November 29, 2017

Dear Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Schumer:

On behalf of UnidosUS (formerly the National Council of La Raza)—the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States—I am writing to urge you to vote no on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This legislation would cut taxes for the richest Americans and largest corporations, balloon the deficit by at least $1.4 trillion, and harm millions of working families, seniors, and children.

Under this plan, the richest 1% of Americans and largest corporations receive at least 50% of tax cuts, while working families and children are provided barely any relief and millions of workers and families will see a tax hike. Millionaires and billionaires will save over $34,000 per year on their taxes meanwhile, 82 million middle-class families will see an increase in their taxes.

Further, the added provision to unravel the Affordable Care Act will spike health insurance premiums for millions of Americans, cause at least 13 million more to go uninsured, and gut Medicare and Medicaid of an estimated $1.8 trillion, jeopardizing the health and well-being of 18 million Latinos and 10.7 million Latino children who rely on Medicaid. Massive cuts to funding for key federal assistance programs will place an additional 6.3 million Latinos, including 3 million Latino children and 351,000 Latino seniors, at risk of falling into or deeper into poverty, all to fund tax cuts for the extremely wealthy.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also targets taxpaying, hardworking immigrants. This legislation restricts immigrant taxpayers’ eligibility for refundable credits that keep working families out of poverty like the Child Tax Credit (CTC). It would require parents claiming the Child Tax Credit to provide a Social Security number for each child. This newly proposed requirement would add more burden, complexity, and red tape for hard-working immigrants raising children, threatening the economic security of millions of mixed-status families, including their U.S. citizen children. UnidosUS appreciates the need to reform the tax code in order to benefit all Americans. However, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act irresponsibly prioritizes the desires of the richest American and largest corporations over the needs of working families and children. UnidosUS strongly urges you to oppose this bill and instead work together to create a tax reform plan that supports working families, ensures everyone pays their fair share, and increases investments so that all have a brighter future.

Sincerely,

Eric Rodriguez
Vice President