Senator Ben Hueso

Senator Hueso is an American politician, currently serving in the Senate of the State of California.  He is a democrat, son of immigrants from Jalisco, Mexico.  Before being elected as Senator, he was elected as Council member for the City of San Diego, representing the eight district from 2006 to 2010.  During his tenure and due to his leadership capabilities, his colleagues named him President of the City Council from 2008 until 2010.  In addition, he was the first elected representative to serve on a commission in the city of Tijuana related to the border and binational issues.

In 2010, he was the first elected representative to oppose Arizona SB 1070, which was the broadest and strictest anti-illegal immigration measure. This legislation criminalized immigrants who did not possess documents; they were presumed guilty of having committed crimes simply because of their appearance. Senator Hueso sought to protect human rights of immigrants, and he joined the fight against racism and discrimination.

During 2007 and 2009, he was a member of the California Coastal Commission where he protected California’s beautiful coastlines. Additionally, he was a member of the California State Assembly. As an Assemblymember, he introduced legislation to help small businesses, promote clean water resources, stimulate the economy, and he also served as the President for the State Assembly Committee on California/Mexico Binational Affairs.

**In 2013, Senator Hueso was elected to the California State Senate, where he currently represents the 40th Senate District. He represents the cities of Imperial Beach, Chula Vista, National City, portions of San Diego and the Imperial County.  He currently serves as Chair for the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications and the Select Committee of California Mexico Cooperation.**

Ever since he took charge, he has worked tirelessly, promoting initiatives related to **water quality, consumer protection, public safety, and the expansion of jobs.** Senator Hueso is also a **champion of education, the environment, and binational matters**. His contributions include securing legal representation to people being deported, providing healthcare for immigrants in California, helping students in California with tuition, and **reducing border wait times between Mexico and California**.  Senator Hueso has fought to further the interests that both Mexico and California share in areas related to infrastructure, economic development, as well as social and cultural interdependence.

Furthermore, he served as Chair of the California Legislative Caucus from 2016 to 2018.  In 2017, he introduced SB6, due process for all.  **This law sought to provide legal services to undocumented Californians facing deportation proceedings**. Due to his great efforts, this legislation was incorporated into the California state budget during the 2017-2018 term. Additionally, this law led to the creation of a program within the Department of Social Services, which finances immigration services. This due process law assigned 45 million dollars to “One California,” where immigrants could access information and receive DACA assistance, protection for undocumented children, naturalization and other services.

Senator Hueso obtained approval for more than $100 million dollars, to further the priorities of the California Latino Legislative Caucus. Through this approval, around 20 legislation proposals were expanded, and the Legislative Caucus held press conferences anti-Trump regarding DACA and other immigration stances. Senator Hueso succeeded in obtaining $90 million dollars for census programs, $10 million for the legal representation of immigrants, **$28 million for clean water programs**, and $23 million for programs designed to aid small businesses.

Senator Hueso received the **Ohtli award during 2010 for dedicating his life and career to professional activities aiming at the well-being of Mexican people abroad.** On the other hand, Senator Hueso has succeeded in assigning resources to **help fund student education in Jalisco, Mexico, by providing scholarships**.  He also founded the mariachi juvenile competition program, where students visit California to perform and promote their culture.

Senator Hueso has been selected to serve on various leadership roles and to shape policy in areas of Energy, Telecommunications, Utilities, Insurance, Banking, Finance, Veterans Affairs, Education, Economic Development, Governance, Natural Resources and Water.