



Senator Alex Padilla (D-Los Angeles), is one of the five members of the Senate Rules Committee chaired by Senator Don Perata (D-San Francisco). Padilla, who is an engineer and graduate from MIT, asked technical questions of Public Utility Commission policies Simon would pursue.

Timothy Alan Simon Wins Senate Confirmation With Diverse Support

Sacramento, CA - Timothy Alan Simon was confirmed by the California State Senate on Thursday, February 28. At his confirmation hearing before the Senate Rules Committee a week earlier, Simon demonstrated his passion to be a champion of underserved populations that earned him a powerful diverse group of supporters who appeared in support of his confirmation.

Simon, a Republican from San Francisco, was instrumental in organizing the "Advancing the new energy economy in California" a summit held last month that drew investors, energy industry and diverse community leaders from throughout the state.

The summit was designed to engage discussion on how the new energy economy will create new business and employment opportunities and featured key figures such as Peter Darby, Chairman of the Board for PG&E Company, the largest energy utility in California.

The summit, attended by over 850 diverse participants, was a key topic of the Senate confirmation hearing in which the value and visionary fashion that Simon orchestrated the event was credited in giving him the Senate nod of approval.

Senator Don Perata (D-San Francisco), chair of the Rules Com-

mittee, agreed that Simon is a champion for people who normally lack champions. Perata said it was important to have champions such as Simon in key government jobs and the PUC being one of the most powerful.

After the presentation by Simon and questions from the Senators, a diverse group of people representing a cross section of the population declared their support for Simon's confirmation.

Several letters were sent by the members of the California Utilities Diversity Council (CUDC). These groups represented the Asian Business Association, service disabled veterans, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the California Black Chamber of Commerce, the California Water Association, CalMagazine.Com, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, and Will Johnson and Nancy Zarenda from the National Utilities Diversity Council.

In the one year Simon has served as a Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission, he has demonstrated his intellect for public policy and worked with various stakeholder groups to resolve issues. He is a moderate who carefully studies the issues and applies his legal training to complex issues. Moreover, he is an advocate for the underserved communities and makes no apologies.

"Most new appointees never make things happen," said Adrian Perez of CalMagazine.Com, an all Latino internet television service, "Commissioner Simon got appointed to the Public Utilities Commission and he ventured out quickly to make such a positive



Senator Gil Cedillo (D-Los Angeles), demonstrated his well studied and finessed approach to the confirmation process. Cedillo has been a long-time advocate for opportunities afforded to underprivileged individuals and a champion of diversity efforts..

impression with his new energy economic summit last month.”

“The Senate Rules committee members blessed his (Simon) leadership to make this happen and that only bodes well for all Californians,” Perez said.

“Commissioner Simon has demonstrated his support of California’s multilingual and multiethnic rate paying consumers,” said Nancy Zarenda, owner of the Spanish Language Academy that trains legislators and corporate executives in the Spanish language.

“His support and commitment to serve and protect will provide equitable level of services in the language they understand,” she said.

“California workers will benefit from Commissioner Simon’s work and that is why the Communications Workers of America support him,” said Alexandra Gallardo Rooker, who is a lobbyist for the Union.

“It is rare for someone of Commissioner Simon’s quality to have the opportunity to serve the people of California,” said former State Senator Richard G. Polanco. “I am here to urge you to confirm him because he deserves our support,” Polanco said.

“Mr. Simon continues to advocate for small businesses by giving

us better access to major utility companies and also making a noble attempt to level the playing field to protect the consumers,” said Dennis Huang, executive director of the Asian Business Association in Los Angeles. “Hearing him speak at the California Utilities Diversity Council is a testament to his commitment to diversity,” he said.

“I have had the opportunity to engage Mr. Timothy Simon in discussions regarding the very issues that are critical to Latino Institute for Corporate Inclusion,” said Jess Haro, chairman of the board. “Additionally, I have heard Mr. Simon speak on several occasions and believe that he has a vast understanding of the importance of the CPUC, its purpose and its ability to further inclusion,” he said.

“I believe that confirmation of Timothy Simon will increase the Commission’s sensitivity to the needs of both consumers and small businesses,” said Betsy Berkhemer Creadire, past president of the California NAWBO. “His track record of supporting outreach efforts to include minority, women, and disabled veteran-owned businesses is greatly valued,” she said.



It is customary for the nominees to bring members of their family to the Senator Don Perata (Chair) confirmation hearing. Simon's father, Joseph, (against the far wall with his arms crossed), daughter, two sons and fiance, attended the session.

The impressive partial list of supporter included:

- Asian Business Association*
- CalMagazine.Com*
- Latino Institute for Corporate Inclusion (LICI)*
- Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
- Berkhemer Clayton, Inc.*
- California Black Chamber of Commerce*
- California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
- Consumers First, Inc.*
- Latino Journal*
- USA Construction*
- APAPA*
- GEM Communications*
- Quatteman LLP*
- Spanish Language Academy*



Simon thanks Senator Don Perata (Above) and Senator Padilla shakes hands with Timothy Simon (below).

Latino Journal & CalMagazine.Com

Present the 10th Annual Latino Leaders' Reception for Constitutional Officers, Legislators and Appointees on March 25, 2008 in Sacramento, CA.

For more information visit our website at www.latinojournal.net

By invitation only

About The Latino Journal

The **Latino Journal** was created in October 1996 to provide a non-partisan communications vehicle on public policy issues and government from a Latino Perspective. To subscribe to E-News please email your request to: Staff@latinojournal.net for more information.

Mailing and Telephone information:

Latino Journal
1017 L Street, PMB 306
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 492-9163

