**From:** corey=picocalifornia.org@mail.salsalabs.net on behalf of Corey Timpson, Director
**To:** Schaaf, Libby
**Subject:** eUpdate: Legislation Announced to Expand Access to Healthcare
**Date:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 2:49:46 PM

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## Senator Lara Announces Legislation to Expand Access to Healthcare for all Californians

On Valentine's Day, Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Huntington Park/Long Beach) held a press conference in Los Angeles to unveil SB 1005 (Health For All Act) – new legislation that will expand access to health care coverage for all Californians, regardless of immigration status. An estimated three to four million people in the state will remain uninsured in spite of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and almost a million of those will be undocumented residents who are ineligible for coverage. Senator Lara is being supported by a coalition of health, immigration, labor, and community advocates, including the PICO California network, who agree that immigration status should not impede an individuals' ability to access or purchase health coverage. PICO California is poised to provide strategic support on communications, alignment between legislative effort and local ACA outreach and enrollment campaigns, and tactical legislative outreach. Further, strategic work in this area creates an opportunity to integrate our health and citizenship work into one powerful narrative.

During last Friday's press conference Senator Lara remarked, "California is stronger

when everyone has access to quality, affordable health care. This includes undocumented Californians who are a fundamental part of our state and contribute tremendously to our economy. It's time that we address this critical issue by ensuring that all Californians have access to preventative care and the opportunity to purchase coverage, irrespective of immigration status."

**CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE SB 1005 FACT SHEET**

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## True North Organizing Network - PICO California's Newest Federation Serving the Northwest

We're excited to announce the official formation of True North Organizing Network, PICO's nineteenth federation in the State of California. After more than two years of work by Julia Lerma, PICO California organizer, TNON formed on January 30 and serves the two northwestern-most counties of California – an area half the size of New Hampshire. True North will represent a wide variety of congregations, community organizations, and tribal interests. Alli Swan, former organizer with Sacramento ACT, was selected as the first Executive Director. Alli will focus on helping the Sponsoring Committee establish a nonprofit and become a Board, identify and develop a local staff and leadership and grow and strengthen LOCs in the region. True North is the only PICO federation based solely in a rural region and that significantly engages native peoples as leaders. We are excited to have Alli back and honored to welcome the True North Organizing Network into the PICO California family. Great work Julia for leading this process on behalf of PICO California!

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## CCISCO Welcomes Their New Executive Director: Cristina Hernandez

We're excited to announce Cristina Hernandez as the new Executive Director of CCISCO. Cristina brings a wealth of social justice as well as economic, education, and workforce development experience in the San Francisco Bay Area. Cristina, who is no stranger to the PICO California network, is a former CCISCO leader and community organizer in both West and Central Contra Costa County. Cristina is originally from Quito, Ecuador, and holds a degree in Economics from the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Quito, with emphasis in Environmental Economics. Fortunately, as CCISCO's new director, Cristina inherits a solid team of strong organizers, dedicated leaders, highly engaged board members, and a history of organizing success. We warmly welcome Cristina back into the PICO California family.

## WEBINAR: Is Your City and County Ready to Implement California's New "Ban the Box" Law?

## DATE: March 12, 2014 - 10:00 am

The deadline to implement AB 218 is July 1st and at that time every city, county and special district in the state must remove any questions about conviction history from their job applications and wait until later in the hiring process to collect criminal background information. PICO California ally, the National Employment Law Project (NELP) is hosting a webinar with an expert panel of leading public officials, human resources and employment law specialists, and community leaders to learn about the basics of the new state law and the best practices for implementation.

This webinar will help maximize the potential of the new law so that employers can attract the best qualified applicants while also building a stronger recovery and safer communities.

Visit https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/s/registrations/new?cid=be8og0eavj2t to register today!

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