



NEWS RELEASE

Educational Fund National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund

For Immediate Release
January 8, 2014

Contact: Amanda Bosquez, abosquez@naleo.org
(202) 546-2536 ext. 112, (361) 548-6989 (cell)

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

NALEO Educational Fund Congratulates Melissa Mark-Viverito on Election to New York City Council Speaker

The East Harlem Councilmember will be the first Latino in New York City history to serve in this position

WASHINGTON, D.C. - *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund issued the following statement congratulating Melissa Mark-Viverito on her election as the next New York City Council Speaker:*

“We congratulate Melissa Mark-Viverito on her election to serve as the next Speaker of the New York City Council. Drawing support from 30 of her colleagues on the Council, Mark-Viverito will become the first Latino and second woman to serve as New York City Council Speaker.

“Mark-Viverito’s election is another historic milestone in her career and for the city’s Latino community, who currently account for nearly 30 percent of the entire population of New York City. In 2005, Mark-Viverito made history as the first Puerto Rican woman and Latina elected to serve as Council Member for the 8th Council District. She was elected to her second term in the City Council in 2009, serving as Chair of the City Council’s Parks & Recreation Committee and Co-Chair of the Council’s Progressive Caucus.

“A two-term Councilmember with vast experience working with diverse communities, Mark-Viverito will be an invaluable asset in the coming years as the Council sets out to tackle job creation, immigration, housing and the many other challenges facing the City of New York today.

“We applaud Mark-Viverito on her election, and look forward to continuing to work with her and the Council on issues of importance to the Latino community and the country as a whole.”

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About NALEO Educational Fund

The NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.