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For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

THE LIBRE INITIATIVE RELEASES KEY FINDINGS OF NEW U.S. HISPANIC POLL: HARDER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ACHIEVE THE AMERICAN DREAM

Tuesday, April 10, 2012, Miami, Florida – The LIBRE Initiative (LIBRE) released key findings of a new poll of U.S. Hispanics nationwide and from key states. LIBRE’s national poll conducted by the Tarrance Group interviewed 1500 Hispanic voters nationwide. The key findings presented by LIBRE’s Executive Director, Daniel Garza and LIBRE’s National Coordinator, Jose Mallea indicate that most U.S. Hispanics remain concerned about the current state of the economy, and are generally dissatisfied with the direction of the country. A majority of those polled also believe that leaders in Washington should place greater emphasis on containing the federal debt and U.S. government spending. And, while most believe they have already achieved the American Dream, a majority remains pessimistic that future generations will be able to achieve it.

“The polling we conducted of U.S. Hispanic and Latinos from across the Nation provides us with a true snapshot of their views and unvarnished sentiments on a variety of economic, social and political issues, said Daniel Garza. “As the fastest growing minority population in the U.S. – 50.5 million strong – it is our children and future generations that will be saddled with a huge federal debt, whose community is being impoverished by big government policies, and who feel the American Dream is slipping away, but few are focused on this crisis in our community until now,” continued Garza.

Some of the key findings highlighted during the briefing include the following:

A majority, 51% of Hispanics from across the country, said things in the U.S. are off on the wrong track, while just 40% say things are moving in the right direction.

Also, while 53% of Hispanics in the U.S. believe that they have already achieved the American dream, they are highly pessimistic about the next generation’s ability to achieve it. In fact, only 36% said the next generation will be better off financially, while a majority, 52%, believe it will not.

And, when it comes to things that would most help Hispanics achieve the American dream, a majority, 56% throughout the country, say it is less rather than more government involvement.

The findings also indicate that our community clearly places a higher priority on strengthening our families, rather than on government programs. Three quarters, 73% of Hispanic-Americans, said the focus should be more on building strong families, while 17% say it should be on increasing government assistance programs.

When it comes to career choices in the United States, a majority, 51% nationally, say it is harder for Hispanics and Latinos to open a business in America today compared to four years ago. This is significant

given there are currently an estimated 3 million Hispanic-owned businesses in the U.S. according to some studies.

Yet, while most express a deep level of dissatisfaction with the current state of affairs, Hispanics throughout the country are generally supportive of Democrats and President Barack Obama. For instance, although 52% disapprove of President Obama's handling of gas prices, a majority, 58%, approve of the job he is doing overall.

"We're excited to announce the poll nationally from Florida today. We wanted to learn what issues truly concern Hispanics so that LIBRE can best fill the information gap, and empower them to raise their voice to bring about the kind of change that will help us build stronger and more prosperous communities across America," said Mallea. "Our distinguished group of panelists provided us with a robust conversation about the significance of the poll and the best approach to engage our community and mobilize greater numbers to get involved in our movement," Mallea continued.

The announcement of the national poll findings were followed by a panel discussion in Miami, Florida. The panelists who discussed the implications of the findings included: The Honorable Francis Suarez, City of Miami Commissioner, Dr. Emilio Gonzalez, former Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Helen Aguirre Ferre, Editor of *El Diario de Las Americas* (Opinion Page), and Jorge Luis Lopez, Esq., of Jorge Luis Lopez Law Firm.

A luncheon and keynote address featuring The Honorable Carlos Gimenez, Miami-Dade County Mayor, also provided attendees an opportunity to discuss the issues that most concern us as Americans in today's uncertain economic climate.

To read more about the poll visit www.thelibreinitiative.com or www.LibreProspero.com.

About LIBRE

LIBRE is a non-profit nonpartisan organization with headquarters in Texas. LIBRE's mission is to increase economic freedom and prosperity by promoting free enterprise, personal responsibility, and a more constitutionally limited government. We are committed to empowering the U.S. Hispanic and Latino community so that it grows, thrives, and can lead America to a healthier and freer economic future.

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The LIBRE Initiative (LIBRE) is a nonprofit nonpartisan 501(c)(4) organization headquartered in Texas. Learn more about LIBRE by visiting www.thelibreinitiative.com, www.LIBREProspero.com, or our Facebook page (The LIBRE Initiative) and following us on Twitter – @libreinitiative. Or contact LIBRE at: info@thelibreinitiative.com, or call (956) 519-4200.

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