

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2019

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
House Subcommittee on State,
Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on State,
Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Rogers,

We are writing to express our support for the General Capital Increase (GCI) for the North American Development Bank (“NADB” or “Bank”). The NADB was created by the governments of the United States and Mexico in a joint effort to preserve and enhance environmental conditions and the quality of life of people living along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Bank offers direct financing in the form of loans and grants to public and private entities for the implementation of their projects and is a critical component of the bilateral relationship between the United States and our third largest trading partner and Southern neighbor, Mexico. Through water and wastewater projects, the NADB’s investments have benefitted 14 million people, many of whom faced health-threatening conditions due to unsafe standards for drinking water. Many more have benefited from NADB investment in other sectors.

In 2018, the NADB approved \$131.7 million in new loans. A capital increase would allow the Bank to maintain its current level of investment in the border region. As of December 31, 2018, NADB’s outstanding loan portfolio was \$1.28 billion, and the total investment value of all the projects to which it provides or administers funding is over \$9.7 billion, reflecting the Bank’s ability to leverage additional financing for projects from the private and public sectors.


Strengthening the NADB would be an important demonstration of the United States’ shared commitment with Mexico to build a stable and prosperous border region. As a valued and trusted institution on both sides of the border, the Bank can continue to build needed infrastructure, while helping to mitigate high poverty rates and security challenges

along the U.S.-Mexico border. As you work towards an FY 2020 appropriations bill, we strongly urge you to support border communities through robust funding of the NADB's GCI.

Sincerely,



Filemon Vela
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



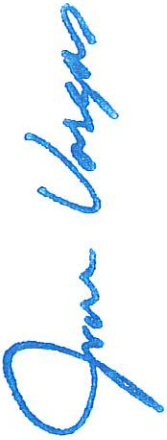
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MEMBER OF CONGRESS



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