

## First 100 Days USHCC Policy and Action Priorities

## **Biden-Harris Administration**

#### USHCC's Three Overarching Advocacy Goals





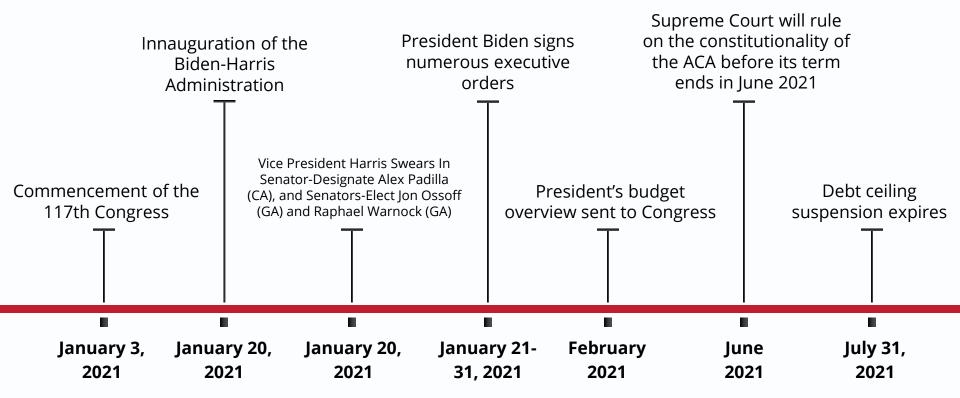
Inform and educate policy makers to influence actions related to economic stimulus Legislation and Administration solutions.

Expand Hispanic and Minority-Owned Small Business Access to Government Procurement opportunities.



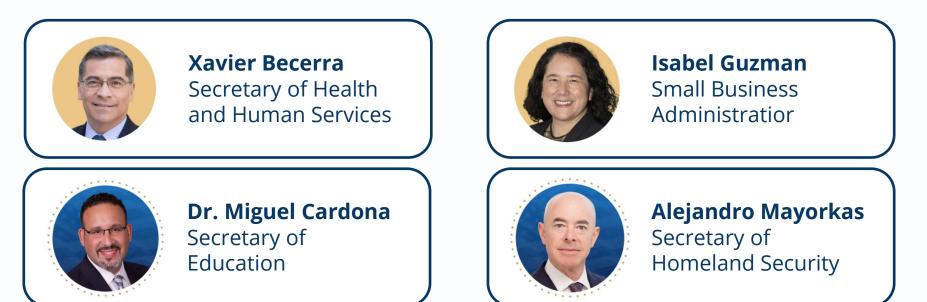
Secure equity and inclusion at all levels of Decision and Policy making.

#### Timeline



Biden-Harris Administration

**Biden-Harris Administration Latino Nominees and Appointees:** 



**<u>Click Here to View the Biden-Harris Administration Cabinet</u>** 

### Administration's Policy Priorities

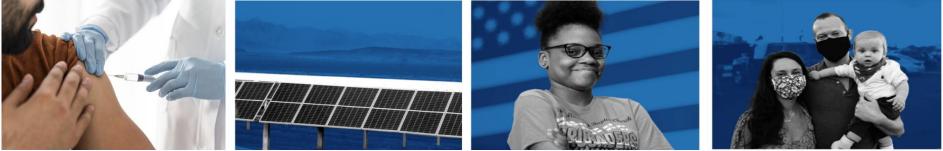
#### Consolidated Summary of the Biden-Harris Administration's Policy Priorities:

- 1. The Biden-Harris Administration's Top Seven Policy Priorities
- 2. COVID-19 Pandemic Economic Recovery
- 3. COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Plan
- 4. Early Executive Actions
- 5. Infrastructure
- 6. Climate
- 7. Education
- 8. Financial Services
- 9. Healthcare
- 10. Immigration
- 11. Tax Reform
- 12. Technology (Antitrust/Privacy)
- 13. Technology (Broadband)
- 14. Technology (Cybersecurity)



