



Today, Gilbert Burgos, M.D., MPH, the Interim President and Board Chair of the National Hispanic Medical Association, released this statement:

“The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), representing Latino physicians, including Puerto Rican physicians and their descendants across the United States, strongly condemns the reprehensible comments targeting Puerto Rico and the Latino community made Sunday during a political rally. Such remarks are unacceptable and undermine our core values of respect, inclusion, and equity.

Latinos constitute 19% of the U.S. population, and Puerto Rican healthcare professionals represent the second-largest subgroup of Latino medical practitioners in the country. These dedicated individuals provide compassionate and high-quality health, nursing, and medical care to all patients, regardless of their origin.

As healthcare professionals, we are acutely aware of the adverse health effects that divisive rhetoric can have on the well-being of Latinos and children. Such comments not only perpetuate harmful stereotypes but also undermine the trust and safety that are essential for effective healthcare delivery.

The NHMA remains committed to championing initiatives that promote health equity for all communities. We will continue to advocate for programs that unite rather than divide, ensuring that every community can benefit from a healthier future.

We call upon all leaders to foster an environment of respect and understanding, recognizing the invaluable contributions of Latino communities and healthcare professionals and the diverse communities they serve.”