

From: [Guerrero, Willie](#)
To: [Shape California's Future](#)
Subject: Letter from the CA Latino Legislative Caucus
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 2:18:04 PM
Attachments: [7.10.20 LC Letter to Redistricting Commission-State Auditor re Latino Representation.pdf](#)

Dear 2020 Redistricting Commission Members:

Please see attached for a letter from Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez and Senator Maria Elena Durazo on behalf of the 29 members of the CA Latino Legislative Caucus.

Thank you for your consideration.

Willie Guerrero

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Senator María Elena Durazo, Vice Chair

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July 10, 2020

Shape California's Future
c/o California State Auditor's Office
621 Capitol Mall, Suite 1200
Sacramento, California, 95814

Dear Citizens Redistricting Commission Members:

On behalf of the California Latino Legislative Caucus, we write to express our grave concerns regarding to current lack of Latino representation on the 2020 Redistricting Commission (Commission) and respectfully urge that future appointments to the Commission meet legal requirements mandating a Commission which reflects the diversity of our great state.

As you know, the selection process to determine each decennial Commission is rigorous and challenging. We are grateful that you and so many other California residents made a commitment to serve the public in this critical endeavor. Your work product will impact every Californian in the most profound way – determining the shape and makeup of Congressional and legislative districts which will guide a decade of elections on whom represents California's increasingly diverse population. Sadly, with no Latinos currently on the Commission the process has effectively silenced the voice of Latinos who account for 38.9% of our state's nearly 40 million residents. As the largest (and still growing) ethnic group in California, Latinos must have adequate representation on the Commission – state law and basic issues of equity demand it.

The voter-enacted initiatives that created the Commission require issues of diversity be considered when selecting the final six commissioners. Specifically, Government Code § 8252(g), enacted by the first initiative, states: "The six appointees shall be chosen to ensure the commission reflects this state's diversity, including, but not limited to, racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity." This legal requirement is a failsafe mechanism to ensure the Commission looks like our state and observes our longstanding commitment to diversity. Meeting this legal threshold will also prevent a loss of public confidence in the Commission and its critical mission.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and our shared interest in ensuring fair representation on the Commission for Latinos - California's largest ethnic constituency and a growing plurality of the population. Please do not hesitate to call us, or our caucus staff, at (916) 651-1535 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

LORENA GONZALEZ
Chair, CA Latino Legislative Caucus
Assemblywoman, 80th District

MARIA ELENA DURAZO
Vice Chair, CA Latino Legislative Caucus
Senator, 24th District

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins
Members of the Latino Legislative Caucus

(CHAIR)
Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez

(VICE CHAIR)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo

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