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June 3, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Signature SB 10 (Lara) – Providing All
Californians Access to Covered California

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing on behalf of the National Health Law Program to express support for Senate Bill 10 (Lara). SB 10 will require the state to apply for a federal waiver, under Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act, to allow undocumented immigrants and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients to buy unsubsidized health coverage through our state marketplace, Covered California.

The National Health Law Program (NHeLP) protects and advances the health rights of low-income and underserved individuals and families. We fight to give at-risk populations a voice in state and federal policy making and we defend the nation's health care safety net for those most in need.

You have shown great leadership in recognizing the importance of access to quality healthcare for undocumented immigrants and expanding full-scope Medi-Cal to low-income undocumented children under the age of 19 was a critical and successful first step. SB 10 continues your legacy of immigrant inclusion and strengthens our state by allowing more Californians the ability to access health coverage in Covered California.

Because federal policies exclude undocumented immigrants and DACA recipients from purchasing health insurance through Covered California, the SB 10 waiver is essential to allow excluded Californians the opportunity to purchase health

insurance through our state's marketplace. Many of the people impacted by SB 10 are part of mixed immigration status families, meaning some family members are eligible for Covered California programs or Medi-Cal while others are not eligible and must go without health coverage. Under SB 10, undocumented and DACA approved individuals would not receive tax credits or subsidies; they are simply allowed to purchase health insurance through the Covered California marketplace at full rates. Allowing everyone to access Covered California, regardless of immigration status gives families the opportunity to view, compare, and purchase health insurance for all family members.

SB 10 will solidify California's role as a model and leader for the nation by removing an unjust exclusion to Covered California based on immigration status, an important step toward fulfilling the promise of the Affordable Care Act.

For these reasons, we ask for your signature on SB 10.

Sincerely,



Cori Racela
Staff Attorney

Cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara