



PEDRO E. SEGARRA
MAYOR

JOB CREATION CRUCIAL FOR HARTFORD RESIDENTS

NEWS AND COMMUNITY STATEMENT

(October 5, 2011)--- Hartford Mayor Pedro E. Segarra expressed deep concern about Hartford's high unemployment amongst Hispanics according to a new study released by the Economic Policy Institute. The Washington-based think tank ranked Hartford second in the nation with an unemployment rate of 23.5% among Hispanics. Only Providence, Rhode Island ranked higher at 25.2%.

"This is, quite frankly, a very troubling number. With 44% of our City and 51% of our public school children being Hispanic, we need to work harder to not only create jobs, but to ensure that our residents and students have the proper training and opportunity to get these jobs.

That is why I am a strong supporter of programs like the Jobs Funnel that work hand-in-hand with the building trades to provide high-quality on-the-job training and work experience. That is why I am such a strong supporter of our reform policies in the Hartford Public School System; Hartford's youth need to be properly prepared to compete in the areas of math, science, technology: the foundation of future job-growth professions. That is why I have championed re-entry programs -- those who have paid their debt to society deserve a second chance in life to earn a decent wage and provide for their families.

These are real solutions to real issues in Hartford. While I understand these numbers, I don't accept them -- Connecticut's Capital City shouldn't accept them -- and I intend to continue working day and night to change the underlying conditions that contribute significantly to this reality," said the Mayor.