

*Chairman*  
**Rubén Hinojosa**  
*Member of Congress*  
*15th District, Texas*



**Congressional Hispanic Caucus**  
**United States Congress**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 17, 2013

Senator Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor  
and Pensions  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Lamar Alexander  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor  
and Pensions  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Alexander:

On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (“CHC”), we write to enthusiastically support Mr. Tom Perez to serve as Secretary of Labor. His nomination is important to our nation as our economy continues to recover. We urge the Senate to immediately confirm his nomination so that he can move forward on important matters concerning the rights of our workforce and the quality of life for our working families.

As Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice (“DOJ”), Mr. Perez ensured the division maintained the highest level of trust and integrity. He worked with stakeholders from all states and of all political affiliations to make certain the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans, particularly the most vulnerable, are protected. The CHC had the privilege of meeting with Mr. Perez many times and were consistently impressed with his dedication to preserving the rights of workers, voters, students and the disabled. His experience overseeing a number of important investigations, particularly those involving worker discrimination, will certainly carry over to his cabinet position and will serve the president and the American public well.

Prior to his work at the DOJ, Tom Perez had a proven track record of serving the people of Maryland as the state’s Secretary of Labor Licensing and Regulation, and as the first Latino of the Montgomery County Council. In both of those positions he earned the respect of a wide range of constituencies, including the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, for being fair and seeking common ground.

Prior to his service at the state level, Mr. Perez served as a prosecutor for the Civil Rights Division where he prosecuted many high profile cases, including a hate crimes case in Texas that involved white supremacists who went on a racially motivated crime spree. He also served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights under Attorney General Janet Reno and as Special Counsel to the late Senator Edward Kennedy.

We urge you to immediately confirm Tom Perez as Secretary of Labor. He is eminently qualified and there is no doubt that under his watch, every American worker's civil and constitutional rights will be protected - no matter their race, sex, disability, religion, familial status or national origin. If we can provide you any

additional information of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus's endorsement of Mr. Perez, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



RUBÉN HINOJOSA  
Chair  
Congressional Hispanic Caucus



BEN RAY LUJÁN  
Chair  
CHC Diversity and Inclusion Task Force



LINDA SÁNCHEZ  
Chair  
CHC Civil Rights Task Force

cc: Members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions