

June 6, 2023

Senator Ben Ray Luján 498 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Luján,

The National Hispanic Media Coalition (NHMC) would like to express our strong support for the Language-Inclusive Support and Transparency for Online Services (LISTOS) Act, which seeks to prioritize the safety and integrity of media platforms across non-English languages. The LISTOS Act is a much needed first step in eliminating the spread of false and hateful content online through platform accountability.

NHMC has worked consistently to protect Latino communities from harmful content online. Unfortunately, many Latinos continue to face hate, misinformation, and fraud on these platforms, particularly when it comes to Spanish-language content. For example, Meta failed to address 70 percent of Spanish-language misinformation related to COVID-19 compared to English. This is especially concerning given that Latinos were 57 percent more likely to utilize social media and various digital platforms as a primary source of information during the pandemic. This failure is part of a larger pattern of platforms underinvesting in the moderation of non-English language content. In an ever changing, digital age, it is imperative that Latinos and all non-English language speakers are accessing and exposed to safe, reliable and accurate media that is free of hate and disinformation.

To address these complex issues, platforms must be held accountable. The LISTOS Act begins this process by requiring platforms to disclose information on the staff and automated processes used in content moderation and translation. In addition, LISTOS establishes an advisory group to the FTC, which increases accountability and prioritizes the protections of non-English language users across the country.

NHMC commends you for taking the initiative towards the critical need for accountability and transparency from media platforms. The LISTOS Act will not only help address the inconsistencies of moderation across languages on all platforms, but assist in making



the internet a safer place for Latinos and non-English speakers to engage in an increasingly digital world.

Yours in the Movement,

Brenda Victoria Castillo

President & CEO

National Hispanic Media Coalition