

January 30, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Schumer, and Minority Leaders McConnell, and Jeffries:

We are writing on behalf of the leading Latino organizations to express our strong objections to House Republicans' efforts in Congress to impeach Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. While we, too, have serious concerns about the challenges at our southern border and our immigration system as a whole, this does not warrant unfair and politically driven efforts to remove one of the highest-ranking Latinos in government, a member of the President's Cabinet, and a longtime public servant who works to fulfill his oath of office in an exceedingly complex and polarized environment.

The impeachment process driven by House Republicans is a sham. While we appreciate that some members of Congress may disagree with the Biden Administration on immigration policy and how Secretary Mayorkas fulfills his related duties, such policy disagreements are not a legitimate basis to accuse the Secretary of "high crimes and misdemeanors," which is the Constitutional basis for impeachment. Federal officials have wide discretion over how to implement our laws and Secretary Mayorkas is working in good faith—despite decades of congressional inaction—to manage the challenges at our southern border. If Members of Congress were serious about reforming our broken immigration system and securing the border, they would be working across the aisle toward bipartisan solutions.

Secondly, it is not lost on us that these impeachment hearings have become a platform for Members of Congress to vociferously [amplify](#) extremely hateful language and messages around "invasion" and "great replacement" theory. This type of language, borrowed directly from antisemitic, white nationalist rhetoric, makes Americans less safe and undermines Secretary Mayorkas' efforts to protect the homeland. National security experts have [indicated](#) that the most lethal threat to the American people is domestic terrorism, which is often inspired by this

extreme language now being used by sitting Members of Congress in their impeachment efforts.

Finally, we object to the House GOP scapegoating and attacking the first Latino and the first immigrant Secretary of Homeland Security and one of the few high-ranking Hispanic members of the cabinet. Secretary Mayorkas has a 30+ year distinguished career as a law enforcement official and public servant, he is one of the foremost experts on our immigration system and a nationally recognized lawyer. [Legal experts](#) across the spectrum have concluded there is no legal basis for impeachment. This gratuitous effort will dampen the desire of anyone to serve in our government, particularly in such a high-stakes position as DHS represents.

Secretary Mayorkas has demonstrated a consistent commitment to his role, balancing the complex challenges of immigration with a combination of firmness and compassion. While not all his decisions have been met with unanimous approval, including from the signers below and other voices within our community, we strongly urge Congress to redirect their efforts to working in a bipartisan manner toward humane and effective immigration reform that helps move the American people forward. It is time for our elected officials to prioritize the pressing needs of our nation over partisan games.

Sincerely,

Alianza for Progress

America's Voice

CASA, Inc.

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights
(CHIRLA)

Esperanza United

Forward Latino, Inc.

GreenLatinos

Hispanic Federation

Inter University Program on Latino Research

Latino Victory Project

LULAC

MANA, A National Latina Organization

Mi Familia Vota

Miami Freedom Project

National Association of Hispanic Federal
Executives (NAHFE)

National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

UnidosUS

United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

Voto Latino

CC: Neera Tanden, White House Domestic Policy Advisor
Tom Perez, White House Senior Advisor