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BUSINESS LEADERS CALL FOR LA CITY COUNCILMEMBERS NURY MARTINEZ, KEVIN DE LEÓN AND GIL CEDILLO TO RESIGN

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (October 10, 2022) – The Los Angeles County Business Federation “BizFed” is calling for the immediate resignations of Nury Martinez, Kevin de León and Gil Cedillo from the Los Angeles City Council. BizFed is appalled by the three councilmembers’ involvement in a 2021 discussion that included racist comments disparaging black community members, a colleague’s black child and indigenous immigrants.

The diverse business, civic and community leaders represented by BizFed are united in the belief that words have weight and silence is complicity. Racism in any form is inexcusable; racism in government is dangerous. Angelenos deserve better representation, especially as the nation grapples with a rise in hate-fueled crimes. The hateful rhetoric espoused by these policymakers tasked with setting course for the nation’s second largest city must be condemned and rooted out.

“We are compelled to step up and call for accountability. The decisive leaders who comprise BizFed’s vast membership enabled us to take this bold action. We will not stand by and tolerate this abhorrent behavior,” said BizFed Founding CEO Tracy Hernandez.

“Our elected leaders must take full responsibility for their actions. Our focus now should be on restoring public trust, rebuilding unity and paving the way for new order at LA City Hall,” said BizFed Board Chair Brissa Sotelo-Vargas.

BizFed also calls on members of the Los Angeles County Labor Federation to hold its president, Ron Herrera, accountable for his participation in this despicable conversation with Martinez, de León and Cedillo.

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About Los Angeles County Business Federation “BizFed”

BizFed is a massive grassroots alliance that advocates for policies and projects that strengthen the regional economy. Leveraging power in numbers, BizFed explores all sides of critical issues and takes timely action to spur business growth, job creation, and economic vitality across diverse sectors and communities throughout Southern California. BizFed is proud to speak for **225 diverse business organizations** representing **410,000 employers** with **5 million employees** throughout Southern California.