



Hon. Eduardo Bhatia-Gautier

Minority Leader and Former
President of the Senate of PR

Minority leader and former President of the Island's Senate Eduardo Bhatia is a member of the Popular Democratic Party (PPD).

Senator Bhatia obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Government and Public Policy from Princeton University in 1986 and in 1990 graduated from Stanford Law School, in California.

During his years as a law student he co-founded and was an editor of the "Stanford Journal of Law and Policy". After graduating from law school, Senator Bhatia worked for a year (1990-1991) as a Law Clerk at the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston, Massachusetts. From 1991 to 1992, he was the Chief of Staff for Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico in the United States Congress.

He practiced law from 1993 to 1995 for the San Juan based law firm McConnell Valdés. In 1996, Mr. Bhatia was elected Senator at Large in Puerto Rico. In 2005, the Governor appointed Mr. Bhatia as the Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (PRFAA).

Returning to the political arena in 2008, Senator Bhatia was again elected for a four-year term and served in leadership as the Minority Whip. He was reelected in 2012 and became the 15th President of the Senate of Puerto Rico.

During his term as President, Senator Bhatia was a driving force in the overhaul of the broken fiscal system of Puerto Rico. He is the author of the most comprehensive energy reform law in Puerto Rico's history (Law 57 of 2014).

Mr. Bhatia also authored an historic legislation to revamp the broken public education system of Puerto Rico, as well as major civil rights and environmental legislation. In 2013, Senator Bhatia served as Co-Chair of the Eastern Regional Conference of the Council of State Governments (CSG-ERC) in the United States. That same year he was elected President of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) becoming the first Senate President to hold the title.

He lives in San Juan and is married to Isabel Fernández, a lawyer and entrepreneur originally from Panama.