# Biden-Harris Administration's Top Seven Policy Priorities

Biden-Harris Administration's Top Seven Policy Priorities



COVID-19

Climate



Economy



Healthcare



Immigration



Restoring America's Global Standing



- Provide state and local governments fiscal relief to support hospitals, first responders, doctors, nurses and teachers and other public employees due to the loss of tax revenues.
- Extend Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loans/Grants (EIDL).
  - On page 21 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we made a call to Expand Forgiveness for Small Businesses in Need and Increase Funding for Economic Injury Disaster Relief Loans (EIDL) and Grants. Through our national partner advocacy, we continue to ask Congress to expand PPP, forgive current loans and reduce interest.
- Provide emergency paid leave to 106 million more Americans to reduce the spread of the virus.
  - Put the requirement back in place and eliminate exemptions for employers with more than 500 and less than 50 employees.
  - Expand emergency paid leave to include federal workers.
  - Provide a maximum paid leave benefit of \$1,400 per-week for eligible workers.
  - Reimburse employers with less than 500 employees for the cost of this leave.
  - Reimburse state and local government for the cost of this leave.
  - Extend emergency paid leave measures until September 30, 2021.

- Deliver Immediate, Direct Relief to Families Bearing the Brunt of the Crisis.
  - Second round of \$1,400 direct payments.
  - Extend and expand unemployment insurance benefits so American workers can pay their bills.
  - Provide a \$400 per-week unemployment insurance supplement to help hard-hit workers cover household expenses.
  - Extend the emergency unemployment insurance programs through September 2021.
  - Extend financial assistance for workers who have exhausted their regular unemployment compensation benefits.
  - Extend financial assistance for unemployed workers who do not typically qualify for unemployment compensation benefits.
  - Fully fund states' short-time compensation programs and additional weeks of benefits.
- Help struggling households keep a roof over their heads.
  - Ensure that families hit hard by the economic crisis won't face eviction or foreclosure.
  - Help renters and small landlords make ends meet by providing an additional \$30 billion in rental and critical energy and water assistance for hard-hit individuals and families.
  - Deliver \$5 billion in emergency assistance to help secure housing for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

- Raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour.
- Call on employers to meet their obligations to frontline essential workers and provide back hazard pay.
- Bolster financial security for families and essential workers in the midst of the pandemic.
- Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC).
  - Increase the CTC to \$3,000 per child (\$3,600 for a child under age 6) and make 17 year-olds qualifying children for the year.
  - Raise the maximum EITC for childless adults from roughly \$530 to \$1,500, raise the income limit for the credit from about \$16,000 to \$21,000, and expand the age range that is eligible including by eliminating the age cap for older workers and expanding eligibility for younger workers.
- Provide small businesses with the funding they need to reopen and rebuild.
  - Provide grants to more than 1 million of the hardest hit small businesses.
  - Leverage \$35 billion in government funds into \$175 billion in additional small business lending and investment.
- Allocate \$3 billion of this funding to the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Grants from EDA provide resources directly to state and local government entities, tribal institutions, institutions of 17 higher education, and non-profits to fund initiatives that support economic development.



# COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Plan

### COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Plan

- Mount a national vaccination program.
  - Invest \$20 billion in a national vaccination program in partnership with states, localities, Tribes and territories, this includes launching community vaccination centers around the country and deploying mobile vaccination units to hard-to-reach areas.
- Scale up testing to stop the spread of COVID, safely reopen schools, and protect at-risk populations.
  - Invest \$50 billion in a massive expansion of testing, providing funds for the purchase of rapid tests, investments to expand lab capacity, and support to help schools and local governments implement regular testing protocols.
- Mobilize a public health jobs program to support COVID-19 response.
  - This proposal will fund 100,000 public health workers, nearly tripling the country's community health roles.
- Address health disparities and COVID-19.
  - Funding to provide health services for underserved populations, including expanding Community Health Centers and investing in health services on tribal lands.
- Protect vulnerable populations in congregate settings.
- Identify and address emerging strains of COVID-19.
- Provide emergency relief and purchase critical supplies and deploy National Guard.



#### **Administration Nominations:**

- Confirming these nominations requires 50 votes and is usually the Senate's first order of business.
- Many senior officials are likely to be confirmed early on in the Administration, most appointments are expected before March 31st, 2021.

