August 2, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer and Senator Manchin:

On behalf of UnidosUS, I write to applaud your leadership in the development of the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022,” which would make health coverage and prescription drugs more affordable, ease inflation, combat climate change, and ensure the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes. The package would make a significant difference in the lives of millions of Americans, especially at a time when many still struggle to pay for the rising costs of housing, food, gasoline, and other necessities. We therefore call on you and the Senate to ensure that the critical provisions in the hard-fought deal are not harmed by cuts or added poison pill amendments and that the complete package passes the Senate intact.

Too often amendments brought forward during vote-a-rama aim to undermine the impact of and reduce votes for the bill and score political points by demonizing communities of color and immigrants. We are particularly concerned that this vote-a-rama will be used to spread toxic misinformation and limit access to affordable health coverage, including reproductive health; undercut access to the safety net by all Americans, including those in mixed status families; harm immigrants and asylum seekers; hinder the education of our children about factual U.S. history; and obstruct police accountability and public safety, to name a few. The package should not be sullied or damaged by such efforts. Senators should hold the line and vote down any poison pill amendment outside the realm of the merits and the spirit of this agreement.

It took us—the Congress, the Administration, advocates, and Americans of all backgrounds—much work and compromise to get to this point. On the eve of a critical vote on a package that, if enacted as agreed to, will be a historic health, climate, and inflation lifeline for people across the country, we ask you to protect the agreement embodied in the “Inflation Reduction Act.” Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet Murguía
President and CEO