



Iowa LULAC condemns efforts to end birthright citizenship, calls for Rep. King's resignation

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For immediate release
April 30, 2015

DES MOINES – The League of United Latin American Citizens of Iowa has called for the resignation of U.S. Rep. Steve King, amid efforts by King and others to end birthright citizenship.

The U.S. House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security met Wednesday to discuss the 14th Amendment, which states “all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States.”

“The subcommittee’s hearing on ending birthright citizenship was a cynical move by anti-immigrant members of Congress to garner support from their political base and reflects their xenophobic attitudes toward the immigrant community,” said Joe Enriquez Henry, state director of LULAC of Iowa. “We condemn any attempts by members of Congress to use scare tactics and false statements to gather support from their radical anti-immigrant voters at the expense of immigrant families.”

In addition, LULAC of Iowa held its state meeting this month. Its almost 500 members, represented by 11 councils, voted in favor of a resolution asking for King’s resignation from Congress. King is a member of the subcommittee and has introduced a bill to end birthright citizenship.

“It has become apparent that Rep. King is no longer serving the people of Iowa,” Enriquez Henry said. “Iowa has a long-standing tradition of being a welcoming place for immigrant families. In some of the communities within Rep. King’s own Congressional district, more than 30 percent of the residents are Latino. He has lost touch with those whom he was elected to represent.”

Founded in 1929, the League of United Latin American Citizens is the oldest Latino civil rights organization in the United States. There are more than 1,000 local LULAC councils, which hold voter registration drives, provide awareness to residents about language and immigration issues, sponsor programs and advocate for Latinos.

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