



NHMA Applauds Bipartisan Resolution Designating October 1 as National Latino and Latina Physician Day

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The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) supports H.Res. 1589, introduced on September 28 by Congressman Raul Ruiz, M.D. (CA-25) and co-led by Congresswoman María Elvira Salazar (FL-27). The bipartisan resolution designates October 1 as National Latino and Latina Physician Day.

Latinos make up nearly one in five Americans, yet only 6.7 percent of U.S. physicians are Latino or Latina, and just 2.8 percent are Latina. The nation also faces a projected shortage of up to 86,000 physicians by 2036. Research shows that care and outcomes improve when patients share the language and culture of their doctors.

"The National Hispanic Medical Association supports H.Res. 1589, introduced by Congressman Raul Ruiz, M.D., recognizing October 1 as National Latino and Latina Physician Day. We need more Latino physicians serving our communities. This day not only highlights the significant underrepresentation of Latinos in the physician workforce but also recognizes the tremendous work Latino physicians do every day to care for patients and communities across our nation. We are proud to support this resolution and its recognition of the Latino physicians who serve our country," said Gilbert Burgos, M.D., MPH, President of the National Hispanic Medical Association.

NHMA thanks Rep. Ruiz and Rep. Salazar for their leadership. The resolution has also earned support from other national medical organizations, including the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

Read Rep. Ruiz's full press release [HERE](#) and the full text of H.Res. 1589 [HERE](#).