

ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD

SB 10 – SUPPORT LETTER

Please submit letter to: Kristene Mapile at kristene.mapile@asm.ca.gov or by fax to (916) 319-2197

Please CC: Lawrence Cooper at lawrence.cooper@sen.ca.gov AND Ronald Coleman at rcoleman@caimmigrant.org

Date (PLEASE SUBMIT BY 4/13 BY 12PM)

The Honorable Jim Wood
Assembly Health Committee, Chair
State Capitol Building, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 10 (Lara) SUPPORT – As proposed to be amended

Dear Assemblymember Jim Wood,

I am writing on behalf of **ORGANIZATION NAME** to express support for Senate Bill 10 (Lara). SB 10 will require the state to apply for a federal waiver that would allow undocumented immigrants and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients to buy coverage through our state marketplace using their own money.

ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION

Current policy excludes undocumented immigrants and immigrants approved for deferred action through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program of 2012, from purchasing their own health insurance through our state marketplace, Covered California, due to their immigration status.¹ This exclusion does not reflect our values, or serve the common good, to leave immigrant workers, students, and family members without access to purchasing health insurance through our marketplace.

SB 10, as proposed to be amended, would direct the state to apply for a waiver under Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act, to allow undocumented immigrants and DACA recipients with higher incomes to purchase a health plan through Covered California with their own money. Many undocumented immigrants and DACA recipients are part of mixed-status families that include family members who are U.S. citizens or lawfully present immigrants who are already eligible for financial assistance. By allowing everyone to access Covered California regardless of immigration status, families can view and compare health insurance options for all family members, for those who are eligible for financial help and for those who are not.

Through SB 10, California can be a model for this nation by removing an unjust exclusion to Covered California based on immigration status. Immigrant families across California will be better served when Covered California is accessible to the entire family. Improving health access

¹ In 2010 Congress passed the Affordable Care Act that excluded undocumented immigrants from participation in state Exchanges and the Medicaid expansion. Existing rules excluded the undocumented from Medi-Cal were maintained. In August of 2012, President Obama's administration established regulations preventing those approved for Deferred Action from access to exchanges under the Affordable Care Act.

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and allowing people to buy health coverage through our state marketplace are important steps toward making the ACA more inclusive.

For these reasons, we ask for your support of SB 10. Thank you for your consideration for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

NAME

WORK TITLE

Cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara
Members of the Assembly Health Committee
Ronald Coleman, California Immigrant Policy Center