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Cal State professor Edna Molina will not be voting for any Democrats in the November midterm election, which is now less than one month away.

"Democratic leaders need to get the message that they won't get the Latino vote (sorry to say, good-bye Hillary) if they ignore the concerns of our people or, worse yet, if they placate Republicans by implementing a massive deportation campaign that hurts Hispanic families," wrote Molina in an email.

Likewise, Molina's colleague, professor Gonzalo Santos, said he does not intend to vote "for any Democrat that has not directly and publicly challenged Obama on his appalling record of massive deportations and broken promises."

Particularly galling is that under Obama, as reported by Pew Research Center, deportations have reached record levels, rising to an average of nearly 400,000 per year since 2009. The vast majority of people being deported are Latino immigrants. According to Pew, "The Obama Administration has deported more immigrants annually than the George W. Bush administration." Some have dubbed Obama as "deporter-in-chief."

"Many of the Latino students sitting in our classrooms are children of immigrants that are being hurt by this highly destructive policy," said Molina.

She and Santos are not alone in their feelings. To say that numerous immigration rights advocates across the country are hopping mad with the Democratic leadership is putting it mildly. A brief recap: In June, President Obama said in a high-profile White House appearance that he would take unilateral measures by the end of summer if Congress did not enact immigration reform legislation. Some Democrats in tight races, however, worried such action by the President could be fatal for them at the polls in November.

Given that we have a dysfunctional Congress that can't seem to do anything right, immigrant rights advocates were anxiously waiting for the president to act on his own to grant relief to some of the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the country.

But just last month, Obama changed course. The President said on Sept. 6 that he would wait until after the November midterm elections before taking any executive action on immigration reform. That decision infuriated activists who were already annoyed by the failure of both Democrats and Republicans to pass legislation on comprehensive immigration reform. They felt betrayed and accused the Democratic leadership of putting politics ahead of immigrant families. Word from the White House was that the arrival of close to 63,000 undocumented children from Central America attempting to cross the border to the U.S. made it difficult to gain public support for executive action on immigration measures.

Obama's reasoning has been met with calls to punish Democrats, and it is coming from various places, not just California. Activists in Colorado, Illinois, and Arizona are among the most vocal. While some say not to vote for Democrats, others have gone further and say Latinos should boycott the midterm elections entirely.

And it's gotten ugly. National Latino leaders such as former Secretary of HUD Henry Cisneros, labor

activist Eliseo Medina and Kern County's Dolores Huerta have come under fire for supporting Obama. Consider the following commentary from Hermandad Mexicana Humanitarian Foundation, which is one of the oldest immigrant rights groups in the country, with branches in several large U.S. cities. It states: "On the whole, Obama's Latino defenders all have a financial stake in his regime ...They belong to the corrupt patronage system and have gladly accepted their proverbial role as house peons who run to save the master's burning house faster than the master himself. The most immoral observation about their behavior is the lack of transparency about their personal moneyed interests and positions as they implicitly defend massive deportations of historic dimension." Wow!

While not happy with the President's decision, Dolores Huerta said there's too much at stake if Latinos shun Democrats or boycott the midterm election. For example, should Democrats lose the Senate it would make it very difficult to get confirmation of progressives nominated for a seat on the federal bench, since a Republican majority would likely block any such appointments, said Huerta. And she notes the recent study by the Commonwealth Fund that shows Latinos in particular have benefitted with health insurance under Obama's Affordable Care Act. Huerta believes not voting for Democrats only plays directly in the favor of Republicans.

"Why should we go along with the Republican strategy to keep Latinos from voting?," she asked.

To be clear, no one is saying that Latinos should vote for Republicans. Given the GOP's abysmal record on immigration, that would be like going "from Guatemala to guatepeor," which translates as going from bad to worse. But if enough Latino voters were to express dissatisfaction with Democrats at the ballot box, that could have an impact in local races such as in the 21st Congressional District, where Democrat Amanda Renteria of Sanger is trying to unseat incumbent Republican David Valadao of Hanford. Renteria is fighting an uphill fight and she needs every vote she can get.

"I'm tired of broken promises, too, whether it's Republicans, Democrats (or) the President," said Renteria in an email. She's not too worried about losing Latino votes over the President's delay tactics. "You don't win elections because you are a Latino or a Democrat. You win elections by connecting with voters," she said. And if last week's turnout at Cal State Bakersfield for Vice President Joe Biden is any indication, it appears Latinos are still solidly backing Democrats. The Icardo Center was jammed and there were faces of color everywhere, including Latinos, blacks and Sikhs.

But while it's true that Latino voters are frustrated with both political parties, there is still time for Democrats to act on this important issue. Speaking before the Congressional Hispanic Caucus recently, Obama tried to reassure the base that he will take executive action on immigration after the midterm election. And he urged the crowd to get Latino voters out on election day. "Yes, we can --if we vote," said Obama.

We shall see.

Jose Gaspar is a reporter for KBAK-TV. The opinions expressed are his own.