



## **Immigrant Day 2018: Our Movement. Our Moment.**

Here in California, we believe that all people are created equal. And we know that immigrants are a vital part of our heart and soul.

This Immigrant Day, we come together in courageous leadership. We are committed to fighting the Trump administration's racist, hate-filled attacks. This is our movement, and our moment.

Now more than ever, California - home to the nation's largest population of immigrants, both documented and undocumented - must continue to champion bold, inclusive policies that uphold California's most cherished values.

With the following package of bills and budget proposals, we will take historic strides to protect all people who call the Golden State home and strengthen opportunities that help our communities thrive.

### **PRIORITY ISSUES**

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#### **Health4All Act: Budget Request and SB 974 (Lara) & AB 2965 (Arambula)**

Since 2014, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has provided health coverage to about 7 million Californians and significantly reduced our state's uninsured rate. Despite this progress, the ACA explicitly and unjustly excludes undocumented immigrants from receiving health coverage through federally funded programs, including Medi-Cal. Of the nearly three million Californians who remain uninsured, 58% are estimated to be undocumented adults. In 2016, California expanded comprehensive Medi-Cal to all children, regardless of where they were born. Since then over 200,000 undocumented children have received comprehensive care due to this expansion, known as "Health4All Kids." However, undocumented adults, many of whom are parents, are still left without comprehensive health care. The Health4All Act would provide comprehensive full-scope Medi-Cal to low-income undocumented adults by removing immigration status as an eligibility exclusion. The Health4All Act is an important step in bringing our state closer to universal health coverage by removing immigration status as a barrier to health access.

## **Strengthening California Earned Income Tax Credit: Budget Request & AB 2066 (Stone/Reyes)**

In 2015, California took steps to tackle poverty by establishing the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC). CalEITC provides low-income persons, particularly people in deep poverty, a modest financial credit to pay for food, school supplies, and other necessities. Unfortunately, some working families in California face serious economic challenges and yet are unable to access the CalEITC. CIPC, in partnership with the CalEITC Advocacy Coalition, is advancing efforts to broaden access to CalEITC. This proposal would expand access to the CalEITC to young workers, working seniors, and remove exclusions for working immigrants who file taxes with an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) or a federally assigned Social Security Number (SSN). Many immigrants use an IRS-issued ITIN to pay federal and state income taxes. While the federal EITC excludes ITIN holders from receiving this benefit, California is not bound by these rules for its state-funded tax credit and can improve the state design for a more equitable and inclusive policy. In addition, parallel efforts will look to strengthen state funding for outreach and education.

## **Immigrant Business Inclusion Act: AB 2184 (Chiu)**

California has led the nation in advancing bold policies that recognize the contributions of immigrants and the value of integrating all state residents, regardless of immigration status, into the state economy. Yet there are systemic barriers to immigrant Californians seeking economic opportunity through business ownership. For example, many cities with large immigrant communities, including Los Angeles, and parts of the Central Valley, currently require individual applicants for business licenses to provide a Social Security Number (SSN) in their application. This bill reduces barriers for immigrant business owners to apply for local business licenses and aligns the business license process with efforts to advance the social and economic interest of our state.

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