#### **Financial Services:**

- Appoint diverse candidates to key economic positions at the Treasury Department, National Economic Council (NEC), and financial regulatory agencies, including those that do not require Senate confirmation.
  - The USHCC has been asked by ranking Congresswoman Maxine Waters to make candidate recommendations from the Latino community who are interested in serving in these positions.

#### **Race, Justice and Diversity:**

- Rescind the previous Administration's Executive Order suspending diversity training programs for federal employees and contractors.
- Advance targeted police reforms including a national use of force standard, body camera requirements, training, mental health services, and potential bans on chokeholds/no-knock warrants.
- On page 17 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we call for justice and reform through policy and action to meaningfully address social and racial injustice in America in every community.

#### Executive Orders expected in the first 100 days

The Biden-Harris Administration will issue a series of Executive Orders to reverse the gravest damages of the previous administration and lay out a plan to move our country forward. These actions will, amongst other things, address the following key policy areas:

- Restore dignity to our immigration system and our border policies.
  - On page 27 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we encourage policymakers to facilitate legal immigration to meet the needs of our workforce: streamlining the visa process, improving the guest-worker program, and ensuring that visa caps meet the needs of employers.
  - On page 29 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we call for legislation that allows DREAMers and TPS recipients to maintain their legal status to live, work, and learn in the United States, as well as a clear pathway to citizenship.
- Begin the difficult but critical work of reuniting families separated at our borders.
  - On page 28 of the 2020-2021 *USHCC Policy Platform*, we ask the Administration to adopt a border security strategy that is both compassionate and economical, allowing hard-working immigrant families to pursue and achieve the American dream while protecting against threats to national security.

Executive Orders expected in the first 100 days

- Actions related to COVID-19, to build our economy back better.
  - On pages 20-21 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we highlight how the USHCC has worked with Congressional leadership to approve \$441 billion out of \$500 billion in the CARES Act, and recent stimulus that could impact Hispanic and Minority-owned small businesses. We must continue to work with Federal Agencies and Financial Institutions to track all Federal stimulus funding to ensure that the Latino community gets its fair share to economically recover.
- Extend the existing pause on student loan payments and interest for millions of Americans with federal student loan debt.
  - On page 23 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we call for the substantial reduction of the cost of higher education in order to increase its accessibility.

Executive Orders expected in the first 100 days

- Extend nationwide restrictions on evictions and foreclosures.
  - On page 30 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we advocate for more access to affordable housing as it is vital to the American economy due to its significant economic impacts, including the increase in local purchasing power, job creation, and new tax revenues.
- Actions to combat systemic racism and inequality.
  - On page 10 of the *2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform*, we call for justice and reform through policy and action to meaningfully address social and racial injustice in America in every community. The USHCC does not tolerate any forms of racism or injustice.
- Re-join the Paris Climate Agreement to tackle climate change and global warming.
- Terminate the ban against travel to the U.S. by individuals from Muslim-majority countries.
- Reaffirm the U.S. commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and other valued diplomatic and security alliances.
- Rejoin the World Health Organization.



# Other Domestic Policy Priorities

#### Infrastructure 1/2

- Invest in \$2 trillion or greater infrastructure package.
  - Invest in broad package of climate change solutions and resiliency measures.
    - Modernize electric grid infrastructure for increased clean power generation to achieve carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035.
    - 40% of funding directed toward disadvantaged communities.
  - Repair roads and bridges and invest in our transportation infrastructure, including public transit systems, airports, railways, waterways, and ports.
  - Retrofit and upgrade buildings, schools, and homes to become more energy efficient and sustainable.
- Reauthorize expiring surface transportation programs with the House-passed Moving Forward Act (H.R.
  2) as a starting point:
  - \$300 billion to upgrade roads and bridges.
  - Multi-billion-dollar investment through grants and loans to deploy broadband nationwide.
  - \$29 billion to triple Amtrak funding.
  - Invest in alternative fuel and electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including 500,000 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations.

