#) and our values as a nation.

“We oppose the construction of a border wall on the basis of NALEO’s [principles](#), and will continue to work towards real and meaningful immigration reform that promotes public safety and acknowledges the significant contributions made by immigrants to this nation.”

*The NALEO’s comprehensive immigration reform principles set by bipartisan group of Latino leaders are available [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.*