



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 28, 2018

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National Latino Commission on Census 2020 Announced

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board Member Lubby Navarro will lead new bipartisan commission

Washington D.C. – During the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) 35th Annual Conference in Phoenix, NALEO Educational Fund Executive Director Arturo Vargas announced the formation of the [National Latino Commission on Census 2020](#). The announcement was made on Saturday, June 23, 2018, as part of a Census 2020 session featuring Acting U.S. Census Bureau Director Dr. Ron Jarmin and other Latino leaders.

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board Member Lubby Navarro will serve as Co-Chairs of the newly formed bipartisan [Commission](#). Additional members of the [Commission](#) will be announced in the coming weeks.

"A fair and accurate 2020 Census requires that everyone in the United States is counted, including members of the Latino community. Red and blue states alike rely on the Census for their fair share of federal funding for education, health care, transportation and more, as well as the apportionment of congressional representation," stated California Secretary of State Alex Padilla. "With the inclusion of a citizenship question being litigated and the survey moving to a digital format while a significant digital divide still exists throughout the nation, we have a lot of work to do to ensure that all residents are informed, encouraged, and able to participate. I look forward to working with School Board Member Navarro, NALEO Educational Fund and national partners on a nonpartisan basis to achieve a fair and accurate national population count in 2020."

The NALEO Educational Fund established the [National Latino Commission on Census 2020](#) to compile crucial information about the impact of the challenges facing Census 2020 on achieving a fair and accurate count of the Latino community and all of our nation's residents. The [Commission](#) will prepare a report that will include recommendations and best practices to address these challenges, and will be used to inform the future work of policymakers, elected officials, civic and community leaders, and other stakeholders.

"Ensuring our hard to count populations are counted during the Census 2020 is of upmost importance to me," stated Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board Member Lubby Navarro. "I am truly honored to be appointed to serve as Co-Chair of the Commission, alongside with California's Secretary of State Alex Padilla. The work of the commission will be critical in order to engage Latino communities across this Country to be counted during Census 2020."

To accomplish these goals, the [Commission](#) will convene five to seven regional field hearings to solicit testimony from public officials, community organizations, and other stakeholders who are familiar with hard-to-count communities in the region. These hearings will address:

- The impact of the Bureau's Census 2020 operational plans on Latinos and other hard-to-count communities, including the changes from approaches used in Census 2010;
- The impact of the addition of a question on citizenship to Census 2020, including the effect on Latino participation in the Census;
- Assessment of community members' experiences with the Bureau's communications and outreach activities;
- Best practices for reaching and engaging Latinos and other hard-to-count populations to participate in Census 2020, including recommendations for ameliorating the undercount of very young children (under age five) which occurred in Census 2010; and
- Any other issues relevant to the purpose of the Commission.

"At a time when partisan politics has become the rule, rather than the exception, our nation's Latino leaders have proven that they can rise above the divide and work together to address the most pressing issues affecting the Latino community," stated Arturo Vargas, NALEO Educational Fund executive director. "We are proud to have Secretary Padilla and School Board Member Navarro demonstrating this spirit of bipartisan cooperation by leading the charge to ensure a full and accurate count of Latinos. Together with the other Latino officials and leaders from across the country who will serve on the Commission, they will work to protect our community's future by making sure that Latinos are not left in the shadows in Census 2020."

NALEO Educational Fund established the [National Latino Commission on Census 2020](#) to help promote a fair and accurate count of Latinos and all of America's residents. The Commission will terminate 60 days after the date on which the [Commission](#) publishes its final report.

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About NALEO Educational Fund

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