Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 8, 2022

María Griego-Raby Search Committee Chair Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City 1 Memorial Drive Kansas City, MO 64198

Dear Chair Griego-Raby,

We write to you regarding the presidential vacancy at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and urge you to consider selecting one of the many highly qualified Latino candidates to fill the vacancy. Undoubtedly, increasing diversity and inclusion throughout the Federal Reserve System and the federal government as a whole is critical to ensuring our public sector reflects our communities and the general population. The Federal Reserve once again has an historic opportunity to appoint a Latino candidate to lead a regional Federal Reserve Bank.

As you are aware, the most recent Report to the Congress on the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion shows only five percent of the Federal Reserve's 2021 overall workforce identify as Latino or Hispanic.¹ Additionally, as of January 1, 2022, only ten percent of the Bank and Branch Directors identify as Latino or Hispanic.² The Federal Reserve has made significant progress in diversifying its leadership and workforce; however, we encourage you to continue and expand these efforts to ensure that the decision-making process at the Federal Reserve is representative our nation's communities and experiences.

The Federal Reserve has yet to appoint a Latino Federal Reserve Bank President since its founding in 1913. The country is growing increasingly racially and ethnically diverse, especially our Hispanic and Latino populations. The U.S. Hispanic and Latino population grew by twenty-three percent since 2010 and now accounts for nineteen percent of all Americans.³ The Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank includes the states of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, western Missouri, and over a dozen counties in northern New Mexico. Over 18 million residents live in the tenth district of this regional bank and an estimated 17 percent are Hispanic.

Within the last year, the Federal Reserve had three distinct opportunities to address and correct the long exclusion of Latinos from the upper echelons of leadership across the Federal Reserve System. The Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Dallas, and Chicago moved forward with non-Latino candidates for their presidential vacancies. If the decisions made by the Federal Reserve are to reflect our nation and the experience of working families in the U.S. economy, then the Federal Reserve must prioritize

 $^{^{1}\,\}underline{https://www.federalreserve.gov/publications/March-2022-Report-to-the-Congress-on-the-Office-of-Minority-and-Women-Inclusion.htm}$

 $^{^{2}}$ Id

³ https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2022/06/14/a-brief-statistical-portrait-of-u-s-hispanics/

diversity in its leadership. We therefore urge you to select a Latino candidate for the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank presidency.

Respectfully,

Robert Menendez

United States Senator

Raul Ruiz, M.D. Member of Congress

Ben Ray Lujan

United States Senator

Nydia M. Velázquez Member of Congress

Alex Padilla

United States Senator

Catherine Cortez Masto

United States Senator

Nanette Diaz Barragán

Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat Member of Congress

Henry Cue<mark>l</mark>lar

Member of Congress

Yoaquin Castro

Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García Member of Congress

Darren Soto Member of Congress

Sylvia R. Garcia Member of Congres

Ruben Gallego Member of Congress Lucille Roybal-Allard Member of Congress

Lwille Daybel Allarl

Juan Vargas

Member of Congress

Albio Sires

Member of Congress