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House of Representatives
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**30 JEWISH AND HISPANIC MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
CONGRATULATE MEXICO ON ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAW**

WASHINGTON, DC – Representatives Henry A. Waxman (D-CA) and Ciro D. Rodriguez (D-TX) today joined 28 Jewish and Hispanic Members of Congress in a letter congratulating the Government of Mexico on the recent passage of landmark civil rights legislation that prohibits all forms of discrimination including anti-Semitism.

“At a time when anti-Semitism around the world is getting worse, Mexico has demonstrated bold leadership in its effort to outlaw hate crimes and protect minorities,” Representative Waxman said. “There are many areas where Jewish and Hispanic Members of Congress have common interests. We are proud to come together to mark this great victory for human rights.”

Representative Rodriguez said, “This accomplishment is another great example of the shared values and shared goals of the United States and Mexico. It is important that we recognize this achievement and use it as an opportunity to work even more closely with Mexico to strengthen democracy, tolerance and diversity in our countries.”

The letter commends Mexican President Vicente Fox for his leadership on this issue and expresses solidarity with the Mexican people in the fight to advance equal opportunity and respect for all citizens. The anti-discrimination legislation was signed into law on June 9, 2003.

Representative Rodriguez added, "One of my goals as Hispanic Caucus chair is to build stronger working relationships with other groups in Congress, and I expect a close partnership with Jewish Members of Congress on many areas of mutual concern."

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