

## Contact

[www.linkedin.com/in/susiefeliz](https://www.linkedin.com/in/susiefeliz)  
(LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

Congressional Affairs  
Building Coalitions  
Public Relations

## Languages

Spanish

## Certifications

Diversity and Inclusion Certificate

## Honors-Awards

Ron Brown Fellow  
HACU Alumni Wall of Honor Award  
2018 Distinguished Public Servant Award  
2017 American Council on Germany Young Leader  
The Hill Top Lobbyist 2020

# Susie Feliz

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Legislative &  
Intergovernmental Affairs  
Washington DC-Baltimore Area

## Summary

Susie Feliz was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs (OLIA) on August 23, 2022, following unanimous confirmation by the Senate. As the leader of the office responsible for managing the Department of Commerce's relationship with Congress, Assistant Secretary Feliz serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Commerce on all matters before Congress, as well as the Department's outreach to the nation's governors, mayors, and tribal leaders. She also serves on the Secretary of Commerce's Leadership Team and plays a key role in helping the Biden-Harris Administration implement historic economic initiatives. As such, Ms. Feliz oversees the development and implementation of strategies to advance the Department's legislative initiatives and articulates the Department's position on legislation proposed by Congress to key congressional and intergovernmental stakeholders. Additionally, Ms. Feliz guides OLIA's facilitation of the appearance of Department witnesses at congressional hearings and coordinates the Department's responses to congressional committee requests.

Prior to her Commerce Department appointment, Assistant Secretary Feliz worked on Capitol Hill over the course of two decades, as an aide to Senator Clinton, a legislative director to three members of Congress (including as a leader of the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association), and subsequently as a lead policy advocate for the National Urban League. As a result, she brings an in-depth understanding of how public policy is formulated, an extensive network across all levels of government, the private sector, trade associations, and civil society, experience drafting policies that create a more equitable and inclusive society, and a track record of creating and then shepherding policy through its congressional life cycle. At the National Urban League, a 111-year-old civil rights organization, Susie has successfully worked to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion through policymaking and corporate strategies.

She is mission-oriented and focused on advancing economic growth, inclusion, and opportunity in legislation and through public/private partnerships.

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## Experience

### U.S. Department of Commerce

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

August 2022 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

### National Urban League

9 years 1 month

Vice President, Policy and Legislative Affairs

March 2018 - August 2022 (4 years 6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Lead the National Urban League Washington Bureau's policy team in the development of public policy priorities and advocacy strategies that advance the National Urban League's economic empowerment and civil rights agenda.

Keep Urban League affiliate leaders informed and engaged regarding the impact of major state and federal policy issues on their core programs and constituents.

Led the Urban League's policy team in securing racial equity priorities in over 50 legislative proposals relating to education, housing, entrepreneurship, broadband access, health care, and workforce development, and COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts.

Secured over five opportunities for the National Urban League leadership to testify before Congress to promote the organization's digital equity and inclusion platform, workforce development policy, minority entrepreneurship, and education equity priorities.

Manage corporate partnerships on the Urban Solutions Council to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in education, skills training, small business development, health care, housing, technology, and broadband access through advocacy on Capitol Hill, policy briefings, social media, and national events.

Built and leveraged diversity partnerships to promote social and economic opportunities for Black, Latino, Asian American, and Indigenous communities resulting in joint recommendations to Congress for COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts and joint advocacy efforts around policy issues including broadband access, education equity, health equity, digital equity, infrastructure spending, and federal resources for communities of color.

#### Senior Director, Policy & Legislative Affairs

April 2016 - March 2018 (2 years)

Successfully leveraged an extensive Capital Beltway network across the House, Senate, the executive branch, trade associations, the private sector, and civil society to advance the Urban League's policy interests.

Selected to speak as a panelist at over 20 national conferences, congressional briefings, and events on topics including education, housing, health care, and economic equality.

Managed, led and coached a diverse team of policy professionals in developing and advancing the Urban League's policy priorities.

#### Senior Director, Education & Health Policy

August 2013 - March 2016 (2 years 8 months)

Served as the National Urban League's chief education and health policy officer.

Led bicameral and bipartisan advocacy on education equity issues in coalition with civil rights organizations, education advocates, and business groups, resulting in the passage of legislative language in ESEA reauthorization.

Led the coordination of National Urban League capitol hill briefings with Members of Congress and staff on education equity issues as well as health equity, telehealth, and maternal health.

Led the Health Equity and Accountability Act community working group, in collaboration with a coalition of health advocates and the Congressional Tri-Caucus, to advance a comprehensive blueprint of policy solutions that will eliminate health disparities.

Keystone Policy Center  
Member Board Of Trustees

February 2018 - August 2022 (4 years 7 months)

Keystone Policy Center inspires leaders to rise above entrenched positions to reach common higher ground.

## U.S. House of Representatives

Legislative Director

September 2005 - June 2013 (7 years 10 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Representative Karen Bass (CA-37)

Representative Al Green (TX-09)

Representative Joe Baca (CA-43)

Led diverse teams of legislative staff in drafting, introducing, and successfully negotiating House passage of 11 bills and resolutions, 10 amendments, and over \$60 million dollars in appropriations for three members of Congress.

Managed committee work for members of the House Judiciary Committee and House Financial Services Committee, including preparing and staffing Representatives for over 300 congressional hearings and markups.

Advised members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, including as the president of the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association, resulting in a broad-based and diverse US House and US Senate network.

Facilitated over 400 small group presentations with various constituents including trade associations, universities, civil rights groups, state and local education officials, business leaders, and advocacy organizations.

## United States Senate

Legislative Aide, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

August 2002 - September 2005 (3 years 2 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Advised senior staff and the Senator on education, labor, remittances and housing issues.

Assisted in the coordination of an annual Senate Hispanic Taskforce event attracting 200 Latino leaders.

Built and managed relationships with a network of over 100 consumer advocates, education groups, housing advocacy and trade associations, state and local agencies, and civil rights groups.

Wrote content for over 75 press releases, articles, letters, fact sheets, talking points, and statements.

Assisted in drafting executive speeches for video production.

Prepared Senator for over 50 official meetings, speaking engagements and press conferences.

Represented Senator through public speaking and at business, social and public gatherings.

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## Education

The George Washington University  
MPA, Public Administration

University of Denver  
BA, Biology & Public Affairs