



# **NORTH CAROLINA**

## LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2023

[www.BeLIBRE.org](http://www.BeLIBRE.org)





# The LIBRE Initiative

## 2023 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The LIBRE Initiative - North Carolina's 2023 legislative agenda will continue to focus on what Hispanics care about the most – quality education for our children, affordable health care, affordable housing, and economic opportunity.

### K-12 EDUCATION

Education should be an experience that fosters the unique potential of every student. Unfortunately, today's system instead focuses more on the routine process of schooling—telling students to sit quietly and memorize information. The result is students who lack the critical thinking skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

#### Policy Solutions

- **Empower families to select the education options that best fits their values and needs.**
- **Remove restrictions to Opportunity Scholarships to make them available to everyone.**
- **Promote competition among educational providers. Competition improves student performance, teacher pay and family engagement.**
- **Advance open enrollment policies to increase choice regardless of geographic location.**

### REIMAGINING HEALTHCARE

Latinos are worried about not being able to afford health care. Far too many families are confronting the challenges of high health care costs, few options and feeling overwhelmed by an incredibly complex health care system. It shouldn't have to be this way.

The pandemic has taught us that health care works best when we unleash innovation and remove barriers between patients and medical professionals. The North Carolina Legislature should make the pandemic waivers permanent and repeal needless rules and mandates in favor of competition, innovation, and consumer empowerment—the only sure way to simultaneously reduce costs, expand access, and improve quality.



## **Policy Solutions**

- **Resist the expansion of Medicaid, instead focus on a personal option model**
- **Repeal of Certificate of Need (CON), which reduces competition and consequently restrict access to high-quality healthcare**
- **Pass Scope-of-Practice Reform and support the SAVE Act to lower cost, increase access and improve health outcomes**

## **BUILDING A THRIVING ECONOMY**

Hispanics and all North Carolinians continue to struggle with the negative economic impacts of the pandemic and government actions that have created barriers to economic growth, stability, and freedom. Our community thrives when we are empowered to reach our financial goals and dreams. The North Carolina Legislature should support policies that foster innovation, remove barriers to opportunity, and enable everyone to improve their lives and communities.

## **Policy Solutions**

- **Remove burdensome and unnecessary regulations surrounding occupational licensing specifically net worth and language requirements**
- **Adopt the "Occupational License Consumer Choice" Act <sup>1</sup>**
- **Adopt the "Right to Earn a Living" Act <sup>2</sup>**
- **Subject all licensing boards to yearly review and eliminate ineffective ones**

<sup>1</sup> The Occupational Licensing Consumer Choice Act is model legislation that provides consumers with the right to choose a worker who best serves their needs irrespective of whether that person holds an occupational license from the state of North Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> The Right to Earn a Living Act is model legislation that would ensure that all government regulations are limited to legitimate public health, safety, and welfare objectives, and that individuals are free to earn a share of the American Dream.