

Statement from Los Angeles County Supervisor for the First District, Hilda Solis:

“Upon being elected to Congress, one of the first bills I introduced directed the National Park Service to initiate a historical resource study relating to Cesar Chavez’s life and the Farm Labor Movement,” **said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District.** “Each year I was re-elected, I re-introduced the bill. It always passed the House, but it unfortunately stalled in the Senate. Finally, in 2008, my bill was passed and four years later, thanks to President Barack Obama, the César E. Chávez National Monument was established at Nuestra Senora Reina de la Paz in Keene, California in 2012. Today, I am grateful to Senator Alex Padilla and Congressman Raul Ruiz for taking the study a step further to establish a National Historic Park that represents a necessary step in our collective efforts to preserve Cesar’s legacy.”

Statement from Latinos in Heritage Conservation:

Sehila Mota Casper, Executive Director of Latinos in Heritage Conservation, stated, “Ten years after President Obama established the César E. Chávez National Monument, we call on Congress to build upon that foundation through a National Historical Park that will preserve the broader history of the Farmworker Movement -- a movement that united heroic women and men who were seeking fairness and equality. We also recognize that the National Park Service must continue to improve upon its efforts to be America’s storyteller and thereby attract, educate, and serve America’s increasingly diverse population. The César E. Chávez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park would interpret an important chapter in our nation’s history, celebrate our nation’s growing diversity, and strengthen the unity we must share today if we are to overcome the challenges of tomorrow.”

Statement from the United Farm Workers:

Teresa Romero, President of UFW, wrote, “Establishing this park would pay tribute to the contributions of one of the most consequential leaders in U.S. history as well as the countless others who selflessly worked with him, all while teaching everyone about the struggle for justice for America’s farm workers. It will continually inspire and educate all Americans. It is crucial that our national parks represent the diversity of America and respect the rich heritage of all of its people. Establishing a Cesar Chavez National Historical Park would help realize this vision.

Statement from the La Unión del Pueblo Entero (LUPE):

Juanita Valdez-Cox wrote, “After lengthy investigation and consideration, the National Park Service in 2013 recommended that the Congress form this park to document our history. Among other historical sites, the park would embrace the present Cesar E. Chavez National Monument at La Paz in Keene, California. This new park would be an opportunity for all people in our country to learn about and recognize the transformational contributions made by Cesar Chavez and the civil rights and labor movement he and others forged. By taking this action, Congress would recognize one of the most important figures in 20th Century America history, acknowledge so many other men and women who nobly joined *La Causa*, and hard-fought nonviolent struggle for equality by the farm workers of America.”

Statement from The Wilderness Society:

“The Wilderness Society strongly supports legislation to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and Farmworker Movement National Historical Park to convey the vital role that Cesar Chavez and other farm labor leaders played in our history. This important legislation will help ensure that

America's public lands are more welcoming and inclusive and better reflect the diversity that makes our country great," **said President Jamie Williams, The Wilderness Society.**

Statement from National Park Conservation Association:

"Establishing the Cesar Chavez and Farmworker Movement National Historical Park is a significant step toward recognizing the legacy of Chavez and the broader farmworker movement, which transformed agriculture and labor organizing in the American West." **said Dennis Arguelles, Los Angeles Program Manager for the National Parks Conservation Association.** "We are grateful to Senator Alex Padilla and Representative Raul Ruiz for their leadership in preserving this critical piece of American history and seeking its inclusion in our national park system."

Statement from the Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence:

"For over half a century, the nationally significant history of Cesar E. Chavez and the Non-Violent Farmworker Movement has been a beacon of light for our nation and world. As ever, Americans and the global community are hungry for witness of the persistence of goodness. It will be the dream of my life and was the dream of my father's, to set in its rightful place among American history this brilliant beacon of light. The Farmworker movement gives historic witness to the extraordinary greatness born of ordinary people who give their lives in humble service of others," **said Serena Alvarez, Executive Director of the Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence.**

Statement from APIAHiP:

"Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation expresses strong support for establishing the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park. In 2013, after years of study and community engagement, the National Park Service recommended that Congress establish a Cesar Chavez National Historical Park that would include the Cesar Chavez National Monument and other sites that tell the Chavez story. Establishing such a park is an opportunity to spread the legacy and vision of Chavez and other leaders in the farm labor movement to audiences around the country.

"It is crucial that our national parks represent the diversity of America and respect the rich heritage of its people. Establishing this National Park would help fulfill this vision," **said Dr. Michelle Magalong, President of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation.** "We support honoring the legacy of many leaders of the farm labor movement and support legislation by Senator Padilla and Representative Ruiz to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park."

Statement from California Catholic Conference:

"The California Catholic Conference supports the creation of the Cesar Chavez and Farm Labor Movement National Historic Park. Cesar Chavez, motivated by his deep Catholic faith, recognized the dignity of every person, and worked for a dignified environment for farm workers. He built a movement of solidarity with farm workers, mobilizing them to create community and pathways for justice. This monument will memorialize his contribution and encourage new generations to put their faith into action to create a more just and fraternal world."

Statement Chicanos Por La Causa's letter of support:

The legacy of civil rights leader Cesar Chavez must be preserved for generations to come, not only as vital heritage for Latino Americans but also for historical relevance, reference and record for all Americans. Establishment of the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in California and Arizona would achieve this goal," **said David Adame, President and CEO of Chicanos Por La Causa.** "As a community development organization of empowerment, we are proud of Chavez's lifelong association with Arizona, and the indelible mark he made on our state. He was born in Yuma, Arizona, on March 31, 1927 and died in nearby San Luis, Arizona, on April 23, 1993. But his legacy lives on, if as a nation we continue to recognize his contribution to all communities seeking, living and embodying the American Dream. We enthusiastically support establishment of the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in Arizona and California."