#### Infrastructure 2/2

- Expand broadband and 5G access.
  - \$100 billion for affordable high-speed broadband across the country.
- Upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.
  - Invest in repair of water pipelines, sewer systems, and lead pipes, including \$25 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and \$40 billion for wastewater infrastructure.
- Strengthen and enforce Buy America laws.
  - \$400 billion for federal infrastructure and clean energy procurements to drive market for American made products.
  - Tighten domestic content requirements for infrastructure and limit Buy America waivers.
  - Require that all steel, iron, and manufactured products used in transportation projects to be subject to "Buy America" requirements.
- On page 17 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we make a call to invest in infrastructure development and renovation across the nation. At the same time, we advocate for the inclusion of Hispanic Business Enterprises (HBEs) in this process as this represents a tremendous opportunity in procurement options.

#### Climate 1/2

- Initiate re-entry into the Paris Climate Agreement and pledge U.S. support for Green Climate Fund.
- Issue Executive Orders that track priorities in "The Biden Plan for a Clean Energy Revolution and Environmental Justice".
  - Establish climate goals (zero emission power grid by 2035; net zero by 2050).
  - Focus climate policy on environmental justice.
  - Set federal agency purchasing, building, and adaptation requirements.
  - Require consideration of climate change under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses.
- Reverse rollbacks of environmental regulations and advance new regulations.
  - Address Clean Power Plan and Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rules.
  - Reinstate methane emissions rules.
  - Increase fuel economy standards.
  - Require climate risk disclosure.
- Reorient all federal decision-making to consider climate change with executive action and appointments of high profile, recognizable, diverse climate staff.
- Create a Clean Energy Export and Climate Investment Initiative to promote the export of U.S. clean energy technology and limit export financing for fossil fuel projects.

#### Climate 2/2

- Prioritize climate change in the infrastructure/stimulus proposal based on detailed plans in: "The Biden Plan to Secure Environmental Justice and Equitable Opportunity".
  - \$2 trillion over four years.
  - 40% of funding directed toward disadvantaged communities with increased focus on environmental justice throughout climate policy.
- Pursue enactment of an Energy Efficiency and Clean Electricity Standard (EECES).
- Release longer-term proposal to establish an enforcement mechanism to achieve the net zero by 2050 goal.
- On page 36 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we advocate to ensure legislative action that supports Hispanic-owned businesses having opportunities to participate in the transition to a cleaner energy future. This includes, all aspects such as procurement opportunities, issues of equity and inclusion, and the impact of energy legislation in Hispanic communities.

- Reestablish and reinvigorate White House initiatives to promote educational attainment for underrepresented groups (White House Initiative on Education Excellence for African Americans, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence For Hispanics, and others).
- Provide grants to accelerate attainment of credentials and to support job training programs.
- Eliminate limits on international student visas.
- Equitable treatment of "Dreamers" (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Recipients) students so they can access assistance.
  - The USHCC will continue to work with individuals, on both sides of the aisle, to pass meaningful legislation that will create a pathway to U.S. citizenship for Dreamers.
- Reinstate gainful employment rules and borrower defense rules.
- Student civil rights enforcement rules.
- Increased funding for K-12 schools and colleges serving disadvantaged students.

#### **Education 2/2**

- Reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA).
  - On page 23 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we advocate in favor of education policy that prepares students for a competitive global workforce. It is imperative that the cost of higher education is reduced to increase accessibility.
- Double the maximum value of Pell Grants and indexing to inflation.
- Allow Pell Grants to be used for dual enrollment programs.
- Fix the existing Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.
- Increase funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs).
- Reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
- Invest \$50 billion in high-quality training programs, including through public-private partnerships.
- On pages 22-23 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we advocate for expanding Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, career & technical education, and ensuring access to equitable education at every level.

#### **Financial Services 1/2**

- Expand and extend eviction and foreclosure moratoriums and provide emergency rental assistance.
- Provide relief for small businesses, minority-owned businesses, and nonprofits by prohibiting debt collection and requiring forbearance and loan modifications through a temporary credit facility.
  - On page 21 of the *2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform*, we express our support for ensuring stimulus funding and economic relief for 501(c)(6) chambers of commerce and other non-profit organizations.
- Extend the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act consumer protections for federal student loan borrowers.
- Temporarily suspend negative credit reporting for consumers and advance reforms to the credit reporting industry.

