



May 18, 2022

Honorable Sherrod Brown
Chair
United States Senate Committee on
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Patrick J. Toomey
Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Jaime Lizárraga for Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission

Dear Chairman Brown and Ranking Member Toomey:

As one of the members who spearheaded the *Proyecto* 20% initiative to ensure that at least 20% of the Biden administration's appointments are held by Latino/as, I am also taking this opportunity as the President and CEO of UnidosUS to offer support for Jaime Lizárraga to serve as Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Jaime Lizárraga is a model public servant and a superb choice for a seat on the SEC. We believe our nation will benefit greatly from Jaime's strong work ethic, values, and wide-ranging expertise. Over the course of his career, he has tackled many of the biggest financial issues we face as a country. During the 14 years he has served as Senior Advisor to the Congress, Jaime's work includes stabilizing markets during the financial meltdown in 2008 with the Troubled Asset Relief Program legislation, the Dodd-Frank Act reforms strengthening oversight of Wall Street and our financial system, multiple COVID relief packages, and the transformative Build Back Better Act. He has served as a valuable counsel to members of Congress and staff on financial markets, national housing, and small-business policy. He has also been a leading voice on Puerto Rico debt restructuring and immigration reform.

The son of immigrant farmworkers, Lizárraga was born in the Central Valley and raised in the San Diego–Tijuana region. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Public Administration from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

We know that Latinos represent the largest and second-fastest-growing ethnic group in the nation, making up nearly 20% of the U.S. population. In fact, Latinos are the most underrepresented minority group in the federal workforce, making up just 8% of total personnel. To truly reflect the diversity of America, it is imperative that Latinos account for at least 20% of representation across all levels of the federal government. *Proyecto* 20% urges the confirmation of Jaime Lizárraga as soon as possible and appreciates the committee's commitment to make his confirmation a priority.

Sincerely,

Janet Murguía, President and CEO, UnidosUS

Arturo Vargas, Chief Executive Officer, NALEO Educational Fund

Nathalie Rayes, President and CEO, Latino Victory Project

Ramiro A. Cavazos, President and CEO, United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Maria Teresa Kumar, President and CEO, Voto Latino

P20% Coalition Partners



LEAGUE of UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS



LATINO VICTORY FUND

GREENLATINOS

VOTOLATINO★



MALDEF



Proyecto 20% is a coalition of national Latino organizations that have been advocating that at least 20 percent of the approximately 4,000 political appointments and other jobs to be filled by President Biden are held by Latinos and Latinas. Representation at all levels of government is critical to ensuring equitable His confirmation is critical to Hispanic-Americans, the largest (and the second-fastest growing) ethnic minority group in the nation, with more than eighteen percent of the overall population.