



News From Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis

31st Congressional District of California

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EMBARGOED until 11:06 AM ET
Saturday, August 10, 2002

House Democratic Leader Richard A. Gephardt

H-204, U.S. Capitol

<http://democraticleader.house.gov/>

Congresswoman Hilda Solís (CA-31) Delivers Democratic Radio Response in Spanish (*English Translation*)

“Hi, I’m Congresswoman Hilda Solis from the State of California, 31st District.

“In the past, the Latino population was perceived as a group that did not care about the environment. But this is changing; people now realize that our growing community plays an active role in protecting our nation’s natural resources.

“The environment is a priority for me because I grew up in Los Angeles. My district is East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. Our community is home to three toxic waste dumps, 17 mining pits, and one of the dirtiest watersheds in the nation.

“Latino communities are often subject to environmental discrimination. Out of date laws have allowed corporate polluters to come into our communities and pollute our air, water and land. Unfortunately, President Bush and the Republican Party have prioritized corporate gift-giving over the health of our families. In the last 18 months, the Bush Administration has weakened laws that protect us from the dirty air produced by power plants and attempted to allow more arsenic in our waters. These attacks on our environment and our families will only ensure that our children have fewer places to play, higher instances of chronic illnesses, like asthma, and fewer of the environmental protections that keep our air and water clean.

“The Latino community has shown significant support for fundamental and critical conservation values that we hold dear. Clean air to breathe and fresh water to drink. Protection of our oceans, and natural places. Preservation of critical habitat for birds and animals. Places for our children to play and learn about the world around them.

Democrats are fighting for the Latino community. We are working to protect our environment so that our health will not be forgotten. Recently, Democrats demanded that funding be restored for urban parks so that our children can have other alternatives rather than just concrete pavement and buildings. Democrats have fought to make sure that corporate polluters are held responsible for their neglect in some of our poorest neighborhoods. And we are striving to bring about a new age of energy production so that our environment – and our people - are not the victims of pollution. Democrats are fighting to protect our communities against environmental racism and with your help we will win.

I encourage you to call your member of Congress and demand the protection of our natural resources and the health of our families

“This is Congresswoman Hilda Solis. Thank you for your time.”

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