

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Over 500 Latino Leaders Across California Urge Governor Newsom to Appoint a Latino United States Senator for California**

**San Francisco, CA — August 19, 2020 —** Today, the Latino Community Foundation, and over 500 Latino leaders across the state, released an [open letter](#) urging California Governor Gavin Newsom to appoint a Latino or Latina to the United States Senate should a vacancy become available following the 2020 General Election. The letter was signed by a cross-section of Latino leaders across the state, from nonprofit leaders and students to nurses and teachers.

California has never had a Latino represent California in the United States Senate in its 170-year-old history. Latinos make up nearly 40% of the state's population and 54% of the state's K-12 public school system. Latinos also make up the second largest voting bloc in our state and contribute over \$54B into the economy. And yet, Latinos are missing from the highest levels of the federal government.

"Governor Newsom has a unique opportunity to elevate the Latino community in one of our country's most important political institutions. As we look toward the future and how to rebuild our country in the aftermath of the devastating COVID19 pandemic, we need to impress upon the Governor to consider the many talented Latino leaders who are ready to potentially fill this critical seat," said Jacqueline Martinez Garcel, CEO, Latino Community Foundation.

**About Latino Community Foundation:**

The Latino Community Foundation is on a mission to unleash the civic and economic power of Latinos in California. LCF has the largest network of Latino philanthropists in the country and has invested \$10 million to build Latino civic and political power and leadership in the state. It is the only statewide foundation solely focused on investing in Latino youth and families in California. For more info, please visit: [www.latinocf.org](http://www.latinocf.org).

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