

The U.S. – Mexico Interparliamentary Group (IPG) convened in San Diego, California October 25-27, bringing together federal legislators from both countries to discuss priority issues and identify ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. The IPG is currently chaired by Congressman Henry Cuellar of Laredo, Texas.

Members of IPG discussed several critical and timely issues facing both countries, including ratifying the United States – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA), improving the relationship, and shared security challenges. Additional details can be reviewed in the issued <u>press release</u>, including a listing of IPG members.

CSG West staff was invited by chairman Cuellar to attend the Group's reception on October 27. CSG West director Edgar Ruiz connected and engaged with attending members of the IPG, as well as other guests, on the binational relationship. These types of opportunities and linkages are important to CSG West in advancing the work of the Border Legislative Conference (BLC) and to foster greater coordination and collaboration between state and federal policy-makers along the U.S. – Mexico border region.

Chairman Cuellar, as well as California Congressman Lou Correa, a member of the IPG, have a history with CSG West. Chairman Cuellar co-chaired CSG West's Southern Border Committee, which later became the BLC, in the late 1990's when he was a member of the Texas House of Representatives. Congressman Correa chaired the BLC in 2014 when he was a member of the California State Senate.