

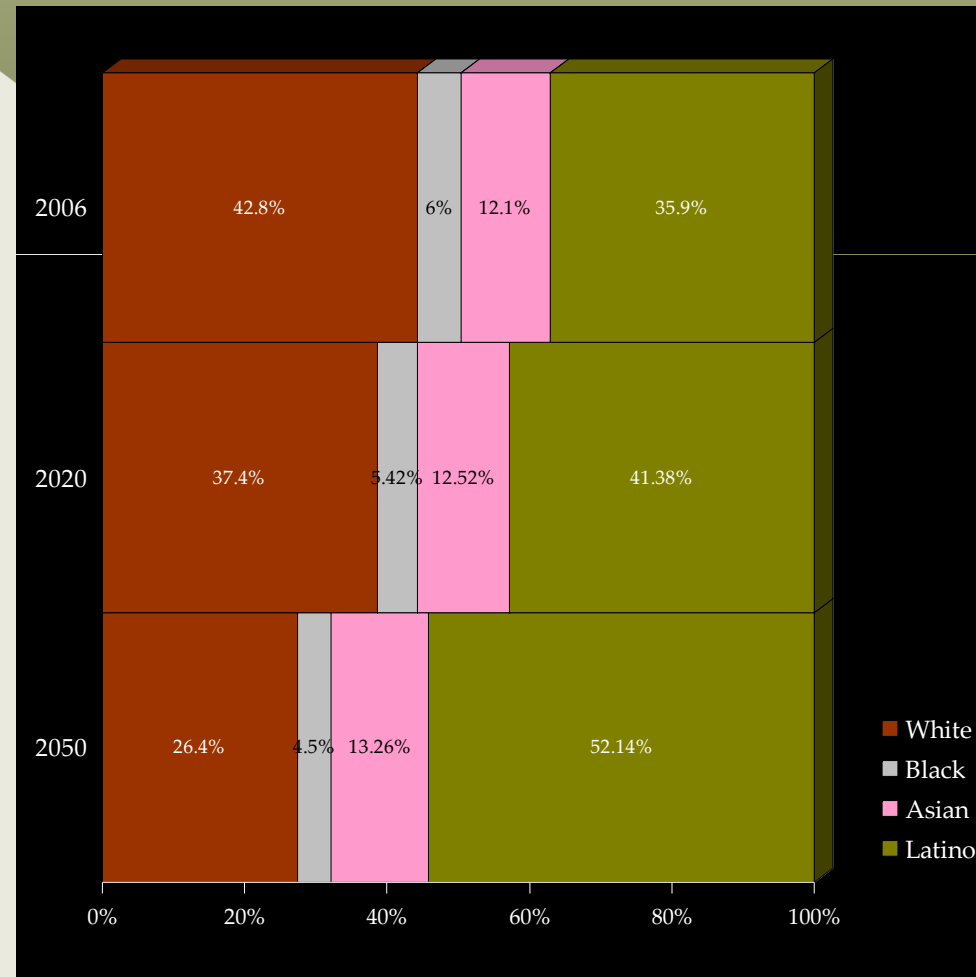


Orson Aguilar

Executive Director,
The Greenlining Institute

El Poder Verde

By 2050, more than half of all Californians will be Latino



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Good News!

- The great recession is now over!?



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Bad News!

- The recession for Latinos and African Americans is not over!



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Bad News continued

- ◉ Blacks and Latinos have lost more economic ground than whites
- ◉ The gap in economic security between people of color and whites has widened.



Bad News continued

- The economic security of Latinos and Blacks lags behind whites' in good times and often falls faster in bad times when we consider data on employment, wages, income, health insurance coverage, retirement plan participation, homeownership, or poverty rates.



The Up Side

- In California, Latino market share tops 18%
 - Largest Latino market in the US
- \$249 billion annually
 - 408% increase over 1990
- 15% of CA businesses are Latino-owned
 - But 36.6% of the population is Latino

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The Green Jobs Promise?

- Will Green jobs close the disparity gap on wages, income, health insurance, retirement plan participation and poverty?



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Who is tracking the Green Jobs going to Latinos?

- “Without the capacity to track progress over time, progress cannot be achieved.”



