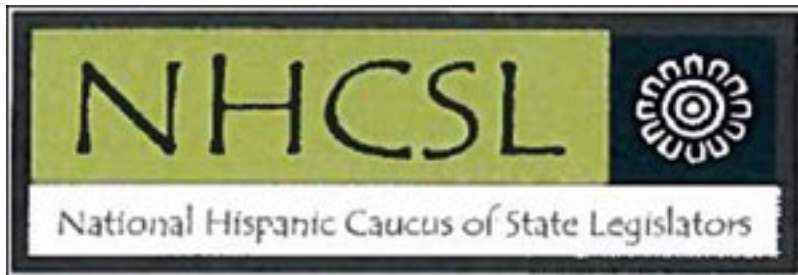


Written by
Wednesday, 05 May 2010 12:11



(BLACK PR WIRE) WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) and the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) join in opposition to Arizona's Senate Bill 1070 (SB 1070), "a law that is ill conceived and sets a dangerous precedent for basic civil liberties," according to NBCSL President, Rep. Calvin Smyre (GA). "This misguided legislation will likely subject countless people to unwarranted harassment. In a demonstration of our disapproval, we have decided to hold our annual Promoting Healthy Lifestyles Conference, which was to be held in Scottsdale, AZ, elsewhere," said Smyre.

The joint conference would have brought over sixty state legislators to Arizona for two days to discuss policy solutions to the nation's health challenges. The conference would have generated a significant amount of revenue for the state. "All Americans should be deeply concerned about the harmful implications of SB 1070. This overreaching legislative measure leaves us with little choice but to find a more hospitable venue for our conference," said NHCSL President, Sen. Iris Y. Martinez (IL).

NBCSL and NHCSL jointly decided to remove the planned conference from Arizona following Governor Brewer's signing of SB 1070 into law. "The bill is widely condemned as unconstitutional and in violation of American notions of fairness and justice. Further, it will bring a host of unintended consequences, such as the diversion of law enforcement resources and the proliferation of vexing litigation," stated Senator Martinez. For further information, see NHCSL President, Iris Martinez's letter to Governor Brewer in opposition to SB 1070.

A new venue for the Promoting Healthy Lifestyles Conference will be announced in the coming weeks.