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LULAC denounces U.S. Rep. King's hateful remarks, alerts Iowans to petition asking companies to stop financially supporting his election campaigns

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DES MOINES, IA – Iowa's 16 councils of the League of United Latin American Citizens today condemned U.S. Rep. Steve King, a Republican Congressman, for his continued racist remarks and hate speech directed toward minorities, immigrants and people of non-Christian religions.

King this month retweeted a statement by a conservative political candidate that referred to the inability to restore the United States' civilization with "somebody else's babies," referring to Muslim children. A former Ku Klux Klan imperial wizard expressed his support for King after the congressman's remarks.

In addition, LULAC wants Iowans to be aware of a petition that was started by a Boone, Iowa, woman that will be delivered to Wells Blue Bunny ice cream (an Iowa company located in LeMars), AT&T, American Podiatric Medical Association, College Loan Corp. and American Bankers Association requesting the companies stop making financial contributions to King's election campaigns. In addition, LULAC also wants Iowa grocery stores that currently shelve Blue Bunny products to cease selling the items and remove them from their stores.

"Rep. King's racist and white supremacist statements do not represent the people of Iowa," said Joe Enriquez Henry of Des Moines, the vice president of the Midwest region for National LULAC. "We need to let businesses and companies know that it is unacceptable to continue to financially contribute to his campaign by no longer patronizing these establishments.

"Racism is a serious problem, and the first place to stop it is with our youth," he said. "We urge our local school districts to do more to education teens and youth about racism and what constitutes racist behavior."

King has made numerous racist remarks during his years in office. Last summer at the Republican National Convention, he said that white people have contributed more to the advancement of human civilization than any other "sub-group of people."

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. LULAC's programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future.

For more information, contact Enriquez Henry at 515-208-7312, or visit www.lulaciowa.org.