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Letters to the CEC and ARB –
How many Green Jobs for
Latinos have you
created?

“I am sorry, but we do not track
or have access to this kind of
information.”

CEC Staffer

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Recommendation #1

Track the data. Consider legislation if agencies refuse to cooperate.

Green Investments

- CA utilities will spend \$132 billion ratepayer dollars to reach Governor's 33% renewable goal
- Utilities currently spending \$740m with Latino-owned businesses
 - Only 5.5% of total spend





Creating Green Wealth in the Latino Community

- Green Jobs is more than blue collar jobs.
- Latinos deserve to be Green Business Owners as well.
- Latinos should be Green Venture Capitalists.
- Latinos should be the engineers and scientists developing green technologies.
- Latinos should be homeowners that can afford the Hybrid vehicle and solar panels.

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Recommendation #2

- Ownership and asset-building are essential. Don't just focus on blue collar jobs.





The Community's Challenge to the Caucus

- ◉ Engage renewable energy sector
 - First Solar
 - Only one Latino on the board. No Latinos on executive staff.
 - Solyndra
 - \$500m ARRA loan guarantee to build new Fremont plant
 - No diversity commitments
 - Millions in profits from ratepayer-funded renewable contracts

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Recommendation #3

- Engage the private sector.
Leverage public subsidies, loans, tax breaks, to facilitate discussions.





The Community's Challenge to the Caucus

- ◉ When CA taxpayer or ratepayer dollars are involved, recipient companies *must* have public commitments to diversity
 - › Workforce diversity (Green Jobs)
 - › Supplier diversity (Green Business Owners)
 - › Management and board diversity (High Level Executive Positions)

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The Community's Challenge to the Caucus

- Green regulators like CEC & ARB should set GO 156-like (diversity) goals for the companies they regulate.



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Recommendation #4

- Green Investments should target those most harmed by pollution.
 - › Those facing disproportionate financial hardship in going green
 - › Investments should target areas with high unemployment and high pollution
 - › AB 1405: Community Benefits Fund (DeLeon and Perez)



Public Policy Principles

- ◉ Ensure agencies are tracking data – jobs going to Latinos
- ◉ Direct investments to underserved areas that suffer most from climate change
- ◉ Keep Jobs in California
- ◉ Ensure low and moderate income households see real energy savings
- ◉ Ensure that small businesses receive real incentives that enable them to compete with big business.
- ◉ Measure air quality on a regular basis in Latino communities to ensure real health impacts
- ◉ Engage Philanthropic leaders



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UNITED STATES SENATE
DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7050

October 23, 2009

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Mr. Orson Aguilar
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Dear Mr. Aguilar:

It is our pleasure to invite you to join our Senate colleagues, along with key Hispanic advocates and experts, for a Senate Democratic Hispanic Task Force forum on how climate change legislation will impact the Latino community. The meeting will take place on Thursday, November 19, 2009, from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. in room 385 of the Russell Senate Office Building located on Capitol Hill.


As the Senate continues to work on climate change legislation, we hope to use this forum as an opportunity for Democratic Senators to hear from the Latino community. In addition to climate change, topics for discussion will include renewable energy and green jobs. Green jobs are essential to not only the long term growth of our economy, but to expanding economic opportunity for Hispanics. We hope you will join us to discuss these important issues.

The Senate Democratic Hispanic Task Force was created nearly 20 years ago with the intent of strengthening relationships between Hispanic leaders and Senators and to ensure that the issues of greatest importance to Hispanics are at the top of our legislative agenda. We hope to have a valuable discussion about how we can work together to address your concerns.

To confirm your participation, please contact us via email or phone, Eloy Martinez with Senator Reid, Eloy_Martinez@dsoc.senate.gov / (202) 224-7864 or Yasmin Yaver with Senator Menendez, Yasmin_Yaver@menendez.senate.gov / (202) 224-6735.

Sincerely,


HARRY REID
Senate Majority Leader


ROBERT MENENDEZ
Chair, Senate Democratic Hispanic Task Force


SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW
Chair, Senate Democratic Steering and
Outreach Committee

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*Going green will fail if
Latinos are left out of
the solutions.*

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