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Contact: Brianna Dimas
Phone: 210-639-5587
Email: bdimas@ushcc.com

Hispanics Fed Up With Lack of Latino Representation on the Federal Communications Commission and other high level Biden Administration posts

FCC Nomination Could Tip Hispanics in Midterm Elections

Today, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) and Morning Consult released survey data demonstrating that a majority (75%) of registered Hispanic voters nationwide feel under-represented within federal government, including at agencies like the Federal Communications Commission.

“The USHCC has long advocated for more Hispanic representation in government, and while some progress has been made, we remain concerned with the Biden administration’s lack of performance in meeting a goal of 20% that the USHCC and other groups have set for Latino presidential appointments,” said Ramiro A. Cavazos, President & CEO at USHCC.

Relatedly, when informed that an open position for a fifth commissioner at the FCC remains vacant and represents an opportunity for President Biden to increase Hispanic representation in his administration, Hispanic voters overwhelmingly support a Hispanic nominee.

The USHCC partnered with Morning Consult on a nationwide survey of the state of diversity in the U.S. government as well as the impact of Gigi Sohn’s nomination at the FCC.

Key findings include:

- 75% of Hispanic Registered voters see a need for more Hispanic policymakers in government.
- More than half of Hispanic voters say government agencies like the FCC are not diverse.
- Over half of Hispanic voters are less likely to support a nominee opposed by LULAC, such as Gigi Sohn.
- Hispanic voters in key states are even less likely to support Sohn given her policy history and LULAC’s opposition: Arizona (56%), Colorado (39%), and Nevada (49%).
- A third of Hispanic voters say if Sohn is confirmed, it will impact their vote in the midterms.

The current controversial nominee for that position is Gigi Sohn, a non-Hispanic who is opposed by prominent Hispanic organizations like the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). The Morning Consult survey also reveals that, if her nomination proceeds and the U.S. Senate ultimately confirms Sohn to the FCC, it could have an impact on candidate preference of a third of Hispanic registered voters in the 2022 midterm elections, particularly in states with large Hispanic population centers like Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada.

“The FCC plays a critical role in important issues for the Hispanic community—from increasing diversity in American media to cracking down on harmful misinformation in our community. Not only has the Administration failed to nominate a Hispanic to the FCC, it has nominated Gigi Sohn who has a history of advocating for policies that harm Hispanic and Latino content creators, particularly on intellectual property. Worse, Sohn has been endorsed by far-right networks who believe she will help them expand the reach of their programming, which includes racist and xenophobic venom that harms our community.”

“President Biden now has an opportunity to do the right thing by pulling Sohn’s nomination and replacing her with a qualified Hispanic candidate who will champion policies that benefit the Hispanic community. We urge the president to right this wrong while he still can. Hispanics in America who are consistent voters are watching closely.”

The USHCC encourages you to join us at Legislative Summit on March 29-31, 2022 in Washington D.C. at the Capital Hilton. Learn more at: www.ushcclegislative.com.

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About the USHCC

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) actively promotes the economic growth, development, and interests of 5 million Hispanic-owned businesses, that combined, contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year. The USHCC is America's largest small business advocacy group, representing more than 260 local chambers and business associations nationwide, and also partners with hundreds of major American corporations. For more information, please visit ushcc.com. Follow us on Twitter @USHCC.