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For Immediate Release

Arizona and California Latino Vote Shows the Potential Trump Effect

Anti-Immigrant Policies and Politicians Fueled Massive Latino Voting

(Nov 13, 2015 Los Angeles, CA) “New Analysis from WCVI shows the measurable effect of anti-immigrant politicians and policies on the Latino vote. Basically 2004-10 in Arizona Latino voters hyper-mobilized in defense of voting rights and human rights, said,” said Antonio Gonzalez, President of the William C. Velasquez Institute upon release of WCVI’s newest Latino vote research paper.

Entitled “The Latino Vote in 2016: Early Presidential Primaries and Caucuses in Arizona, Nevada, Colorado and Florida; and California” the study finds that Arizona Latino voting grew massively due to Latino community resistance to anti-immigrant policies (e.g. SB 1070) and politicians (e.g. Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio) over the past several election cycles. Download the new study here: <http://wcv.org/files/TheLatinoVotein2016PressRelease1.pdf>

The "Sheriff Joe Arpaio factor" in Arizona in 2002 -2010 is demonstrably measurable and similar to the "Gov. Pete Wilson factor" in California during 1994-98.

During 2002-10 Arizona Latino registered voters grew from 259,000 to 610,000 or 135% and Latino voting increased by 162.6% growing from 155,000 to 407,000.

A. Arizona Latino Voting 2002-2010

Arizona	2002	2010	Ch	%
Latino VR	259	610	351	135.5%
Latino VC	155	407	252	162.6%

And Arizona Latino turnout spiked in 2006 and 2010 with nearly 70% turnout of registered in both elections, highly unusual for Arizona Latinos in Mid-term elections.

These patterns are similar to the California experience with the "Pete Wilson factor" of 1990-98. Latino voting grew dramatically during the 90's movement against the anti-immigrant Governor Pete Wilson and a series of anti-immigrant (Prop 187 in Nov 1994), anti-bilingual education (Prop 209 in Nov 1996) and anti-affirmative action (Prop 229 in June 1998) "wedge issue" ballot measures promoted by sectors of the California Republican party.

During 1994 and 1998 California Latinos turned out at rates typical of Presidential elections (not Mid-term ones) with 82.9% and 76.5% respectively. Moreover, these two elections are the only two in California state history in which the percent share of Latino votes cast matched the percent share of Latino registered voters. Typically, the Latino voter percent share is several points below the Latino voter registration share, i.e. typically California Latinos under-vote, but this was not the case in 1994-98.

Therefore there is reason to believe that the leading Republican Presidential Candidate Donald Trump with his unapologetic anti-immigrant discourse "Mexico sends rapists and criminals to the US..." as well as his plan to build a border wall and support for the infamous "Operation Wetback" program of the 1950's -in which 1.3 million Mexican-origin persons in the US were deported- will play the same role as did California's Wilson and Arizona's Arpaio in stimulating Latino hyper mobilization to the polls if he is indeed the Republican nominee for President.

WCVI is a paramount national Latino public policy and research organization founded in 1985 by the late Latino voting rights icon Willie Velasquez. WCVI is currently conducting a policy conference in Los Angeles. For conference info see www.wcvi.org.