

Augustine "Willie" Dominguez
State Representative



Minnesota House of Representatives

District 58B
N. Minneapolis
North Loop
East Side Downtown

May 2, 2007

Representative Xavier Becerra
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Becerra:

As a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, I am writing to thank you for introducing the National Museum of the American Latino Community Commission Act of 2007 (s 500). I offer my strong and unqualified support of this legislation which will establish a federal commission to explore the viability of creating the "National Museum of the American Latino" in Washington D.C.

As you know, the lack of a Latino focused institution located at the National Mall has long been a concern to the Latino community. In American society some of the most significant museums in our country are alongside the National Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument. These museums are meant to reflect the history, culture, and achievements of the people of the United States. Yet, scarcely do any of these permanent exhibits in these museums represent the American Latino community's role in the history and cultural fabric of this nation.

These are exciting times for the Latino community as more of our people are rising up the ladder of opportunity to seek their place as teachers, small business owners, and public office holders. While there are many challenges facing the American Latino community, the importance of proper representation of Latinos and their contributions to our nation should be available for all Americans to learn about and appreciate.

I ask for immediate passage of S 500 as a critical first step to improving the cultural landscape of Washington D.C. I encourage you to develop an institution devoted to the research and study of American Latino life, art, history, and culture.

Thank you for your time and effort on this endeavor. I appreciate your leadership and look forward to working with you on advancing this historic effort.

Sincerely,

Augustine "Willie" Dominguez (Handwritten signature)

Augustine Dominguez
Minnesota State Representative, District 58B

