



## NALEO NEWS

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials

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

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

### **NALEO Applauds Historic Nomination of Maria Echaveste to Serve as Nation's Next Ambassador to Mexico**

*If confirmed, Ms. Echaveste would be the first Latina to serve in this position*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) today commended the nomination of Maria Echaveste to serve as the next United States Ambassador to Mexico:*

“We applaud the nomination of Maria Echaveste to serve as the nation’s next Ambassador to Mexico. A former Deputy Chief of Staff to President Bill Clinton and Special Representative to Bolivia, Ms. Echaveste would bring a deep understanding of domestic policy priorities and demonstrated experience representing the nation abroad to this position. If confirmed, Ms. Echaveste would be the first Latina to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico.

“A talented public servant with experience conveying politically sensitive Administration policies at home and abroad, we know Ms. Echaveste has the expertise needed to thrive as our nation’s next representative to Mexico. Throughout her career, Ms. Echaveste has worked directly on United States– Mexico policy issues including as a member of the Board of Directors of the United States/Mexico Foundation and the Advisory Board of the Mexico Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center. In these capacities, she has met regularly with Mexican political, business and intellectual leaders, developing a keen understanding of the major policy issues of importance to both countries.

“During her time as Wage and Hour Administrator at the Department of Labor from 1993 to 1997, Ms. Echaveste demonstrated her commitment to immigrant laborers, arguing that labor laws applied to all workers, regardless of their status, by working to prevent the Immigration and Naturalization Service from intimidating workers who were trying to organize. Though a longtime supporter of commonsense immigration reform, Ms. Echaveste understands firsthand that the relationship between the United States and Mexico goes well beyond issues of immigration, including critical trade and commerce alliances, and a shared culture.

“Given her domestic policy expertise and extensive experience representing our country abroad, we have no doubt Ms. Echaveste has the tools to build and sustain the strong relationship between the United States and Mexico. We stand ready to work with the Administration to support Ms. Echaveste and her nomination to serve as the nation’s first Latina Ambassador to Mexico.”

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**About NALEO**

*The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.*