



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF VOTER PROTECTIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (“HBA-DC”) wishes to clarify its position on the recent trend of state laws requiring voter identification in order to exercise the right to vote (“Voter ID laws”); and

WHEREAS, the United States has had a history of expanding the franchise and ensuring that more and more Americans are able to participate in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, our history also includes periods during which efforts were made in many states to intimidate or discourage voters, which efforts have been combated by the passage of several laws, including the Voting Rights Act and the Help America Vote Act; and

WHEREAS, states have a legitimate interest in the prevention of voter fraud, however, that interest is not to be served at the expense of disenfranchising voters; and

WHEREAS, the likelihood of such voter fraud has been determined by studies to be virtually non-existent and confirmed by courts in several states that have likewise found no evidence of such fraud; and

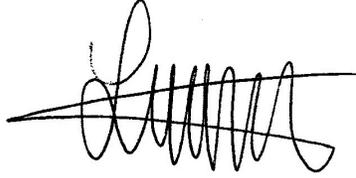
WHEREAS, many Voter ID laws have strict photo ID requirements that inflict costs, in time and money, that disproportionately impact the rights of poor voters, many of them Hispanic, as well as youth and elderly citizens; and

WHEREAS, the real threat of voter disenfranchisement from these Voter ID laws has been demonstrated by the U.S. Department of Justice halting voting regulatory efforts in several states; and

WHEREAS, other civic groups, including the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the League of United Latin American Citizens, and the NAACP, have expressed similar concerns regarding these Voter ID laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the HBA-DC believes that states must proceed with care, enacting laws that do not intimidate or discourage eligible Americans from voting, in the name of combating a problem that does not truly exist.

This Resolution shall be posted on the HBA-DC website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Lynn", written over a horizontal line.

President

11/13/2012

Date