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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, February 16, 2006

***GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES FOUNDING OF RAUL H. CASTRO INSTITUTE***  
***Institute will develop public policy proposals focused on Latino community***

PHOENIX – Governor Napolitano today announced the founding of the Raul H. Castro Institute for public policy, which will work to identify the most pressing issues facing Latinos in Arizona, and promote real-world solutions.

Additionally, Napolitano proclaimed February 16th as Raul H. Castro Day in the State of Arizona. Castro was elected in 1974, and became the first Mexican-American to hold the office.

“The Latino community is growing quickly in Arizona,” said Governor Napolitano. “And we need to take positive action to address the issues facing this growing demographic.”

Rather than work as a “think tank,” the Castro Institute will be a “do tank,” and actively pursue implementation of its policies. Specific areas of attention for the Institute will be education and health care, two areas of concern facing the Latino community.

The Governor’s office worked several educational and Latino organizations, including the Maricopa County Community College District and all three state universities, to develop a vision, a mission, and priorities for the Castro Institute.

Raul H. Castro has had a long and distinguished career in public service. He served from 1975 – 1977, and was a U.S. Ambassador to three nations.