- Expand banking services for lower-income individuals and strengthen support for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs) to serve these communities.
  - On page 21 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we address the capital needs and lending abilities of MDIs, Small Business Investment Companies (SBICs), community banks, smaller regional banks, minority asset managers, and CDFIs that serve minority and low-income communities who represent some of the most vulnerable businesses as it pertains to cash flow and liquidity.
- On pages 20-21 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we advocate for small business capital solutions beyond the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Emergency Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to provide additional public/private solutions to our small and diverse businesses and ensure that a broader range of solutions, as well as access to capital, are available for our business owners and chambers of commerce.

- Reverse the previous Administration's actions that have weakened the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- Rollback the previous Administration's guidance allowing for Medicaid work requirements/block grants.
- Develop new Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) alternative payment models.
- Expand eligibility for financial assistance and increase subsidies for the health insurance marketplaces.
- Enhance federal support to states for Medicaid expansion.
- Increase federal funding for Medicaid during times of economic downturn.
- Create a Public Insurance Option.
- Reduce Prescription Drug Pricing: Allow Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices, tax drug manufacturers with price increases above inflation, eliminate tax breaks for pharmaceutical company advertising spending, and allow prescription drug importation from other countries.
- Expand Telehealth networks.
- On pages 16 and 25 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we express our support in improving the affordability of healthcare for Small Business Owners and Hispanic-American families. This includes protecting benefits under the ACA where more than 5.7 million small business employees or self-employed entrepreneurs are enrolled.

#### **Immigration 1/2**

- Reverse efforts to end the DACA Program.
  - On page 29 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we call for legislation that allows DREAMers and TPS recipients to maintain their legal status to live, work and learn in the United States, as well as a pathway to citizenship.
- End national emergency declaration that allows border wall funding.
- End family separation policies at the U.S.-Mexico Border.
- Prioritize reunification of families that have been separated due to negligence by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- End the previous Administration's Migrant Protection Protocols Program.
- Restore naturalization processes for green card holders.
- Reduce the number of prosecutions at the border for minor immigration violations.
- Undo regulations that make it harder for Central Americans to seek asylum in the United States.

- Create legislation that leads to comprehensive immigration reform.
  - On page 27 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we make a call to prioritizing immigration as an economic imperative. In this section, we urge the government to craft policies that help immigrants enter the workforce and join the fabric of U.S. society.
- Establish a path to U.S. citizenship for Dreamers.
- Provide protections for the parents of Dreamers in the U.S.
- Investment in technology and screening infrastructure at the U.S.-Mexico border.
  - On page 28 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we ask the Administration to adopt a border security strategy that is both compassionate and economical, allowing hard-working immigrant families to pursue and achieve the American dream while protecting against threats to national security.
- In anticipation of passing immigration reform during the 117th Congress, our partners at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) have laid out 17 immigration principles. <u>Click here to view.</u>

#### **Taxes 1/2**

- Tax relief for middle class families.
  - Expand access to refundable healthcare premium tax credits.
  - Expand childcare tax credit from \$6,800 to \$8,000.
- Increase tax benefits for those with long-term care insurance.
  - Make credit for first-time home buyers immediate and permanent.
  - Equalize tax benefits of retirement plans for low- and middle-income workers.
- Repeal portions of the previous Administration's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.
  - Raise top marginal tax rate from 37% to 39.6%.
  - Repeal \$10,000 cap on state and local tax deductions.
  - Repeal 20% deduction for income from pass-throughs as it applies to high-income households.
- Increase taxes on top income levels.
  - Place 12.4% payroll tax on wages above \$400,000.
  - Limit itemized deductions.
  - Tax capital gains as ordinary income at 39.6% for households with income over \$1 million and unrealized capital gains at death.

#### **Taxes 2/2**

- "Made in America" tax plan.
  - 10% "Made in America" tax credit for businesses that invest in:
    - Revitalizing closed or nearly closed facilities and retooling or expanding those facilities.
    - Bringing production and/or service jobs back to the U.S.
  - 10% surtax for companies that move overseas and sell to U.S. customers from a U.S. company's foreign affiliate.
- Corporate tax changes.
  - Increase corporate tax rate from 21% to 28%.
  - Double the global intangible low-taxed income (GILTI) rate from 10.5% to 21%, eliminate the ability of companies to exclude certain property abroad from the tax, and calculate GILTI on a country-by country basis rather than allowing companies to average across borders.
  - Strong tax inversion regulations and penalties to limit companies from shifting their headquarters overseas for tax purposes.
- On page 36 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Platform, we advocate for tax breaks for companies who implement environmental sustainability practices.

