



NHLA National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Alianza Americas
- American G.I. Forum
- ASPIRA Association
- AVANCE Inc.
- Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
- Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
- Farmworker Justice
- Green Latinos
- Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
- Hispanic Federation
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- Hispanics in Philanthropy
- Inter-University Program for Latino Research
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
- LatinoJustice PRLDEF
- League of United Latin American Citizens
- MANA, A National Latina Organization
- Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
- Mi Familia Vota
- NALEO Education Fund
- National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives
- National Association of Latino Arts and Culture
- National Association of Latino Independent Producers
- National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
- National Day Laborer Organizing Network
- National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
- National Hispanic Council on Aging
- National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
- National Hispanic Media Coalition
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
- National Latinx Psychological Association
- Presente.org
- SER Jobs for Progress National
- Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
- U.S.- Mexico Foundation UnidosUS
- United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
- United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
- Voto Latino

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Janet L. Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20020

The Honorable Charles P. Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Secretary Yellen and Commissioner Rettig:

As leaders of civil rights and advocacy organizations that work to empower the more than 62 million Latinos in the U.S., we respectfully request that the tax filing deadline for 2022 be extended to June 15, 2022. We make this request on behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, a coalition of nearly 50 Latino organizations that brings together Hispanic leaders from across the country to advance the well-being of Hispanic communities.

There are several reasons that we seek this extension. First, as explained in our 2020-2024 Hispanic Public Policy Agenda, we strongly support the Child Tax Credit (CTC), as it is one of the most effective ways of alleviating child poverty. Simply put, the Department of Treasury and on-the-ground community partners need more time to reach working families who qualify for the CTC and communicate how the credit can be accessed. In Puerto Rico, for example, there is a new, comprehensive outreach campaign being conducted to share information about the CTC with eligible families, many of whom are being introduced to the IRS for the first time given that residents are generally not required to pay federal income taxes. By extending the tax filing deadline, we can continue to build on a clear form of communication that focuses on getting struggling families to access the CTC relief that they qualify for, rather than on a premature need to file taxes.

The CTC is particularly important to Latinos, given that Hispanic children make up 26% of all kids in the U.S., yet 41% of those who live in poverty. In one recent survey, Latino respondents (64%) were less likely to report claiming the CTC compared to white (76%) and Black respondents (76%). Additional time is needed to ensure that federal assistance is reaching Latino and marginalized communities on an equitable basis.

Another rationale for the tax filing deadline extension is the significant backlog in processing applications for Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITINs), which are used by individuals without a social security number to file their taxes. Extending the deadline would help ensure that more people are able to pay their taxes and contribute to our nation's economic well-being. Lastly, contrary to other taxpayers, families that need an ITIN to present a tax return have only until the tax filing deadline to claim the CTC,

even if they are not expected to owe money to the IRS and should get a refund. More time can make a difference for families that need to line up the appropriate paperwork and navigate the rules and regulations required to apply for an ITIN and to file taxes.

Extending the deadline to file taxes is critically important for the economic well-being of Latino communities, which have been disproportionately harmed by the economic devastation unleashed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge you to provide this extension and provide the relief that is much needed at this time.

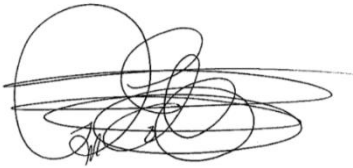
Sincerely,



Kenneth Romero
Chair, NHLA
Executive Director, National Hispanic Caucus
of State Legislators (NHCSL)



Eric Rodriguez
Co-Chair, NHLA Economic Empowerment
and Labor Committee
Senior Vice President, Policy and Advocacy,
UnidosUS



Ron Estrada
Co-Chair, NHLA Economic Empowerment
and Labor Committee
Chief Executive Officer, Farmworker Justice