



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NALEO Calls for Appointment of at Least Five Latinos to Cabinet-Level Positions**

*To reflect the diversity of the nation, Latinos should  
make up at least 20 percent of all Biden appointees*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) today released the following statement from NALEO President Ricardo Lara following a [letter](#) he sent to President-elect Joe Biden on the President-elect's upcoming Cabinet and Administration appointments:

"The historic election of now President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris represents a giant step forward in seeing a government that reflects the diversity of America. It also represents an opportunity to see this progress continue.

"We commend the President-elect's commitment to a Cabinet and Administration that looks like America. In previous administrations, the highest number of Latinos who have served in Cabinet-level positions was four. This is why with Latinos comprising 18 percent of the population, we strongly recommend the President-elect make at least five Cabinet-level appointments to reflect the nation's diversity.

"COVID-19, economic recovery, racial equity, and climate change are critical issues that disproportionately affect the Latino community. They are also the four issues the President-elect has identified to be his Administration's priorities, which is why it is paramount to include Latino voices at the policy and implementation table when tackling these challenges. A key way to do that is by appointing Latinos to at least five Cabinet-level positions and at least twenty percent of positions throughout the Administration.

"Latino elected and appointed officials have been tirelessly working on the front lines of the pandemic. The expertise and experience of the many qualified Latinos candidates for Administration posts come with the visions and solutions needed for our country to prevail over the challenges we face.

"Given this reality, we look forward to working with the President-elect and his team by providing lists of and recommending qualified Latino candidates to serve in the next Administration."

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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 6,800 Latino elected and appointed officials.*