



# CALIFORNIA LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

## 2015 POLICY PRIORITIES

On February 25, 2015 the CA Latino Legislative Caucus participated in a conference dedicated to in-depth discussions on some of the state's most pressing policy issues. Based in part on those discussions, the Caucus has established the following priorities and action items for the 2015 legislative year.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Identify and eliminate duplicative and burdensome regulations that limit business and job growth opportunities in the state.

Promulgate proven economic development tools that enable planners to capture locally generated revenue to rehabilitate and revitalize blighted communities.

Increase investment in workforce development programs, including reentry programs for the formerly incarcerated, to ensure all Californians, regardless of background, can contribute positively to the state's economic growth.

Enhance opportunities for woman and minority owned businesses, including increased state procurement opportunities and enriched access to investment growth capital, to ensure economic growth is more equitably distributed across the state.

### **ENERGY:**

Ensure state energy policy is balanced and inclusive of the diverse economic and social disparities that exist in California, including the need to diversify the location and mix of resources procured by the state.

Enhance energy initiatives by learning from past experiences and incorporating best practices to enable regulators to more effectively balance clean energy needs with business and job growth opportunities.

Broaden support for energy initiatives by engaging honestly with business, labor, and agricultural advocates to develop policy that is inclusive of a wide-array of needs and experiences.

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**Assembly Member Luis Alejo**  
*Chair*  
**Senator Ben Hueso**  
*Vice Chair*

**Senators:** President Pro Tem Kevin De León, Ed Hernandez, Ricardo Lara, Tony Mendoza

**Assembly Members:** Ian Calderon, Nora Campos, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Jimmy Gomez, Lorena Gonzalez, Roger Hernández, Patty López, Jose Medina, Henry T. Perea, Anthony Rendon, Freddie Rodriguez, Rudy Salas, Miguel Santiago, Susan Talamantes Eggman, Tony Thurmond

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## 2015 POLICY PRIORITIES (*cont.*)

**IMMIGRATION:** Reestablish and expand naturalization services program to provide education, outreach and application assistance for lawful permanent residents and individuals eligible for administrative relief and naturalization.

Promote Federal comprehensive reform legislation that provides a pathway to citizenship for undocumented residents.

Ensure the effective implementation of Legislation (AB 60) intended to provide drivers' licenses for the undocumented.

**EDUCATION:** Ensure higher education is meeting the State's changing population demographics.

Protect access to reliable and affordable higher education for thousands of students by promoting Cal Grant Funding.

Fight to repeal or amend past State initiatives (Propositions 209 and 227) that continue to limit educational opportunities and college access for students of color.

**HEALTH CARE:** Support the continued implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the expansion of the Medi-Cal Program.

Collaborate with Covered California to improve health care enrollment rates within the Latino community.

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:** Advocate for voting rights to ensure fair voting elections and strengthen the California Voting Rights Act.

Encourage 2.5M lawful permanent residents in CA to become U.S. Citizens.

**WATER:** Support the expansion and timely implementation of safe and affordable drinking water programs, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

Address drought crisis by making emergency water supplies available and respond to aid communities facing drinking water shortages as well as the economic devastation caused by the drought.

Improve water supply and water resources throughout California to ensure the economic vitality of both rural and urban regions.

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