



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NALEO Honors Former Los Angeles County Supervisor and NALEO Board Member Gloria Molina Amid Health Announcement**

**Washington, D.C.** – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) has issued the following statement from Chief Executive Officer Arturo Vargas to honor former Los Angeles County Supervisor and NALEO Board Member Gloria Molina amid her announcement about her health:

“The news of the Honorable Gloria Molina’s health prognosis has deeply saddened the Latino community, the people of Los Angeles and California, and the entire NALEO Family.

“Molina’s public office legacy began in 1983 when she was the first Latina elected to the California State Assembly (1983–1987) and continued when she was elected to the Los Angeles City Council’s First Council District in 1987 and served until 1991. During her tenure with the California State Assembly, the Honorable Molina also served on the NALEO Board of Directors.

“In addition to these achievements, Molina is perhaps best known for her more than two decades of service on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors from 1991 through 2014, where she worked tirelessly to ensure that the constituents of the newly-created First Supervisorial District and all of Los Angeles County received quality representation, attention, and services.

“Her work is also particularly meaningful to our organization because of her longstanding professional relationship with our organization’s founder, Congressman Edward R. Roybal. In each of her election campaigns, Congressman Roybal publicly supported Molina. Furthermore, the circumstances around Roybal’s 1958 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors election loss were evidence in a lawsuit that proved a history of voting rights discrimination against Latinos by the County of Los Angeles. The lawsuit resulted in the creation of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors First District, a seat Molina went on to win and ably represent.

“The Honorable Gloria Molina paved the way for future Latino leaders as Congressman Edward R. Roybal did before her. She spent her entire career blazing the trail for future leaders, particularly Latinas and other women interested in government service.

“Her legacy will continue in the policy changes she secured, lives she touched, and communities she served. We wish her and her family a time of peace and reflection on the incredible life and career of one of the most important elected officials in our nation’s history.”

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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 7,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.*