



**For immediate release
April 30, 2003**

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The Latino Coalition to Host 2003 Summit on Immigration Reform

Washington, D.C. – The Board of Directors of The Latino Coalition (TLC) will host the 2003 Summit on Immigration Reform on May 1-2, 2003 at the Phoenix Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. The conference will bring together Latino business and community leaders, immigration policy experts and elected officials to develop a permanent solution to the immigration crisis in America.

“It’s about time that we move away from the empty rhetoric and flawed laws that have made matters worse,” said Carlos Olamendi, member of TLC’s Board of Directors and Conference Chairman. “The status quo has failed. That’s why we are bringing together experts who can help design a plan to promote prosperity and security in America.”

“The plan calls for the creation of a new ‘Permanent Worker Program’ with Mexico to allow individuals to come to work in the U.S.,” said TLC President Robert Deposada. “This program would regularize the status of millions of undocumented workers in our country, increase our tax revenues and improve our national security.”

The conference will be held at the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill. Participants will participate in briefings on Capitol Hill and in the White House. **A press conference will be held on Friday, May 2nd at the Phoenix Park Hotel at 1:30 p.m.** in the main ballroom to release a joint statement by participating groups with recommendations on how to address the immigration crisis. The Hotel is located at 520 North Capitol Street, NW). **A reception, open to the press, with all participants will be held on Thursday, May 1st at 7:30 p.m. at the Mexican Cultural Institute,** located at 2829 16th Street, NW.

Not all sessions will be open to the press. For more information, please contact Adriana Alarcon at 202-546-0008.

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