



February 3, 2021

Dear Friends and Movement Family,

First and foremost, we commend the strength and courage of the women affected by Representative Diego Hernandez in coming forward. We stand with you.

Last spring a few members of our [Alianza Poder](#) network issued the accountability statement below for Representative Diego Hernandez as a result of his harmful actions towards several women. In the statement we asked Representative Hernandez to step down from his legislative role no later than the closing of the Legislative Equity Office investigation. We urge Representative Hernandez to begin to do right by the victims of his malice behavior and all the communities that have supported him throughout his life by resigning from his legislative position immediately.

We also acknowledge that Representative Hernandez's imminent resignation is just one step in a long path towards healing and restoration for all the parties he has affected. We remain committed towards facilitating an independent, community-based accountability process for Representative Hernandez rooted in transformative justice and focused on collective healing. However, before this happens, Representative Hernandez must take full responsibility for his harmful actions. As a movement, we lead with our core values of dignity, equity and respect. We center our most impacted community members and we will not tolerate this behavior under any circumstances.

As a network led by Latinx leaders for the Latinx community, we also remain committed to addressing toxic masculinity and sexual harassment in our movement spaces and ultimately the power imbalances caused by systemic oppression through sexism, racism, homophobia, and classism. We must do more and we will.

En comunidad,

Alianza Poder Members

PCUN

Capaces Leadership Institute

Causa

Latinos Unidos Siempre

Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas

Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos

Mano a Mano Family Center

Farmworker Housing Development Corporation

Salem Keizer Coalition for Equality

Questions about statement: email apcomms@capacesleadership.org or 503-302-6549



2020 Statement by members of the Alianza Poder

June 8, 2020

To: Movement allies

First, we would be remiss not to acknowledge the stress and pressures that COVID-19 is wreaking on our Latinx community and the pain and suffering the black community is experiencing after the recent murders of our black brothers. We stand with you!

In times like these, it may seem difficult to take a pause to handle situations where leaders must be held accountable; however, we understand that having trusted, capable leaders at the helm is essential to guiding our community out of this crisis as quickly and equitably as possible.

That's why we were deeply saddened and pained to learn about incidents involving Representative Diego Hernandez – first, through some events we first became aware of that transpired between him and one of the victims; and secondly, through the seven allegations that followed, which included allegations of sexual harassment and creating a hostile work environment.

We acknowledge the pain and suffering of the women impacted by these events, and we commend their strength and bravery in coming forward. We appreciate the newly created Legislative Equity Office for leading the ongoing investigation, and for demonstrating a commitment to making the Capitol a safer place to work for everyone. We share that commitment.

We also understand, both theoretically and viscerally, the disparate treatment that Black and Brown Oregonians are subjected to on a daily basis. Despite recent and well-intentioned progress, the Oregon State Legislature has a long way to go to provide dignity, fairness, and respect for Black, Indigenous, and other people of color working in the Capitol.

After consulting with several Latinx leaders, we are called to facilitate an independent, community-based accountability process in response to the allegations involving Representative Hernandez — a process rooted in racial justice and focused on healing.

Our organizations will withhold judgment in regards to Representative Hernandez until the outcomes of the Legislative Equity Office's investigation are released, and our own accountability processes are completed. Nevertheless, it is clear that these events have compromised and hindered Representative Hernandez's ability to lead, and to deliver positive change for Latinx and immigrant communities.



For this reason, on the morning of May 6, 2020, our organizations made the direct request of Representative Hernandez to step down from his legislative position. Though we would support his immediate resignation, we asked the Representative to step down no later than the closing of LEO's investigation.

It is with a heavy heart that we share this news today. We commit to continue serving our community and recommit to working towards gender and racial justice in our organizations, movements, and systems. This includes supporting the next generation of Black and Indigenous legislators of color, and Representative Hernandez's successor in the process.

Thank you for your continued support, and dedication to our movement. These moments test our foundations, and they make us stronger. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have concerns, or need support, as we understand the trauma-activating nature of these events.

La Lucha Sigue,

Reyna Lopez, Executive Director of PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker and Latinx union

Jaime Arredondo, Executive Director of Capaces Leadership Institute

Adriana Miranda, Executive Director of Causa Oregon's Immigrant Rights Organization