#### Technology (Antitrust/Privacy)

- Continuation of the previous Administration's investigations of/lawsuits against dominant tech platforms.
  - Bi-partisan support for addressing "Big Tech" dominance.
- More stringent merger reviews with an implicit bias against consolidation.
- Pursuit of legislation strengthening enforcement and merger standards including:
  - Increased resources for enforcement.
  - Shifting burden of proof to merging parties.
  - Prohibitions on dominant e-commerce platforms competing with third-party sellers.
- Strong push for comprehensive privacy and data security legislation.
  - On page 34 of the *2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform*, we advocate for the importance and vitality of having privacy in the data economy.
- Renewed bipartisan focus on reforming Section 230 of the Communications Act.
- The USHCC will continue to monitor actions by the Department of Justice and the House Judiciary Committee's antitrust investigations and lawsuits, and work with our Government Affairs Committee and Board of Directors to develop a position on behalf of the Hispanic Business Community and our members.

### Technology (Broadband)

- Emergency pandemic relief.
  - Enhanced e-rate and telehealth support.
  - Emergency broadband benefit to qualified households.
  - Prohibitions on internet service providers (ISPs) cutting off broadband to households.
  - The Hispanic Technology & Telecommunications Partnership (HTTP) Coalition is asking to Expand Eligibility for Lifeline and the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB).
- Broadband Infrastructure.
  - Multi-billion-dollar investment through grants and loans to deploy broadband nationwide.
  - Prohibition against state regulations which inhibit local governments from deploying and offering broadband to consumers.
- The HTTP Coalition is advocating for the establishment an office of Civil Rights, Digital Equity & Empowerment and the expansion of Latino, Black, and indigenous representation on the commission, in the agency's workforce and on the various Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) advisory committees.
- On page 34 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we make a call to action for the development of secure communications infrastructure. The USHCC highlights the access to broadband connectivity and the expansion of technological infrastructure to rural and historically underserved communities in order to diminish the digital divide in America.
- Reinstatement of FCC Title II Authority (Net Neutrality).

### Technology (Cybersecurity)

- Modernize federal information technology to protect against future cyber attacks.
  - Expand and improve the Technology Modernization Fund.
    - \$9 billion investment to help the U.S. launch major new IT and cybersecurity shared services at the Cyber Security and Information Security Agency (CISA) and the General Services Administration.
  - Surge cybersecurity technology and engineering expert hiring.
    - Provide the Information Technology Oversight and Reform fund with \$200 million for the rapid hiring of hundreds of experts to support the federal Chief Information Security Officer and U.S. Digital Service.
  - Build shared, secure services to drive transformational projects.
    - Investing \$300 million in no-year funding for Technology Transformation Services in the General Services Administration.
  - Improving security monitoring and incident response activities.
    - An additional \$690M for CISA to bolster cybersecurity across federal civilian networks.
- On page 33 of the 2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform, we encourage the FCC and leaders in the technology industry to take appropriate action to inhibit hackers and prevent future cyber attacks.

2020-2021 USHCC Policy Platform



### Sources

- 1. Build Back Better (2021); <u>https://buildbackbetter.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/COVID\_Relief-Package-Fact-Sheet.pdf</u>
- 2. CBS News (2021); <u>https://www.cbsnews.com/news/biden-executive-orders-watch-live-stream-today-2021-01-20/</u>
- 3. Congressional Hispanic Caucus (2021); <u>www.chc.house.gov</u>
- 4. Glover Park Group (2020); <u>www.gpg.com</u>
- 5. Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership (HTTP) (2021); <u>https://www.httppolicy.org/</u>
- 6. Small Business Roundtable (2020); <u>www.smallbusinessroundtable.org</u>
- 7. The White House (2021); <u>www.whitehouse.gov</u>
- 8. United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) (2020); <u>https://ushcc.com/advocacy/</u>



We encourage our members to contact our team for any additional information, questions you may have, or if we can provide any necessary technical assistance to your business during this time.

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