

Mike Pence to Delivers First Address Latino Business Group as Vice President

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Washington, DC – On March 9, [The Latino Coalition \(TLC\)](#), the leading national non-partisan advocacy organization representing Hispanic businesses and consumers, produced a power-packed *Make Small Business Great Again Policy Summit* at the J.W. Marriott in Washington, D.C.

“As a national, grassroots advocacy organization and a key center of influence, The Latino Coalition highlighted the entrepreneurial spirit and the power small business provides the U.S. economy,” **said Hector Barreto, TLC’s Chairman and former U.S. Small Business Administrator.** “The *Make Small Business Great Again Policy Summit* provided hundreds of small business owners, executives and elected officials the opportunity to unite around a passionate message from our Vice President acknowledging and emphasizing the entrepreneurial dynamism that is key to this nation’s economic comeback. Last week, we got an up-close look at an Administration that understands the strength of America’s small business sector, and will champion them for a stronger and more prosperous nation.”

At the *Make Small Business Great Again Policy Summit*, Vice President Mike Pence applauded the ingenuity of the small business community to a packed room of hundreds of entrepreneurs from the United States and several countries. He emphasized how restarting the engine of America’s economy will create jobs, and bring about growth and prosperity in this nation like never before.

“The Trump Administration will be the best friend American small businesses will ever have because when small business is strong, the American economy is strong. And we’re going to fight every day to make that a reality,” **Vice President Mike Pence said.**

Pence went on to emphasize how Latinos are one of the most dynamic communities in the entire country: “The fact is that Hispanics are driving entrepreneurship and economic growth like never before...the number of Latino-owned businesses grew by more than 50 percent over the past decade — leaps and bounds over every other American demographic,” **he added.**

The day-long summit included the top themes entrepreneurs face daily with relevant panels, timely presentations and effective discussions regarding regulations, healthcare and education. The event boasted an extraordinary lineup of notables such as U.S. Small Business Administrator Linda McMahon and Utah Attorney General Sean D. Reyes, as well as White House Office of Public Liaison Deputy Director Jennifer Korn, and the participation and support of U.S. Rep. Carlos Curbelo (FL-26), U.S. Rep. Brett Guthrie (KY-02), U.S. Rep. Richard Hudson (NC-08) and U.S. Rep. Peter J. Roskam (IL-06).

Echoing the Vice President's praise of small business, **newly appointed U.S. Small Business Administrator, Linda McMahon said,** “Small businesses are the engine of our national economy, and the SBA wants to be your partner in continued growth. We believe that if we can develop policies and strategies for increased entrepreneurship, we have tremendous opportunities for growth. The Latino Coalition is a great resource and advocate for people who want to start and grow a business. Therefore, use your power and resources to drive that potential because together we can continue to illustrate that innovating a new idea, taking a risk, working hard, investing in ourselves and our community is a pretty good pathway to success.”

During the *Make Small Business Great Again Policy Summit*, Chairman Barreto also announced new partnerships formalized by *Memorandums of Understanding (MOU)* with leading groups such as the *Business Coalition for Fair Competition* and the *National Association of State Latino Chambers of Commerce (NASLCC)*. These agreements signal the expansion of The Latino Coalition's influential national network of over 90 organizations dedicated to economic development, healthcare and education opportunities.

"The National Association of State Latino Chambers of Commerce represents and advocate for the collective interests, needs and concerns of its members and small to mid-size businesses. We look forward to a strong partnership with TLC, which will develop both of our networks, promote business and economic prosperity," **said NASLCC Board Member Carlos Gomez.**

"As we begin preparations for our June 29th West Coast Summit in Los Angeles, CA, we do so with great optimism in an Administration that understands the needs of the small business sector. We look forward to gathering this summer to network and advocate on behalf of the fastest growing sector of this nation's economy," **said The Latino Coalition National Executive Director, Allen Gutierrez.**

The Latino Coalition would like give a heartfelt thanks to the following: Premiere Partner: Walmart; Gold Partner: Google; Silver Partners: ACT Wireless, Comcast/Universal, Direct Selling Association, Herbalife, Intuit, The Latino Coalition Foundation, PhRMA, MasterCard, Edison Electric Institute, PG&E, California Resource Corporation, 1800 Contacts, US Chamber Institute for Legal Reform; Bronze Partners: National Association of Broadcasters, NCTA - The Internet & Television Association, T-Mobile, The Libre Institute, La Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara, Hispanic Business Roundtable Institute; Small Business Partners: AlvaradoSmith, 305 Communications, Conexión; Media Partners: CapitalWirePR and Impacto Latin News.

ABOUT THE LATINO COALITION- The Latino Coalition (TLC) was founded in 1995 by a group of Hispanic business owners from across the country to research and develop policies solutions relevant to Latinos. TLC is a non-profit nationwide organization with offices in California, Washington, DC and Guadalajara, Mexico. Established to address and engage on key issues that that directly affect the well-being of Hispanics in the United States, TLC's agenda is to create and promote initiatives and partnerships that will foster economic equivalency and enhance and empower overall business, economic and social development for Latinos. Visit www.thelatinocoalition.com or follow us at [#TLCsummit](https://twitter.com/TLCsummit).

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