



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday, Jan. 24, 2025

Contact: Bethany Portillo [bportillo@nhmamd.org](mailto:bportillo@nhmamd.org), 202-839-5942

**National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) Issues Statement in Response to Declining Medical School Enrollment Rates by Black and Latino Students**

**WASHINGTON** — Gilbert Burgos, MD, MPH, Interim President and Board Chairman of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), released the following statement in response to the newly published report from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) regarding medical school enrollment trends in 2024.

The AAMC report reveals a significant decline in the enrollment of Black and Hispanic/Latino students in U.S. medical schools following the Supreme Court's decision to limit race-based admissions.

“The findings in this report are deeply concerning to the members of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), who have worked tirelessly over the past 30 years to advocate for the inclusion of Latino and other underrepresented communities in the medical profession. While the number of first-time applicants to medical schools has increased, the enrollment of Hispanic/Latino students has dropped by 10.8%, and the enrollment of Black students has fallen by 11.6%. These alarming declines pose a serious threat to the progress made in improving healthcare access for underserved communities. To address these troubling trends, we call for action on two fronts. First, it is essential to collaborate with policymakers on legislation that supports Latinos and other underrepresented groups in becoming healthcare providers, ultimately improving healthcare access in their communities. Second, we urge medical schools to take decisive leadership by implementing initiatives that enhance the medical education pipeline and recognize the invaluable contributions of Latino and other underrepresented healthcare professionals.

We at NHMA are committed to working alongside elected officials and medical institutions to reverse these trends, ensuring that healthcare professionals better reflect the diverse communities they serve.”

###

***The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA)** is a non-profit organization representing the interests of over 50,000 licensed Hispanic physicians in the United States. NHMA aims to improve the health of Hispanic and other underserved populations through advocacy, research, and education. By addressing the unique healthcare challenges faced by these communities, NHMA strives to achieve health equity for all.*