

An important voting block: President Obama addresses the White House Forum on American Latino Heritage October of last year.

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# Obama pressed on immigration promise



Posted by:

CNN White House Producer Lesa Jansen

Calling Republicans in Congress the "roadblock" to getting comprehensive immigration reform passed, President Barack Obama seemed to bristle when Univision radio host Eddie "Piolin" Sotelo pressed him on breaking his 2008 campaign promise to Latinos.

"I would have only broken my promise if I hadn't tried," the president told Sotelo in a radio interview broadcast Wednesday.

"But ultimately, I'm one man," the president continued. "You know, we live in a democracy. We don't live in a monarchy. I'm not the king. I'm the president."

Mr. Obama drew a clear contrast between himself and his potential Republican challengers telling Sotelo, "[W]e haven't seen any of the Republican candidates even support immigration reform. In fact, their leading candidate said he would veto even the Dream Act, much less comprehensive immigration reform," said the president in a reference to Mitt Romney's promise to veto any bill that would open a path to citizenship for some undocumented young people."

When asked if he felt he still had support in the Latino community, a voting block of some 12 million, the president answered with bravado.

"[M]y presidency is not over. I've got another five years coming up. We're going to get this done. And absolutely, we have strong support in the Latino community because they've seen what we've been working on."

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