

1 [Supporting California Senate Bill 1005 (Lara) - Expanding Access to Health Care Coverage  
2 for All Californians Regardless of Immigration Status]

3 **Resolution supporting California Senate Bill 1005, introduced by Senator Ricardo Lara,**  
4 **which authorizes enrollment in the Medi-Cal program or in insurance offered through a**  
5 **health benefit exchange to individuals who would otherwise qualify for enrollment in**  
6 **those programs but are denied access based on their immigration status.**

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8 WHEREAS, Implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expands health care  
9 coverage to millions of Californians and affords individuals several important consumer  
10 protections, including requirements to cover essential health benefits, to provide coverage for  
11 individuals with pre-existing conditions, and to subsidize insurance costs based on income;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The ACA specifically excludes undocumented immigrants; and

14 WHEREAS, After implementation of the ACA, it is estimated that more than one million  
15 Californians will remain uninsured and not eligible for coverage due to their immigration  
16 status; and

17 WHEREAS, Quality health coverage is a basic human right and all Californians should  
18 have access to affordable health care and insurance coverage; and

19 WHEREAS, Immigration status should not bar individuals from access to health care  
20 and insurance coverage; and

21 WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 1005 would create the California Health Exchange  
22 Program For All Californians that would facilitate the enrollment into qualified health plans of  
23 individuals who are not eligible for Medi-Cal coverage and would have been eligible to  
24 purchase coverage through the Exchange but for their immigration status; and

25

1           WHEREAS, The California Health Exchange Program For All Californians would  
2 provide premium subsidies and cost-sharing reductions to eligible individuals that are the  
3 same as the premium assistance and cost-sharing reductions the individuals would have  
4 received through the Exchange; and

5           WHEREAS, SB 1005 would extend eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to  
6 individuals who are otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their immigration status; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, That, because the Board of Supervisors believes that all people should  
9 have access to basic health care and insurance coverage and that immigration status should  
10 not bar individuals from receiving health care or insurance coverage, the Board of Supervisors  
11 supports and encourages the passage of California Senate Bill 1005; and, be it

12           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors forward a copy of  
13 this resolution to California Senator Ricardo Lara with a request he take all action necessary  
14 to achieve the objectives of this resolution.

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